Approved by the Board of Trustees

July 20, 2023

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Board Meeting

July 20, 2023

# APPROVE PILOT TUITION PROGRAM FOR ST. CHARLES AND ST. LOUIS COUNTIES IN MISSOURI AND SCOTT COUNTY IN IOWA, SPRINGFIELD

**Action:** Approve Pilot Tuition Program for St. Charles and St. Louis Counties in Missouri and Scott County in Iowa

**Funding:** No New Funding Required

The chancellor, University of Illinois Springfield, and vice president, University of Illinois System, propose a three-year pilot program to offer resident tuition rates to students from specific geographic markets: St. Charles and St. Louis counties in Missouri and Scott County in Iowa. The pilot would allow students to be offered in-state tuition, with the option to expand the pilot more broadly into contiguous areas and/or states based on the success of the program.

Currently, nine of the 12 public universities offer resident tuition rates to select non-Illinois residents. This has an impact on UIS’s competitiveness for recruiting students in areas that are just across the border. Currently, UIS is recognized as a regionally affordable option for in-state students. However, it is challenged to be competitive with other regional universities in the state that offer discounted rates to nonresident students.

The proposed geographic areas for the pilot tuition program have median household incomes that are comparable to our current existing markets. Scott County, Iowa, is similar to Sangamon County. St. Louis and St. Charles counties, Missouri, are similar to Cook County. By targeting these specific counties, UIS will be able to reach non-resident students who may have previously been unable to afford the UIS tuition rates for non-resident students and expand the university's reach to a wider audience.

Benefits of the pilot tuition program are:

* Increased Enrollment: By offering in-state tuition rates to select non-resident students, the University of Illinois Springfield can potentially attract more out-of-state students who may not have considered attending the university otherwise. This can help to increase enrollment and expand the university’s geographic reach.
* Increased Revenue: This pilot program has the potential to increase overall net revenue for the university.
* Increased Diversity: Attracting non-resident students from a variety of backgrounds and regions can help to increase diversity on campus and provide students with opportunities to learn from peers with different experiences and perspectives.
* Expanded Reputation: Offering in-state tuition rates to non-resident students can help to improve the university’s overall reputation as an institution that is committed to providing affordable education to students from a variety of backgrounds.
* Increased Competitiveness: This pilot program will assist the university to claim more of the competitive marketplace with other institutions that offer similar programs.

Projections are for cumulative enrollments to be approximately 60 students at the end of the three-year pilot. Students who chose to participate in the pilot program will only be eligible for the in-state tuition rate at UIS. Students who decide to transfer within the University of Illinois System to Urbana or Chicago would be subject to the tuition rates set by those respective institutions as out-of-state students.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes*, *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs and the vice president/chief financial officer and comptroller concur with these recommendations.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval.