

BOARD OF REGENTS  
BRIEFING PAPER  
***Handbook Revision, Special Reduced Fees Eliminated***

**BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:**

In response to required budget reductions, the Chancellor's Office reviewed all currently authorized reduced fee categories, discounted tuitions, and tuition exemptions. Based on that review, the Chancellor recommends for elimination the authorization for reduced registration fees for certain senior citizens and non-matriculated native speakers of any foreign language (*Title 4, Chapter 17, Sections 13.1 and 13.2*).

**SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:**

Amend *Title 4, Chapter 17, Section 13* to eliminate the authorizations for special reduced fees for certain senior citizens and non-matriculated foreign language speakers. (See attached Policy Proposal.)

**IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):**

This proposal is brought forward in response to the budget reductions facing the NSHE and its institutions.

**BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:**

- The fee reduction for non-matriculated foreign language speakers is not currently being utilized; and therefore its elimination aligns Board policy with current practice.
- The fee reduction for certain senior citizens is estimated, based on current enrollments to cost \$1.1 million in foregone revenue (see the attached fiscal estimate). Elimination of the reduced fee authorization for senior citizens will likely result in some additional revenue for each institution, although in whole it is likely to be less than \$1.1 million as absent the reduced fee some senior citizens may no longer enroll.

**POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:**

- Eliminating the reduced fee authorization for senior citizens may result in fewer senior citizens enrolling in NSHE institutions.

**ALTERNATIVE(S) TO WHAT IS BEING REQUESTED/RECOMMENDED:**

Maintain the status quo allowing reduced registration fees for certain senior citizens and non-matriculated native speakers of any foreign language.

**COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:**

- Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title # \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter # \_\_\_\_\_ Section # \_\_\_\_\_
- Amends Current Board Policy: *Title 4, Chapter 17, Section 13*
- Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter # \_\_\_\_\_ Section # \_\_\_\_\_
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Fiscal Impact: Yes  No \_\_\_\_\_

Explain: *Based on current enrollments of students within the designated category that are benefiting from the reduced fee authorization; it is estimated that an additional \$1.1 million in revenues may be generated should the Board elect to eliminate the reduced fee authorizations for these student categories. (See attached Fiscal Note)*

**POLICY PROPOSAL - HANDBOOK**  
**TITLE 4, CHAPTER 17, SECTION 13**  
Special Reduced Tuition and Fees

Additions appear in *boldface italics*; deletions are [~~stricken~~ and bracketed]

**Section 13. Special Reduced Tuition and Fees**

- ~~[1. In state residents 62 years of age or older shall be permitted to register for credit or as auditors in any course without registration or application or admission fees except as otherwise provided in this section. A person must reach 62 years of age on the first day of the first scheduled class meeting to be eligible. If the individual registers for more than one class within a semester or term, the earliest scheduled class meeting will determine eligibility. The consent of the course instructor may be required for all such registration.~~
- ~~a. This policy is effective during the fall and spring terms only and is applicable to those courses where space is available.~~
  - ~~b. Such registration shall not entitle a person to any privileges usually associated with registration; e.g., student association membership, health service, intercollegiate athletic tickets.~~
  - ~~c. Registration fees associated with the William S. Boyd School of Law, the University of Nevada School of Medicine, and the UNLV School of Dental Medicine are not eligible under this policy.~~
  - ~~d. Academic credit courses that lead to a degree or certificate, including state-supported distance education course, independent learning, and continuing education courses, are eligible for the fee waiver. Non-state-supported courses are not eligible for waiver under this policy.~~
- ~~2. Non-matriculated native speakers of any foreign language may be permitted to register without fee for credit or as auditors in literature courses in that language. The consent of the course instructor may be required for all such registration.]~~
- [3]1. Nevada resident high school students may enroll in a distance learning, college-credit course delivered to an off-campus site for a \$25 registration fee per course if the course fee is approved by the institutional President. The term "high school students" includes students formally enrolled in a school district sponsored Adult Education High School Diploma programs.
- [4]2. Nevada resident high school students may enroll in remedial and 100-level courses offered by an NSHE institution for a reduced registration fee per course if the course is delivered on the high school campus, excluding high schools located on an NSHE campus, and approved by the institutional President. The reduced registration fees shall be determined by the President.
- [5]3. Any member of the active Nevada National Guard, including a Nevada National Guard recruit, or the child or spouse of a person who was killed while performing duties as a member of the Nevada National Guard, may be permitted to register for credit without a registration fee or, except as otherwise provided, laboratory fee(s).
- a. This policy is applicable during Fall and Spring terms only.

- b. Academic credit courses that will lead to the degree or certificate, including state-supported distance education courses, independent learning, and continuing education courses are eligible for the fee waiver. Non-state-supported independent study and correspondence courses are not eligible for waiver under this policy.
  - c. Laboratory fees associated with all courses numbered below the 300 level are eligible for waiver under this policy. Exceptions to the waiver of laboratory fees includes: 1) per semester fees, such as the Health Service fee; 2) Special course fees for purposes other than class supplies – including individual instruction, third-party charges, and special transportation requirements; 3) fees for actual class cost in excess of \$100; and 4) technology fees.
  - d. A person to whom the fee waiver is awarded shall be deemed a bona fide resident of Nevada for tuition purposes.
  - e. To be eligible for the fee waiver, the member must be in good standing or a recruit of the active Nevada National Guard at the beginning of and throughout the entire semester for which the waiver is granted. The member who fails to remain in good standing shall reimburse the Board of Regents for the semester's waived registration fees and laboratory fees and will not be allowed to register for additional courses until the debt is paid in full.
  - f. To remain eligible for the fee waiver, the student must achieve at least a minimum 2.00 semester grade point average in order to maintain subsequent eligibility for the fee waiver. The student who fails to maintain a 2.00 semester grade point average shall reimburse the Board of Regents for the semester's waived registration fees and laboratory fees and will not be allowed to register for additional courses until the debt is paid in full.
  - g. The institution may request the Adjutant General to verify the membership in the active Nevada National Guard of a person who is seeking or has been granted the fee waiver. The institution may request the Adjutant General to verify that a person is the child or spouse of a member who was killed while performing duties as a member of the Nevada National Guard.
  - h. If a fee waiver is granted to a Nevada National Guard recruit and the recruit does not enter full-time National Guard duty within one (1) year after enlisting, the student shall reimburse the Board of Regents for all previously waived registration fees and laboratory fees if the failure to enter full-time National Guard duty is attributable to the recruit's own conduct.
  - i. A child of a person who was killed while performing duties as a member of the Nevada National Guard may use the waiver for 10 years after he attains 18 years of age or, if he enrolls in an NSHE institution before age 18, for ten years after the date of enrollment. The spouse of a person who was killed while performing the duties as a member of the Nevada National Guard may use the waiver for ten years after the date of death of the member.
  - j. Registration fees associated with the William S. Boyd School of Law, the University of Nevada School of Medicine, and the UNLV School of Dental Medicine are not eligible for waiver under this policy.
- [6]4. Federally funded teacher training programs will carry an exception to in-state and out-of-state fee and tuition rates for contiguous, WICHE and Good Neighbor States, and may be offered at a reduced per-credit fee. Additionally, all NSHE institutions may offer professional development teacher training programs at a reduced per-credit fee when funded by Nevada school districts and/or

the State of Nevada through non-NSHE funds, if collaborative agreements are in place. All course offerings will be approved and delivery overseen through the usual academic processes.

- [7]5. The child or spouse of a person who as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States permanently stationed in Nevada is identified as a prisoner of war or declared missing in action while performing duties as a member of the Armed Forces may be permitted to register for credit without a registration fee or, except as otherwise provided, laboratory fee(s).
- a. This policy is applicable during Fall and Spring terms only.
  - b. Academic credit courses that will lead to the degree or certificate, including state-supported distance education courses, independent learning, and continuing education courses are eligible for the fee waiver. Non-state-supported independent study and correspondence courses are not eligible for waiver under this policy.
  - c. Laboratory fees associated with all courses numbered below the 300 level are eligible for waiver under this policy. Exceptions to the waiver of laboratory fees includes: 1) per semester fees, such as the Health Service fee; 2) Special course fees for purposes other than class supplies – including individual instruction, third-party charges, and special transportation requirements; 3) fees for actual class cost in excess of \$100; and 4) technology fees.
  - d. A person to whom the fee waiver is awarded shall be deemed a bona fide resident of Nevada for tuition purposes.
  - e. To remain eligible for the fee waiver, the student must achieve at least a minimum 2.00 semester grade point average in order to maintain subsequent eligibility for the fee waiver. The student who fails to maintain a 2.00 semester grade point average shall reimburse the Board of Regents for the semester's waived registration fees and laboratory fees and will not be allowed to register for additional courses until the debt is paid in full.
  - f. The institution may request such documentation as it deems necessary to verify that a person is the child or spouse of a person who as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States permanently stationed in Nevada is identified as a prisoner of war or missing in action while performing duties as a member of the Armed Forces.
  - g. A child of a person who as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States permanently stationed in Nevada is identified as a prisoner of war or missing in action while performing duties as a member of the Armed Forces may use the waiver for 10 years after he attains 18 years of age or, if he enrolls in an NSHE institution before age 18, for ten years after the date of enrollment. The spouse of a person who as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States permanently stationed in Nevada is identified as a prisoner of war or missing in action while performing duties as a member of the Armed Forces may use the waiver for ten years after the date on which the member of the Armed Forces was identified as a prisoner of war or missing in action.
  - h. Registration fees associated with the William S. Boyd School of Law, the University of Nevada School of Medicine, and the UNLV School of Dental Medicine are not eligible for waiver under this policy.

## **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**

The following estimate is based on current enrollments of students within the designated category that are benefiting from the reduced fee authorization; therefore, these figures represent additional revenues that may be generated should the Board elect to eliminate the reduced fee authorizations for these student categories. It is likely that the elimination of the reduced fee authorization will result in fewer students enrolled in these categories, and consequently the full amount as indicated will not be realized.

	Senior Citizens Age 62 or older	Non- Matriculated Speakers of Any Foreign Language	<b>TOTAL</b>
UNR	\$200,000	\$0	\$200,000
UNLV	\$346,075	\$0	\$346,075
NSC	\$5,651	\$0	\$5,651
CSN	\$241,440	\$0	\$241,440
GBC	\$37,000	\$0	\$37,000
TMCC	\$136,000	\$0	\$136,000
WNC	\$163,860	\$0	\$163,860
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,130,026</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,130,026</b>

Note: Each estimate was calculated by the respective institution.