

**West Virginia State University Board of Governors
Meeting of April 28, 2011**

ITEM: Student Tuition and Fees

ADMINISTRATIVE AREA: Finance and Student Affairs

RECOMMENDED ACTION: The West Virginia State University Board of Governors approve the recommended fee schedule for West Virginia State University for the Academic Year 2011-2012.

PRESENTED BY: Mr. Robert Parker
Vice President for Finance

BACKGROUND:

West Virginia State University received State Stabilization Funds in FY 2010 and FY 2011 and that FY 2011 is the final year in which State Stabilization Funds are available from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act. A condition for receipt of State Stabilization Funds was that institutions of higher education could not increase tuition during FY 2010 and FY 2011. Accordingly, West Virginia State University has not increased tuition and fees since FY 2009.

The Higher Education Policy Commission has provided guidance for higher education institutions to consider when addressing the issue of possible tuition increases. The Commission is asking institutions to align prices with internal strategic and state goals regarding affordability, quality of instruction, retention, and financial strength. These goals must be reviewed in relation to the institution's relative market position that will affect pricing flexibility. In addition, the Commission recognizes that revenue adjustments are required to offset inflationary pressures for auxiliary operations.

Given the current economic climate and factors identified above, institutional governing boards face difficult decisions regarding the need to balance inflationary operating pressures against affordability and accessibility issues.

Attached are proposed fee schedules which include all tuition and special fees for FY 2011-2012. The fee schedules contain fee adjustments for campus housing (dorm rooms), meal plans, parking fees, rent on faculty/staff houses and special fees.

Tuition and fee increases approved by institutional governing boards are subject to rules and procedures formulated by the Legislature and monitored through rules adopted by the Higher Education Policy Commission. Graduate tuition and fee parameters are set in state code and must be at least 110% of baccalaureate level charges.

ACTION:

Therefore, the West Virginia State University Board of Governors accepts the recommendation of the Finance Committee and approves the tuition and fee schedules for West Virginia State University for FY 2012.