

## OHIO BOARD OF REGENTS

Agenda Item 3.9     Tuition Reciprocity Agreement between: Clark State Community College, Edison Community College, Miami University Hamilton, Miami University Middletown, Rhodes State College, Sinclair Community College, Wright State University Main Campus, Wright State University Lake Campus, in Ohio; and Ball State University, Indiana University East, Ivy Tech State College Region 6 (Muncie/Community College of Indiana), Ivy Tech State College Region 9 (Richmond), Purdue University Statewide Technology in Muncie and Richmond, Vincennes University at Community College of Indiana (Muncie), in Indiana

### **RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, a Tuition Reciprocity Agreement between Clark State Community College, Edison Community College, Miami University Hamilton, Miami University Middletown, Rhodes State College, Sinclair Community College, Wright State University Main Campus, Wright State University Lake Campus, in Ohio; and Ball State University, Indiana University East, Ivy Tech State College Region 6 (Muncie/Community College of Indiana), Ivy Tech State College Region 9 (Richmond), Purdue University Statewide Technology in Muncie and Richmond, and Vincennes University at Community College of Indiana (Muncie), in Indiana be established;

WHEREAS, under the proposed Agreement any eligible resident of Adams, Blackford, Delaware, Fayette, Franklin, Henry, Jay, Randolph, Rush, Union, Wayne, and Wells counties of Indiana who enrolls and who satisfies all regular admission requirements (including those requirements of the specific course or program in which admission is sought) at Clark State Community College, Edison Community College, Miami University Hamilton, Miami University Middletown, Rhodes State College, Sinclair Community College, Wright State University Main Campus, and Wright State University Lake Campus in the courses or programs not specifically excluded from this Agreement at in-state tuition rates;

WHEREAS, any eligible resident of Butler, Darke, Mercer, Preble, Shelby, and Van Wert counties of Ohio who enrolls and who satisfies all regular admission requirements (including those requirements of the specific course or program in which admission is sought) at Ball State University, Indiana University East, Ivy Tech State College Region 6 (Muncie/Community College of Indiana), Ivy Tech State College Region 9 (Richmond), Purdue University Statewide Technology in Muncie and Richmond, and Vincennes University at Community College of Indiana (Muncie) in the courses or programs not specifically excluded from this Agreement at in-state tuition rates;

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Tuition Reciprocity Agreement attached is approved, beginning July 1, 2004 and ending June 30, 2005, to coincide with Ohio's biennial budget time period.

## **BACKGROUND**

### **Tuition Reciprocity Agreement between the Indiana Commission for Higher Education and the Ohio Board of Regents**

The Ohio Board of Regents, according to Sections 3333.17 and 3333.18 of the Ohio Revised Code, may enter into contracts with the appropriate agency in a contiguous state, enabling Ohio residents to enroll in an out-of-state public post-secondary educational institution, while paying residential tuition and fees. In return, residents of the reciprocity state have the opportunity to attend an Ohio state-assisted college or university and pay Ohio resident tuition and fees. These out-of-state reciprocity students are included in the calculation of institutional subsidy for Ohio's public colleges and universities. It is the mutual intent of the higher education agencies and institutions entering into these agreements to achieve a rough parity in terms of the costs and benefits of the student exchange. All agreements are regularly evaluated to determine if rough parity is being achieved and/or maintained.

The general purpose of tuition reciprocity is to expand postsecondary educational opportunities in a border region while limiting the cost of such expansion to the taxpayers of Ohio and the contiguous state through collaboration among public institutions of higher education. The intended outcomes of this collaboration are to increase the availability of programs to residents of the region without needless duplication of educational effort and to promote efficient use of existing educational facilities and resources.

The Ohio Board of Regents and the Indiana Commission on Higher Education initiated meetings to discuss the feasibility of a tuition reciprocity agreement between the two state agencies in 2002. Once each agency was apprised of each state's rules and regulations pertaining to the creation of such agreements, it was determined that discussions/negotiations between each state's institutions should commence. Therefore, a meeting was coordinated in which representatives from relevant institutions from Indiana and Ohio met at Indiana University East in Richmond, Indiana for that purpose (i.e., institutions within a reasonable distance from the entire common border).

From that meeting and subsequent interstate meetings, it was determined that the most centrally located institutions on either side of the common border held the best opportunity and the clearest rationale for a tuition reciprocity agreement to be created. The institutions were able to more easily identify a rough balance in terms of resident needs for greater access to educational opportunities in the region, in terms of identifying a balance of institutional types and programs, and in terms of identifying a balance in population counts in eligible counties on or near the more central portion of the mutual border. Therefore, the negotiations developed a proposal for a tuition reciprocity agreement that was similar in focus and substance to preceding agreements in both states, i.e., an agreement focused on achieving a rough parity in terms of the costs and benefits of the student exchange.

The proposed Tuition Reciprocity Agreement is entered into between the Ohio Board of Regents and:

- Clark State Community College,
- Edison Community College,
- Miami University Hamilton,
- Miami University Middletown,
- Rhodes State College,
- Sinclair Community College,
- Wright State University Main Campus, and
- Wright State University Lake Campus,

pursuant to provision of Section 3333.17 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Indiana Commission for Higher Education and:

- Ball State University,
- Indiana University East,
- Ivy Tech State College Region 6 (Muncie/Community College of Indiana),
- Ivy Tech State College Region 9 (Richmond),
- Purdue University Statewide Technology in Muncie and Richmond, and
- Vincennes University at Community College of Indiana (Muncie),

in compliance with rules and procedures of the aforementioned Parties.

Other publicly subsidized institutions within this more centrally located border region who are not represented in this Agreement, have opted out of this proposed agreement of their own accord. The process of this proposal was framed upon the notion of inclusivity from the first meeting to the present. Therefore, all publicly subsidized institutions in the central-most region of the common border were invited to participate in all the discussions, were continually updated on the progress of the discussions, and were all asked to formally commit to the Agreement or to advise the two state agencies of their intention not to do so. The institutions listed above represent those that formally committed to the Agreement. Discussions between institutions located in the northern-most common border region of Indiana and Ohio continue at this time; however, discussions in the southern-most common border region of Indiana and Ohio are not ongoing at this time.

Staff has determined that the proposed tuition reciprocity agreement between the Indiana Commission on Higher Education and the Ohio Board of Regents meets the standards for such agreements in Ohio. Since the Agreement must coincide with the biennial budgets of the State of Ohio, it must be renewed prior to June 30, 2005.