The current six-year tuition schedule is set to end in spring 2012.

The proposed tuition schedule will begin in fall 2012 and end in spring 2017.

The UH tuition proposal is for tuition only. All students pay required fees in addition to tuition. The fee amounts differ by campus and cover costs associated with student activities, student government, publications, etc.

The UH four-year campuses charge tuition on a per-credit basis up to 12 credits per semester. Students taking 12 or more credits per semester pay the 12-credit rate. The UH community college students pay per credit for all enrolled credits.

The financing of instruction at the University of Hawai‘i (and all public universities nationally) depends primarily on two sources of revenue: state appropriations and tuition. Since 2009, UH lost 23% of its base budget from state appropriations; therefore, the University must place greater reliance on tuition revenues to run its operations.

Nationally, on average, tuition revenue accounts for approximately 40% of total revenues for instruction. In Hawai‘i, revenue from tuition accounts for 29% of total revenues for instruction.

The five-year proposed tuition schedule seeks to:
- have modest increases for resident undergraduates, especially in years 1 & 2;
- align nonresident rates with market and cost;
- align UHM and UHH graduate rates with peers and competitors;
- align UHWO tuition to UHH by 2014–15
- sustain low cost at the UHCCs for residents, while maintaining the floor and ceiling for nonresidents; and
- continue differentials for UHM and UHH professional programs (law, medicine, nursing, business, education, pharmacy).

The University proposes to increase the amount of student financial aid from $30.7 million in 2010-11 to $62.8 million by 2016-17.

Tuition revenue will be used to benefit students; e.g., core needs including hiring and retention of faculty and classroom and facility improvements as well as campus-specific needs such as course availability, support services, and security.