

Approved by the Board of Trustees
May 20, 2021

Board Meeting
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APPROVE REVISIONS TO THE U OF I SYSTEM RESIDENCY STATUS POLICY

Action: Approve the Revisions to the U of I System Residency Status Policy

Funding: No New Funding Required

The U of I System has a residency-for-tuition policy, established as early as 1983, that sets forth criteria for students to possess in-state residency status for the purposes of tuition assessment. Students petition to their home university for a determination of their residency status. If a student is not satisfied with the university's decision, that student can subsequently appeal to the system office.

System-wide policies undergo systematic review on a regular basis. The residency-for-tuition policy was last revised in 1997. At the recommendation of the Office of University Counsel and the residency-for-tuition reviewers at each university, Barbara Wilson, Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs, undertook a comprehensive review of the existing policy.

EVP Wilson charged a review committee, which included subject matter experts from each of the three universities (for example, registrars, admissions staff, and staff from graduate college offices), system office personnel, and counsel in the Office of University Counsel. The committee reviewed the current policy, peer institutions' policies, and policies at other state public universities. The committee proposed a

number of recommendations, which then were reviewed and vetted by University Counsel, Ethics and Compliance, Audits, and University Relations. Revised recommendations were then reviewed by Provosts and Vice Chancellors from the three universities, the University Senates Conference, and the President's Office.

The proposed revised policy, attached hereto in red-lined format, includes several changes: a) it clarifies language and definitions, b) it incorporates relevant provisions of State law enacted since 1997, c) it provides for more flexible deadlines for students, d) it makes the durational requirement to establish residency consistent for dependent and independent students, and e) it outlines a more robust appeals process. The revised policy also provides for limited university-specific flexibility.

The Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs, along with the Provosts and Vice Chancellors from the three universities, recommend approval. The University Senates Conference reviewed the draft, provided feedback, and supported the revisions. If approved by the Board of Trustees, the proposed revisions to the attached U of I System Residency Status Policy will be effective with the 2021 fall term.

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 President of the University concurs.