

Directive

Re: CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY KENT STATE UNIVERSITY TO WAIVE STANDARD TUITION RATES AND OFFER A REDUCTION IN THE OUT-OF-STATE TUITION SURCHARGE BY 80% FOR RESIDENTS OF NORTHERN WEST VIRGINIA AND WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA ENROLLING AT A REGIONAL CAMPUS DURING ACADEMIC YEARS 2011-2012 AND 2012-2013.

§375.30.30 of Am. Sub. H.B. 119 of the 127th General Assembly requires any waiver of tuition for a student or class of students not otherwise permitted by law at a state-assisted institution of higher education be approved by the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents. On April 17, 2009, the Chancellor signed Directive 2009-011 establishing procedures for institutions to follow when requesting to waive standard tuition rates. § 371.30.10 of Am. Sub. H.B. 1 of the 128th General Assembly continued the authority stated in §375.30.30 of Am. Sub. H.B. 119 of the 127th General Assembly. Currently Section 371.20.80 of House Bill 153 contains proposed language that continues the authority for the next biennium,

Contingent on the continued authority as proposed in Section 371.20.80 of House Bill 153 and Directive 2009-011, Kent State University has requested that for academic years 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 the out-of-state surcharge be reduced by 80% for permanent residents of northern West Virginia or western Pennsylvania enrolling at any of Kent State University's regional campuses. The institution has demonstrated the following:

- The University's Board of Trustees approved a resolution continuing authorizing a tuition waiver at its meeting on March 9, 2011. A copy of the resolution is attached.
- The University has submitted a specific request to continue the discount of 80% of the out-of-state tuition surcharge thereby reducing the total cost for residents of northern West Virginia (Brooke, Hancock, and Ohio counties) and western Pennsylvania (Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Crawford, Erie, Lawrence, and Mercer counties) enrolling at a regional campus. Using the current 2010-11 tuition rates, the total cost per semester for a full-time student enrolled in lower division courses would be reduced from \$6,535 to \$3,351. For a full-time student enrolled in upper division courses, the total cost per semester would be reduced from \$6,974 to \$3,790.
- The University proposes that the duration of the continued waiver be for academic years 2011-2012 and 2012-2013, ending on or before June 30, 2013.
- The proposed continuation of the waiver will affect approximately 226 students each term the waiver is in effect.
- The University's goal was to increase regional campus enrollment by 30% as a result of the reduction in tuition and it increased by 54.8%. The goal for continuing the waiver is to maintain enrollment at this level
- The University will use enrollment data to measure if it has accomplished its goal of maintaining the higher enrollment.

RECOMMENDATION

The request meets the Chancellor's standards, and the staff recommends to continue Kent State University's regional campus tuition waiver that reduces the out-of-state tuition surcharge for residents of northern West Virginia and western Pennsylvania by 80% during Academic Years 2011-2012 and 2012-2013, provided the Chancellor's authority is continued in House Bill 153 as currently proposed.