

New Mexico-Colorado Tuition Reciprocity Agreement

THIS AGREEMENT is made by and between the New Mexico Higher Education Department (hereinafter referred to as the HED), an “agency” of the State of New Mexico and the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (hereinafter referred to as the CCHE), an “agency” of the State of Colorado. The purpose of this Agreement is to establish a tuition reciprocity program (hereinafter referred to as the Program) to enable selected students from the State of New Mexico to enroll at designated institutions of higher education in the State of Colorado with authorization to pay Colorado resident tuition rates, and to enable an equal number of selected students from the State of Colorado to enroll at selected institutions in New Mexico with authorization to pay New Mexico resident tuition rates.

Statement of Purpose

- A. In order to improve educational opportunities for the students in their respective states, the HED and the CCHE have identified circumstances in which students from each state would have authorization to pay resident tuition rates.
- B. HED is authorized to enter into this Agreement pursuant to Section 21-1-6, NMSA, 1978, and the CCHE is authorized to enter into this Agreement pursuant to 23-1-112, CRS.

Agreement

In consideration of the mutual promises contained herein, the HED and the CCHE agree to the following:

1. The term of this agreement shall be for three academic years, commencing on July 1, 2009 and will terminate on June 30, 2012. If a new Agreement has not been complete prior to that date, this Agreement may be extended if mutually acceptable to both states. An annual performance review by the HED and the CCHE shall be conducted at the end of each year. During each annual review, either agency may request amendments to the Agreement or terminate the Agreement, provided that a minimum of ninety (90) days prior notice is given.
2. Selected Colorado residents attending accredited public colleges in New Mexico and selected New Mexico residents attending accredited public colleges in Colorado that offer the program of study desired by the resident will be granted a waiver of the non-resident tuition differential and will be charged the in-state tuition rate at the college in which they enroll. For New Mexico participants, preference will be given to New Mexico residents attending the college in Colorado that is the shortest distance by passable road from the resident’s place of residence.
 - a. The selected Colorado residents attending New Mexico colleges must be residents of Colorado; and must be enrolled in, or have applied to a program of study that leads to a certificate, associates, baccalaureate, or graduate degree program, and must meet other criteria established by the HED and the CCHE.
 - b. The selected New Mexico residents who attend designated Colorado institutions under terms of this agreement, must be New Mexico residents, and must be enrolled in, or have applied to a program of study that leads to a certificate, associate, baccalaureate, or graduate degree program, and must meet other criteria established by the HED and the CCHE.

3. Designated institutions in New Mexico are state supported post secondary education institutions with the exception of New Mexico Military Institute (NMMI), the University of New Mexico School of Law, and the University of New Mexico School of Medicine. These institutions are specifically excluded from this Program.
4. Designated institutions from Colorado are: Lamar Community College, Pueblo Community College, Trinidad State Junior College, Fort Lewis College, Adams State College, San Juan Basin Vocational-Technical School, Western State College, and Colorado State University-Pueblo.
5. The State of New Mexico will accept up to four hundred (400) FTE students and the State of Colorado will accept up to four hundred (400) FTE students. An FTE student shall mean enrollment of 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours of credit during the academic year and preceding summer.
 - a. Designated institutions may divide FTE allocations to accommodate less than full-time students. For example, one 30-credit hour FTE may be divided into two 15-credit hour FTEs to accommodate two part-time enrolled students.
 - b. Designated institutions in Colorado shall be reimbursed on a credit hour basis through Fee-For-Service Contracts up to but not exceeding the equivalent of the number of FTE students allocated to the institution by CCHE multiplied by 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours during the academic year.
6. No money shall be paid by either state to the other state in exchange for the waiver of the non-resident tuition differential.
7. An official designated by the HED and the CCHE will annually review the Program and this agreement and recommend desirable changes to the HED and the CCHE.
8. The HED and the CCHE, each, will fulfill the following requirements:
 - a. Designate an official to be responsible for communication about and reporting for the Program;
 - b. Determine the eligibility and selection criteria to be used in determining which residents living in their own state may participate in the Program;
 - c. Develop such rules for selection of students for participation, as it may desire subject to the requirements that the procedures make it possible to limit the number of participants;
 - d. Inform each other and designated institutions in each state of Program requirements in a timely manner;
 - e. Refrain from discrimination on the basis of race, sex, national origin, religion, age or disability in the administration of the Program;
 - f. Designate an official from each participating higher education institution with the responsibility to:
 - i. Accurately evaluate students' eligibility for the Program according to the criteria specified in the Rules of this Program;

- ii. Limit the number of participants to the specified level;
 - iii. Charge the selected participants the in-state tuition rate of the institution they are attending;
 - iv. Maintain records of the program/residents at their higher education institution; and
 - v. Provide the HED and the CCHE the following information on or before October 15 of each year:
 - 1. Number of total credit hours by institution completed each academic year by all student participants; and
 - 2. Headcount of student participants by institution enrolled each academic year.
9. The HED and the CCHE will cooperate to the greatest extent possible in order to effectively manage the Program.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have entered into this Agreement as of the

11th day of September, 2009.

New Mexico Higher Education Department,

By: Viola E. Florez
Dr. Viola Florez
Cabinet Secretary

Colorado Department of Higher Education,

By: David E. Skaggs
David E. Skaggs, Executive Director 9/3/09