

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE NEBRASKA STATE COLLEGES**  
**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION\FISCAL, FACILITIES AND AUDIT**

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**ACTION:** **First and Final Round Approval of Revisions to Board Policy 6500; Tuition Rates**

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The policy is being updated to clarify that Blended Courses that include on-line and face-to face students in the same course are to be charged two different rates, the on-line rate for the distance students, and the on-campus rate for the face-to-face students. The balance of the changes are provided in an effort to clarify the various instructional delivery methods and the rates to be charged. The policy format was also updated.

The System Office recommends approval of the Revisions to Board Policy 6500; Tuition Rates.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Revisions to Board Policy 6500 (PDF)

## Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges

### Business and Finance

POLICY  
NAME: Tuition Rates

POLICY  
NUMBER: 6500

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#### A. PURPOSE

To establish tuition rates for the Colleges.

#### B. DEFINITIONS

1. Blended Courses – A course taught using two separately registered groups of students enrolled in the same course at one College: online students and students receiving instruction face to face in the classroom.
2. Dual Enrollment Course: A ~~c~~ourses taught to high school students for which the students receive both high school credit and college credit.
- ~~1.3.~~ Hybrid Courses – ~~Courses that use~~ A course taught using a combination of two (2) instructional modalities, namely face-to-face faculty instruction and online, instructor-led asynchronous or synchronous learning activities. online (minimum of 30 hours) and face to face instruction (minimum of 15 hours) modalities.
- ~~2.4.~~ Online Course: A ~~C~~ourses taught with 75% or more of instruction delivered via the Internet.
- ~~3.5.~~ Professional Development Course: Training, continuing education, and/or professional development activities offered by external organizations or entities that are approved by the College for academic credit.
- ~~4.6.~~ Tuition: The rate charged per credit hour ~~A sum of money charged~~ for instruction.

#### C. POLICY

##### 1. Board Authorization

The Board shall fix and collect tuition for resident, non-resident, undergraduate and graduate students who matriculate at the Colleges. The Board shall also fix and collect an online rate for online courses. The approved rates shall be effective for the academic year which includes fall, spring, and the subsequent summer term.

## 2. Setting Base Tuition Rates

The Board will advocate sufficient funding from the state to maintain affordable tuition so more citizens can avail themselves of the opportunity to attend college. Factors which may be considered in establishing undergraduate resident tuition rates will include, but not be limited to availability of general funds, resource requirements of the Colleges, peer comparisons, consumer price index, higher education price index, availability of student financial assistance and changes in regional per capita income.

### 2.1. Guidelines

When setting the rates, the following will be used as guidelines:

- Graduate resident tuition will be set at approximately one hundred twenty-five percent (125%) of the undergraduate resident rate. Graduate non-resident tuition will be set at approximately two hundred percent (200%) of the graduate resident rate.
- There will be one rate for undergraduate and one rate for graduate online courses. The graduate rate will generally be set at approximately one hundred twenty-five percent (125%) of the undergraduate rate. However, special undergraduate and/or graduate online rates may be established by the Board for specific programs. In addition, the differential between undergraduate and graduate may vary in years where extenuating circumstances arise that warrant an adjustment to either rate.
- In recognition of the value of a diverse student population and the fact that the Colleges' service regions that extend beyond the Nebraska borders, non-resident undergraduate tuition may will be set at the same rate as the undergraduate resident rate.

## 3. On-Campus and Center Tuition Rates

Courses taught on-campus and at Board approved Centers shall be assessed the Board approved rates based on the level of the course and the residency of the student.

### 3.1. Blended Courses

The on-campus section of a blended course, shall be assessed the on-campus rate or Center rate.

### 3.2. Hybrid Courses

The on-campus rate or Center rate will be assessed on all hybrid courses.

## 4. Online Tuition Rates

Courses taught online shall be assessed the Board approved rates based on the level of the course. The online rate will be inclusive of tuition and fees.

#### 4.1. Blended Courses

The online section of a blended course, shall be assessed the online rates.

#### 4.2. Capital Improvement Fee

~~All credit hours must be assessed the Capital Improvement Fee. The online rate includes the Capital Improvement Fee.~~ Each College will assure credit to the Capital Improvement Fee account out of the online tuition rate, ~~which includes the Capital Improvement Fee.~~

### **5. Special Tuition Rates**

The Board may establish special tuition rates for on-campus and off-campus students based on programs in other states, consortiums, compacts, or based on competitiveness. The Colleges may also request special tuition rates for off-campus locations or special arrangements.

#### 5.1. Nebraska Access Program

The graduate tuition rate for the Nebraska Access Program described in policy 3401, shall be one hundred percent (100%) of the resident rate.

#### 5.2. Midwest Student Exchange Program

The Midwestern Higher Education Compact offers a multi-state tuition reciprocity program for nonresident graduate students attending in member states. The graduate tuition rate shall be one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the graduate resident rate.

#### 5.3. Iowa and South Dakota Graduate Students

Iowa and South Dakota residents taking graduate courses will be eligible for the Midwestern Higher Education Compact graduate tuition rate.

### **6. Dual Enrollment Rate**

High school dual enrollment courses are taught to high school students for which the students receive both high school credit and college credit as described in Policy 4420. The high school dual enrollment tuition rate will be inclusive of tuition and fees.

#### 6.1. Capital Improvement Fee

The dual enrollment rates include the Capital ~~must be assessed Improvement Fee. on all credit hour~~ Each College will assure credit to the Capital Improvement Fee out of the dual enrollment tuition rate, ~~which includes the Capital Improvement Fee.~~

### **7. Professional Development Rate**

Professional development courses as described in Policy 4440 may include training, continuing education, and/or professional development activities offered by external organizations or entities that are approved by the Colleges for academic credit and are eligible for the Professional Development Tuition Rate. The professional development tuition rate will be inclusive of tuition and fees.

7.1. Capital Improvement Fee

The professional development rate includes the Capital Improvement Fee must be assessed on all credit hours. Each College will assure credit to the Capital Improvement Fee out of the professional development tuition rate, which includes the Capital Improvement Fee.

**FORMS/APPENDICES:**

None

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**SOURCE:**

**Legal Reference:** Neb. Rev. Stat. 85-501 State educational institutions; nonresident fees.

Neb. Rev. Stat. 85-503 State educational institutions; tuition.

**Policy Adopted:** March 1994

**Policy Revised:** February 2005, September 2007, April 2009, September 2011, June 2012, June 2013, September 2013, June 2018, June 2019, June 2020, November 2020, July 2021, July 2022, June 2023