

October 7, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Regents
FROM: William A. Sederburg
SUBJECT: First-Tier Tuition Range for 2010-2011

Issue

In 2005, Legislative Counsel advised the State Board of Regents (SBR) that first-tier tuition recommendations should be made prior to the General Session. Initially, Regents are asked to approve a first-tier tuition increase to cover the required institutional share of compensation.

Each year, the Board of Regents approves two tuition rates. First-tier tuition rates are uniform for all institutions and must be justified by specific increasing needs in the Utah System of Higher Education.

Second-tier tuition is based on institutional need and varies from campus to campus. Statute (UCA 53B-7-101.5) requires each institution to conduct a "truth in tuition" hearing with students prior to Regent approval of second-tier tuition. Institutions will hold the "truth in tuition" hearings during the December through February time frame and then bring recommendations to the Regents after the Legislative session.

Commissioner's Recommendation

The Commissioner recommends that the Board approve the preliminary first-tier tuition increase as the percentage necessary based on legislative appropriations. After the legislative session, when system needs are more apparent, the final proposal on the first-tier tuition increase will be presented to the Board of Regents during the late spring 2010 meeting.

This action will allow the State Board of Regents to comply with the request from Legislative Counsel regarding tuition increases.

William A. Sederburg
Commissioner of Higher Education

WAS/GLS/PCM