



DISCUSSION DRAFT - TUITION POLICY (09.03.15)

2016 Legislative Proposal - Statutory Authority

Beginning in FY 2016-17 and each year thereafter, the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) shall be required to include in the annual budget request (due to the Joint Budget Committee each November 1) tuition increase limits for resident undergraduate students for each state governing board.

Included in this recommendation is the recognition that (1) the governing boards of Colorado's public postsecondary institutions have the authority to set tuition for each of their respective institutions within tuition increase limits established by the CCHE, and (2) governing boards will have the ability to request flexibility from tuition increase limits, through a tuition accountability plan.

Tuition Policy Framework and Philosophy

- **CCHE, in consultation with the governing boards and other interested parties, shall develop an annual process and methodology for setting tuition increase limits.** Such a process shall take into consideration the following values:
 - **Value 1:** The condition of the state general fund and state investment levels in higher education.
 - **Value 2:** Tuition impact on student and families.
 - **Value 3:** Flexibility for institutions to address operational realities, changes in enrollment, and enhancing the quality and long term efficiency of educational programs and offerings
 - **Value 4:** Institutional accountability (e.g., completion and affordability metrics) for tuition increases beyond CCHE tuition limit.
- **Tuition revenue figures included in the Long Bill shall continue to be included for informational purposes only;** and shall not be appropriated. CCHE will submit an annual supplemental request to reconcile annual estimated tuition revenues with actuals for the previous fiscal year.
- **Tuition rates for nonresident students and resident graduate students are not subject to the provisions of the tuition policy limits adopted by the Commission.**
- **Establish a 5-year sunset provision for this statute.** Beyond FY 2020-21, tuition limitations will be subject to existing law and CCHE tuition policy will be updated as needed.

Tuition Increase Limits for FY 2016-17

For FY 2016-17, assuming adoption of CCHE's tuition policy, governing boards shall have the authority to raise tuition rates for resident undergraduate students within specified tuition increase limits. The tuition increase limits will be directly linked to the level of general fund. In other words, an increase in general fund results in lower tuition increase limits and a decrease in general fund results in higher tuition increase limits.



Tuition Policy Framework:

Philosophy and Values *(Discussion Draft, 9/3/15)*

