

## Tuition and Fees Excerpt from the Budget Package

### V. TUITION AND FEES

G.S. 115D-39 authorizes the State Board of Community Colleges to fix and regulate all tuition and fees charged to students for applying to or attending any community college.

#### A. Curriculum Tuition Rates

Consistent with action taken by the State Board at its July 17, 2009 meeting, curriculum tuition rates for the Fall 2009, Spring 2010, and Summer 2010 terms shall be as follows:

- **Residents:** Students qualifying for in-state tuition shall be charged \$50.00 per credit hour up to a maximum per semester of \$800, based upon 16 credit hours of instruction.
- **Non-Residents:** Out-of-state students shall be charged \$241.30 per credit hour up to a maximum per semester of \$3,860.80, based upon 16 credit hours of instruction.

#### B. Continuing Education Occupational Extension Registration Fees

Registration fees for continuing education occupational extension courses shall be based on the course length. Consistent with action taken by the State Board at its July 17, 2009 meeting, continuing education occupational extension registration fees for courses starting on or after August 15, 2009 shall be as follows:

##### Course Length Registration Fee

0-24 Hours	\$65
25-50 Hours	\$120
50+ Hours	\$175

#### C. Tuition Waivers

The General Assembly enacted changes to the tuition and fee waiver for senior citizens; all other tuition waivers remain unchanged. Per Section 8.11 of S.L. 2009-451 (as amended by H836<sup>21</sup>), **tuition shall be waived for up to six credit hours of credit instruction and 96 contact hours of non-credit instruction per academic semester** for senior citizens age 65 or older who are qualified as legal residents of North Carolina effective July 1, 2009.

Previously, G.S. 115B-2.1 required colleges permit any person to attend classes for up to six hours of credit or noncredit purposes each academic semester without the required payment of student activity and parking fees if the person has attained the age of 65 and qualifies as a legal resident of North Carolina and as a resident for tuition purposes. Section 8.11 of S.L. 2009-451 repeals G.S. 115B-2.1 and thus **repeals this requirement** effective July 1, 2009. Since these fees are optional fees, colleges may determine locally whether to continue to waive these fees as part of their local fee policies.

Section 8.11(e) of S.L. 2009-451 also eliminates the tuition waiver for prison inmates effective July 1, 2010. The elimination of this waiver is connected to the continuation review of the prisoner education program required by Sections 6.6E and 8.19 of S.L. 2009-451 (see Appendix A). Part A of Section VII of this document (page 75) further describes this review. The prison inmate tuition waiver may be reinstated based on the results of that study.

<sup>21</sup> At the time of the printing of this document, the Session Law number was not available, as H836 had not been signed into law by the Governor. It is anticipated that this will occur in the very near future.