



July 14, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council of Chief Academic Officers
Dean Krystyna Aune, UH Mānoa Graduate Division

FROM: Donald O. Straney, Ph.D.
Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Donald O. Straney'.

SUBJECT: Tuition Rates for Western Regional Graduate Program (WRGP)

The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) approved the University of Hawai'i's proposal to allow institutions to charge up to 150% of resident tuition for WRGP eligible graduate programs. As stated in an email from President Lassner, beginning in Fall 2020 for the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and Fall 2021 for the University of Hawai'i at Hilo, new or returning WRGP eligible non-resident graduate students enrolled in eligible WRGP graduate programs at the University of Hawai'i qualify for the 150% resident tuition rate. WRGP students who concurrently enroll at any of the other eight University of Hawai'i campuses will incur the non-resident tuition rate at those campuses. Continuing WRGP students who were in WRGP programs prior to Fall 2020 at UH Mānoa are not affected by this change and will continue to pay their current tuition rates at UH Mānoa until they graduate or leave the University.

To ensure that WRGP students are charged tuition appropriately, UH Mānoa and UH Hilo will use residency code 'I' [*N/R WRGP Exempt (frmly INTEX)*] to identify WRGP students and charge the students the 150% resident tuition rate. When students apply for WRGP eligible programs, the two campuses will verify students' eligibility and assign the appropriate residency code. The two campuses will annually review the registration fee assessment rules to ensure that the proper per credit hour charged and flat rate are defined for residency code 'I'. All other campuses will set their residency code 'I' rate to be the non-resident tuition rate.

Attachment

c: Registrars
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Hae Okimoto, Interim Assoc. VP, Student Affairs

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From: David Lassner <david@hawaii.edu>
Date: May 21, 2019 at 12:21:23 PM HST
To: Michael Bruno <mbruno2@hawaii.edu>, "Krystyna S. Aune" <krystyna@hawaii.edu>, Roxie Shabazz <rshabazz@hawaii.edu>, Hae Okimoto <hae@hawaii.edu>, Don Straney <dstraney@hawaii.edu>, Velma Kameoka <velmak@hawaii.edu>, Laura Lyons <lelyons@hawaii.edu>, Pearl Imada-Iboshi <iboshi@hawaii.edu>, Marcia Sakai <marcias@hawaii.edu>
Cc: David Lassner <david@hawaii.edu>
Subject: WICHE Regional Graduate Pgm (WRGP) Change

The WICHE Commission voted today to accept our proposed change to allow institutions to charge up to 150% of resident tuition for participating WRGP <<https://www.wiche.edu/wrgp>> programs.

We proposed this after WICHE decided to open WRGP to all programs rather than just distinctive programs approved by the Commission. (Under the prior rules, the UHM Law School got our Environment Law program listed as "distinctive" in the region. But WICHE shows 59 students enrolled in 2018-19 so it looks like WSRSL took it on themselves to make the discount available to all its law students.) WICHE staff surveyed graduate deans in the region and also checked with the other regional higher education compacts. Based on that, the committee and then the full commission approved the change.

This is a tool we can now wield with more flexibility to provide a capability like WUE for any specific graduate programs we choose.

- Each campus can choose only one percentage to charge for WRGP participating programs, from 100% to 150%.

- Each campus chooses which programs are included. So we can use this to try to bolster enrollment in programs that have capacity and for which we think our non-res tuition (even lowered by 10%) is a barrier. And we can omit programs (e.g. medicine) for which we don't want/need more non-resident students or for which we want our non-res tuition rate to apply to all non-res students without a WICHE region discount.

- If we have students already enrolled through WRGP at 100% of resident tuition we need to grandfather them at that rate through their graduation (or departure). UHM added **a lot** of programs last year when the distinctiveness requirement was removed: https://wrgpsavingsfinder.wiche.edu/school-details.php?schoolID=0011H00001Q1eJqQAJ&major_limit=0 but I'm not sure how many non-residents from the WICHE region actually enrolled at the WRGP (resident) rate that we'd have to track.

UHM has not participated so far, but it would probably be handy for UH to pick one percentage so we don't have to explain the difference. I like 150% to match WUE and our Pacific Island tuition program, but there may be reasons to pick something else? Picking anything other than 100% will require that we track all the UHM WRGP

students admitted and enrolled under the 100% rate and enable them to complete at 100%.

david