

BOARD OF REGENTS  
BRIEFING PAPER

**1. AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Differential Program Fee Request (UNR, CSN and WNC)**

**MEETING DATE:** November 30 – December 1, 2017

**2. BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:**

At the April 2010 Special Meeting, the Board adopted provisions authorizing institutions to establish differential program fees under certain circumstances. The policy authorization provides that programs that can be justified as high cost and/or high demand may be considered for Differential Program Fees. (*BoR Handbook, Title 4, Chapter 17, Section 26*).

**NEW DIFFERENTIAL PROPOSALS:**

- 1. College of Southern Nevada:** Proposal to implement a \$60.00 per credit fee for all NURS\*\*\*\*\* courses within the ADN (including LPN to ADN curriculum). *See attachments for further information.*
- 2. Western Nevada College:** Proposal to increase fees to \$90.00 per credit fee for NURSE\*\*\*\*\* 100-200 level courses. Students enrolled prior to Fall 2018 will be allowed to complete their program under the previous fee structure. *See attachments for further information.*

**CORRECTION:**

- 1. University of Nevada, Reno:** When the Board of Regents approved the phase-out of the collaborative DNP program (UNDNP) which was in collaboration with UNLV and the development of UNR's own DNP program in September 2015, a change should have been made in the *Procedures and Guidelines manual* to reflect that all graduate level NURS courses (500-700) would have the \$239.50/credit differential fees. However, the footnote still appears in the *Procedures and Guidelines manual*.

**3. SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:**

UNR President Johnson, CSN President Richards and WNC Acting President Ghan request approval of the proposed differential fees as presented.

**4. IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):**

UNR: To make the correction noted above.

CSN: The funds generated will be used to maintain the quality of nursing program, thus continuing CSN's tradition of supplying highly competitive students needed in Nevada's healthcare workforce. The cost to educate nursing students at CSN is higher than other programs within the college due to the need for clinical learning experiences and mandated instructor-to-student clinical ratios.

WNC: The funds generated will be used to maintain the quality of the nursing program and sustain the addition of a small rural cohort in Fallon, therefore the cost per student is higher than a larger program when costs for labs and clinical simulations facilities are factored in. This will continue the College's tradition of supplying highly competitive and qualified professionals for Nevada's healthcare workforce.

As outlined in the following materials, the investment to educate nursing students at WNC is, on average, more than double what is required to educate a non-nursing student. The availability of the revenue from the differential fee will provide a funding structure to sustain enhanced hands-on instruction in the nursing lab environment.

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

CSN – Proposed Annual Expenditure:

- Acquire high-fidelity simulation equipment, software, and simulation scenarios;
- Continue maintenance agreements and repair for high and medium fidelity equipment at three lab locations;
- Provide consumable supplies for clinical experiences and labs;
- Provide clinical, simulation and lab support at multiple campus locations;
- Hire a full-time simulation concierge/faculty member;
- Faculty development for best practice instruction;
- Student support by providing resources to enhance theory, lab and clinical education;
- Offset the majority of the part-time faculty expense.

WNC – Proposed Annual Expenditure:

- Consumables provided for students - \$110,656
- Lab Coordinator salary and fringe - \$67,991
- Simulation lab and equipment maintenance - \$15,200
- Work-study supplementary support - \$2,660

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

- Fee increases make it more difficult for students to meet financial obligations.
- Students may delay completing their degree programs.

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

- Do not provide additional equipment and faculty to accommodate the high demands of the programs as described above.

**8. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:**

Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title #4 Chapter #17 Section #26

Amends Current Board Policy: Title #\_\_\_\_\_ Chapter #\_\_\_\_\_ Section #\_\_\_\_\_

Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter #\_\_\_\_\_ Section #\_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Fiscal Impact: Yes  No \_\_\_\_\_

Explain: Differential Fees represent extraordinary costs associated with specific programs.

Differential Fee supported budgets that meet the reporting threshold of \$25,000 will be reported in the Self-Supporting Budget report.

**POLICY PROPOSAL  
CHAPTER 7, SECTION 11**

**Differential Program Fees**

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

**Section 11. Differential Program Fees**

Program	Course Prefix	Course Level	Amount	Effective Date
University of Nevada Las Vegas				
Architecture	AAD, AAE, ABS, AAL, LAND, AAI, AAP	300-400	\$156.75/credit	Spring 2012
Architecture	AAE, AAD	500-700	\$239.50/credit	Spring 2012
Business	MBA, FIN, MKT, MGT	500-700	\$100.00/credit	Spring 2012
Educational Policy & Leadership	EPL	600-700	\$175.00/credit	Spring 2017
Executive MBA	EMBA	700	\$236/credit	Fall 2015
Executive MHA	EMHA	700	\$400/credit	Summer 2016
Marriage & Family Therapy	MFT	700 and above	\$177.50/credit	Fall 2015
Nursing	NURS	300-400	\$156.75/credit	Spring 2012
Nursing	NURS	500-700	\$239.50/credit	Spring 2012
Physical Therapy	DPT	500-700	\$239.50/credit	Spring 2012
Social Work	SW	700	\$125.00/credit	Fall 2012
Urban Leadership	ULD	700	\$150.00/credit	Fall 2012
Engineering	CEE, CEM, CPE, CS, EE, EGG, ME	300-400	\$40.00/credit	Fall 2014
Engineering	CEE, CEM, CS, ECG, ME	600-700	\$20.00/credit	Fall 2014
Graphic Design and Media	GRC	300-400	\$156.75/credit	Fall 2014
University of Nevada, Reno				
Business	ACC, BADM, BUS, ENT, GAM, FIN, IS, MGT, MKT	600-700	\$100.00/credit	Fall 2011
Engineering	BME, ENGR, CHE, CEE, CPE, CS, EE, GE, ME, MINE, MSE, MET	300-400	\$85.00/credit	Fall 2013
Engineering	BME, ENGR, CHE, CEE, CPE, CS, EE, GE, ME, MINE, MSE, MET	600-700	\$100.00/credit	Fall 2013
Nursing	NURS	300-400**	\$156.75/credit	Spring 2014
Nursing	NURS	500-700***	\$239.50/credit	Spring 2014
<b>College of Southern Nevada</b>				
<b>Nursing</b>	<b>NURS*****</b>	<b>100-200</b>	<b>\$60.00/credit</b>	<b>Fall 2018</b>
Nevada State College				

**POLICY PROPOSAL**  
**CHAPTER 7, SECTION 11**  
 Differential Program Fees

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

Nursing	NURS	ALL NURS courses	\$141.75/credit	Fall 2015
Great Basin College				
Nursing	NURS*****	100-200	\$70.00/credit	Fall 2016
Radiology	RAD*****	100-200	\$35.00/credit	Fall 2017
Truckee Meadows Community College				
Dental Hygiene	DH	100-200	\$88.25/credit	Fall 2016
Nursing	NURS****	100-200	\$60.00/credit	Fall 2014
Western Nevada College				
Nursing	NURS*****	100-200	\$ <del>60.00</del> <b>90.00</b> /credit	Fall <del>[2015]</del> <b>2018</b>

\*\*Does not include NURS 300, which is a required pre-requisite course for the nursing program. Does not include NURS 430, which is an elective course not required in any of the nursing programs.

\*\*\*~~[Does not include NURS 700-level courses required for the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program curriculum.]~~ Does not include NURS 630, which is an elective course not required in any of the nursing programs.

\*\*\*\*All NURS courses excluding NURS 130 (CNA) and NURS 140 (Medical Terminology).

\*\*\*\*\*All NURS courses excluding ~~[NURS 129 (Basic Nursing Skills) and]~~ NURS 130 (Certified Nursing Assistant). The effective date of Fall 2018 is for newly admitted students. ***Students enrolled prior to Fall 2018 will be allowed to complete their program under the previous fee structure.***

\*\*\*\*\*All NURS courses excluding NURS 130 (CNA), NURS 285 & NURS 290 (Selected Topics in Nursing) and NURS 300 and higher courses (Bachelor Degree Program Courses).

\*\*\*\*\*Does not include RAD 101 which is a required pre-requisite course for the radiology program.

\*\*\*\*\****Does not include NURS 130/NURS134 (Certified Nursing Assistant course), NURS 240/NURS 242 (RN Refresher), NURS 285 (Special Topics), and Practical Nursing courses (PN).***

College of Southern Nevada  
Nursing Program  
Proposal for Fall 2018 Differential Fee Implementation

Pursuant to Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) Procedures and Guidelines Manual, Chapter 7, Section 11, the College of Southern Nevada (CSN) proposes for Board of Regents consideration a differential fee for all courses in the Associate of Applied Science Nursing Program.

Background

A registered nurse focuses on the care of the sick, injured, and dying, and the promotion of healthy living. A nursing career allows for flexible work schedules and excellent incomes. Most two-year degreed, prepared nurses work directly with patients providing care in hospitals, long-term care facilities, rehabilitation centers, and/or community settings. An Associate's Degree in Nursing (ADN) allows students to attain the knowledge, skills, and behaviors to enter the profession within a reduced amount of time while possessing the needed competencies to be safe practitioners.

CSN students are supported by the local community in the form of scholarships. At the present time, the CSN Foundation has seven scholarship awards that are restricted for health science and/or nursing students. Three of the seven scholarships are permanently funded by donor-funded endowments, but the majority of donors fund the remaining scholarships on an annual basis. The total scholarship award amount for the AY 2016-2017 was \$12,000; external scholarship awards are not monitored by the CSN Foundation (i.e., Clark County Medical Society).

Introduction

CSN's proposed implementation of differential fees will start the fall semester of 2018 for all newly admitted and current students within the ADN program. The differential fee is proposed for all NURS-prefix courses required in the program of study for the ADN. NURS 130/NURS134 (Certified Nursing Assistant course), NURS 240/NURS 242 (RN Refresher), NURS 285 (Special Topics), and Practical Nursing courses (PN) are being excluded from differential fees. The proposed differential fees will be in addition to the existing CSN registration fees. In accordance with NSHE Board of Regents guidelines, it is also proposed that, for all courses with differential fees, special course fees currently paid by students can be eliminated.

The funds generated from differential fees will be used to maintain the quality of the nursing program, thus continuing CSN's tradition of supplying highly competitive students needed in Nevada's healthcare workforce. The cost to educate nursing students at CSN is higher than other programs within the college due to the need for clinical learning experiences and mandated instructor-to-student clinical ratios. A full-time simulation instructor is requested to ensure all ADN nursing students are able to participate in simulation learning experiences. Currently, one administrative faculty member is responsible for overseeing all skills labs, scheduling lab tutors,

scheduling use of lab rooms, training faculty on equipment, and determining needed lab supplies/equipment. In addition, the simulation/lab manager also runs the high-fidelity simulation equipment, designs and facilitates scenarios, and assists with debriefing. Due to the large number of ADN nursing students, faculty are also being trained to run high-fidelity simulations, but another position (i.e., simulation technician/instructor) is needed at this time.

The use of simulation technicians is well documented within nursing education programs, including use within the NSHE system (Coffman, Doolen, & Llaus, 2015). Furthermore, simulation technicians are valuable additions within two-year nursing programs (Ferguson, 2016). It is expected that the simulation technician will become proficient in running high-fidelity simulation equipment, troubleshooting software/hardware issues, creating scenarios, and working with faculty members in ensuring the scenarios meet course outcomes.

Currently, CSN has three high-fidelity, top-of-the-line simulation rooms with equipment purchased using Perkins Grant funds. These labs provide the students with realistic learning opportunities; this is especially important due to the reduction of available clinical sites for nursing students in the Las Vegas area. Furthermore, simulation allows for a safe learning environment where mistakes can occur without harm to patients. Additionally, as the college continues to face funding shortfalls, the availability of revenue from the differential fee will provide a valuable funding source to provide hands-on instruction within the three nursing lab environments.

This proposal is supported by the following:

- 1) Student Involvement

The topic of differential fees was discussed for one hour during the Associated Students of the College of Southern Nevada (ASCSN) meeting on 10/6/17. As of writing this proposal, no vote has occurred regarding their support or lack of support for differential fees from the ASCSN. A survey will be drafted by the ASCSN and sent to current nursing students to obtain their opinions regarding the need for a differential fee. A student representative did speak to the ASCSN and voiced her support of the differential fee. The differential fee will also be discussed at the student nurses association meeting on 10/13/17. The ASCSN will revisit/discuss this topic again at their November meeting.

In addition to the above mentioned student involvement, a letter will be sent to students, explaining the addition of and purpose of the differential fee. Comments/questions from students will be encouraged and Irene Coons PhD, RN, CNE, Director of Nursing will have her contact information included within the letter.

- 2) Special Course Fees

All special course fees will be eliminated for the specified NURS courses. The ADN nursing program consists of 34 credits within the NURS prefix. The course fees currently charged for the program are listed in the table below. Nursing students are assessed a total of \$225 in course fees over four semesters. This equates to approximately \$5 per credit. Also, these fees help offset

costs associated with courses such as NURS285 (Special Topics) and NURS240 (RN Refresher Course). Both courses require use of lab supplies and lab tutors but do not charge special fees.

#### Existing Course Fees

NURS 101	\$50.00	NURS 211	\$30.00
NURS 115	\$50.00	NURS 243	\$ 5.00
NURS 125	\$ 0.00	NURS 247	\$20.00
NURS 208	\$ 0.00	NURS 248	\$20.00
NURS 205	\$50.00	NURS 296	\$ 0.00

#### High Demand

The table below lists the number of applicants for the previous four years. The number accepted each fall and spring semester typically ranges from 120-144. The numbers may fluctuate based on ability to hire faculty to teach sections and clinical sites.

Admission to the program is extremely competitive. Admission is based on the following components: GPA in pre-requisite courses, GPA and number of other general education courses completed, previous health care experience, and Kaplan/TEAS test score.

#### Demand Table

Year	Applicants	Qualified	Accepted	Denied
2013	336	300	288	12
2014	362	336	312	50
2015	325	299	276	49
2016	311	300	300	11
2017	418	364	286	132

#### 3) High Costs

The following table depicts the previous three years of costs for the CSN nursing program.

The current cost per nursing student for FY 2016-2017 is \$7,003 with the approval of the differential fees cost per nursing student would be \$7,251. The cost is increasing slightly due to the addition of a full-time simulation concierge/faculty member and operating supplies/upkeep as explained below.

Year	Full-Time Faculty	Part-Time Faculty	Equipment Costs	Operating Costs	Total Costs	# of Students
2014-2015	\$2,382,223	\$360,212	\$132,143	\$98,552	\$2,974,130	439
2015-2016	\$2,562,468	\$376,180	\$109,234	\$69,074	\$3,116,956	483
2016-2017	\$2,719,282	\$439,006	\$109,285	\$100,721	\$3,368,293	481

4) Projected Revenue and Expenditures

Projected Annual Enrollment	475 Students
Proposed Differential Fee Rate	\$60/Credit (8.5 credits/semester) (34 program credits/four semesters)
Projected Annual Revenue once fully implemented	\$484,500
Proposed Annual Expenditure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Replace existing course fees.</li> <li>2. Acquire high-fidelity simulation equipment, software, and simulation scenarios.</li> <li>3. Continue maintenance agreements and repair for high- and medium-fidelity equipment at three lab locations.</li> <li>4. Provide consumable supplies for clinical experiences and labs.</li> <li>5. Provide clinical, simulation, and lab support at multiple campus locations.</li> <li>6. Hire a full-time simulation concierge/faculty member.</li> <li>7. Faculty development for best practice instruction.</li> <li>8. Student support by providing resources to enhance theory, lab, and clinical education.</li> <li>9. Offset the majority of the part-time faculty expense</li> </ol>

5) Proposed Fee

Discipline/Program	Course Prefix	Course Level	Amount
Nursing	All NURS courses within the ADN (including LPN to ADN) curriculum.	100-200	\$60 per credit

6) Plan for Implementation

Pending approval of the differential fee proposed, the differential fees on all required NURS-prefix courses (with the exception of those courses mentioned previously) will start fall semester of 2018.

During the spring of 2018, all prospective ADN and current ADN nursing students will be notified during their nursing orientation sessions, through personal e-mail communication from



the Director of Nursing, and via a prominent announcement on the departmental web site. This plan provides sufficient time for notification of current and prospective students about the date of implementation and provides them with time to develop strategies to cover the additional costs.



**Nursing Program**  
**Proposal for Fall 2018 Differential Fee Revision**

Pursuant to NSHE Procedures and Guidelines Manual, Chapter 7, Section 7, WNC proposes for Board of Regents consideration a differential fee revision for all courses in the Nursing Program with the exception of NURS 130 (Certified Nursing Assistant) which is outside the Nursing degree.

**Background**

The WNC Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) prepares the student to practice nursing as a registered nurse. Graduates of an ADN program usually practice as nurses in direct client care in hospitals, long-term care facilities, clinics and community agencies where nursing roles and services are structured and well defined.

The Associate in Applied Science Degree in Nursing is awarded upon completion of the curriculum, and the student is eligible to apply to take the state licensure examination leading to practice as a registered nurse. WNC graduates are highly successful, with a 94% average pass rate on the *National Council Licensure Examination (NLCEX-RN)* over the last three years and a 100% pass rate in 2012 and 2015.

The program has transfer agreements with the University of Nevada Reno, Great Basin College, and Nevada State College which allow WNC graduates to complete their Bachelor of Science in Nursing through those colleges' respective RN-BSN programs.

In Fall 2016, the WNC Nursing Program increased admission numbers to 56 new students each fall semester; this includes 8 new students admitted to the Fallon Rural Nursing Cohort. As of Fall 2017, enrollment in the ADN program included 86 students on the Carson Campus and 15 on the Fallon Campus split between first and second year student groups. The Fallon campus was without a nursing cohort from 2011 to 2016 due to budget constraints; the offering was reinstated in Fall 2016 as it was a clear priority for Fallon and the surrounding communities, and funding was increased through the *Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College Career Training (TAACCCT)* grant— the relevant TAACCCT funding will end in March 2018.

**Introduction**

WNC's proposed revision of differential fees would be made effective Fall 2018 for newly admitted students. Currently enrolled students will be allowed to complete their program under the previous fee structure. The differential fee revision is proposed for all NURS-prefix courses required in the Associate Degree in Nursing. NURS 130, which is central to the *Certified Nursing Assistant Certification Preparation program*, will not be subject to the differential fee and will still include lab fees.

In accordance with NSHE Board of Regents guidelines, 10% of all revenue generated by differential fees will be set aside for financial aid for students in the program.

The funds generated from differential fees will be used to maintain the quality of the nursing program and sustain the addition of the rural cohort in Fallon; this will continue the College's tradition of supplying highly competitive and qualified professionals for Nevada's healthcare workforce. As outlined in the following paragraphs, the investment in resources to educate nursing students at WNC is, on average, more than double what is required to educate a non-nursing student. The availability of the revenue from the differential fee will provide a funding structure to sustain enhanced hands-on instruction in the nursing lab environment. The services provided will allow the college the flexibility to provide courses and lab experiences in multiple locations and allow students to complete the nursing degree in a timely manner.

This proposal is supported by the following:

### **1) Student Involvement**

#### **Student Leadership Comments (ASWN Student Government meeting with VPAA October 2017):**

- The increase is more than fair considering the high costs of the program.
- Agree with increase—more fair to other students at the institution.
- The per-credit fee is about the same as the cost per credit which effectively doubles the cost to these students—double cost seems like too much. It's easy to say we should double the cost when you're not in the program.
- Earlier I voted 'no,' however understanding the specific costs of the program as compared to other programs at the college I am now in support of the increase.
- It's a fair fee especially if it helps to avoid cuts in other areas.
- Nursing students get an excellent experience and guaranteed jobs at the end of this program.
- I understand the need, but I still hate the idea [of raising student fees].
- I don't like it; we should take resources from other parts of the college to support and grow the nursing students and the program.
- The increase seems ok. Students overcome all kinds of obstacles, and they will overcome this one as well.

**Nursing Student Comments (Current nursing students meeting with Nursing Division Director September 21 and 28, 2017):** Live, in-person discussions were facilitated on two dates with 24 and 20 nursing students attending respectively. Students were provided brief background on the proposed revision of fees from \$60 to \$90 per credit and assured that these would be applied only to students beginning the program in Fall 2018 or later.

The following concerns were shared:

- The cost of the nursing program for students goes beyond tuition and fees. Additional expenses include books, Elsevier learning platform access, travel to and from clinical sites, uniforms, NCLEX review course, immunizations and medical tests. A majority of students voiced the opinion that the proposed increase would be a hardship for most students.
- Some semesters the nursing program course load is less than 12 units, and tuition assistances is less than 100%. Students receive less financial assistance to cover costs. In some instances, students noted they received just 75% of funds allocated.

- Students noted that a portion of differential fee revenue will cover the cost of lab coordinator and simulation technician salary. Students expressed that consideration be given to raising the lab fees for the other courses benefitting from these services.
- Students noted that the cost of tuition is going to be raised which will increase the cost of college education overall.
- A vote was taken to ascertain student support of the proposed increase: 33/44 (89%) of the students felt the increase would place a greater hardship on students in the program and were not in favor of the increase.

## 2) Special Course Fees

All special course fees (e.g. lab fees) related to the WNC Nursing Program courses were eliminated with the initial approval of the differential fee in nursing for the 2015-16 academic year. The intent of this revision proposal is to maintain a single differential fee applied per credit at a level sufficient to cover approximately all special program costs (see item #5 for detail) in the WNC Nursing (AAS) program; there are no new or additional special course fees proposed for these courses.

## 3) High Demand

Admission to the program is extremely competitive. Admission scoring is based on four components: GPA in biology and chemistry pre-requisite courses, GPA in other pre-requisite courses, HESI A2 Admission Assessment score, and Nevada residency (one additional point awarded to Nevada residents).

Year	Applicants	Qualified	Accepted	Denied
2017	98	86	56	42
2016	71	53	48	23
2015	77	59	48	29
2014	110	89	48	62
2013	103	89	40	63

## 4) High Costs

The following table depicts the previous five years of costs for the WNC Nursing Division. The full time faculty/staff costs provided include benefits.

**The average annual nursing division cost per nursing student FTE over the past five years is \$10,685. For comparison, the equivalent measure of non-nursing division costs is \$2,720 per student FTE.**

Academic Year	Full Time Faculty/Staff (\$)	Part Time Faculty (\$)	Operating (\$)	Total (\$)	Nursing Students FTE	Nursing Division (\$)/FTE
2016 - 17	729,771	132,487	17,054	879,311	88	9,992
2015 - 16	764,440	116,187	23,206	903,832	87	10,389
2014 - 15	750,065	122,167	21,571	893,803	83	10,769
2013 - 14	796,891	60,128	17,185	874,204	81	10,793
2012 - 13	759,505	133,908	25,011	918,424	80	11,480

### 5) Projected Revenue and Expenditures

Projected Annual Enrollment (Fall 2018)	112 students (1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> year combined); 2268 credits per year total.
Proposed Differential Fee Rate	\$90 per credit
Projected Annual Revenue once fully implemented	<b>\$204,120</b>
Less 10% carve out for financial aid	\$204,120-\$20,412= <b>\$183,708</b>
Proposed Annual Expenditures	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. \$110,656 consumables provided for students</li> <li>2. \$67,991 lab coordinator salary and fringe</li> <li>3. \$15,200 Simulation lab and equipment maintenance</li> <li>4. \$2,660 Work-study supplementary support</li> </ol> <b>Total: \$196,507</b>

Note: total revenue from the revised fee less the financial aid carve out will cover approximately 93% of annual program expenditures. At \$90 per credit, financial aid packaging will continue to provide sufficient access to the WNC student population. Please see financial aid information in #6 below.

### 6) Proposed Fee

Discipline/Program	Course Prefix	Course Level	Amount
Nursing	NURS courses (except NURS 130)	100 - 200	\$90 per credit

### **Financial aid**

NV Resident: \$95 (class fee) + \$5.50 (tech fee) + \$90 (proposed differential fee) = \$190.50/credit. Nursing students are generally enrolled in 9-11 credits per semester. On average, we could expect the cost to be \$1905/semester. This does not include books or other lab fees.

Non Residents: \$95 (class fee) + \$5.50 (tech fee) + \$90 (proposed differential fee) = \$190.50/credit + \$3,389 (non-resident tuition).

Nursing students are generally enrolled in 9-11 credits per semester. On average, we could expect the cost to be \$5,294/semester. This does not include books or other lab fees.

WUE: \$142.50 + \$5.50 + \$90 = \$238/credit.

Nursing students are generally enrolled in 9-11 credits per semester. On average, we could expect the cost to be \$2,380/semester. This does not include books or other lab fees.

**These students would be awarded at the 3/4 time level for Financial Aid. A student with maximum Pell eligibility (0 EFC), would receive \$2220.**

**Scholarships:** in the 2016-17 academic year, WNC and the WNC Foundation provided 48 scholarship awards restricted for first- and second-year nursing students. Seven of the scholarships are permanently funded by donor-funded endowments, but the majority of donors fund the remaining scholarships on an annual basis.

The total scholarship award amount in 2016-17 was \$52,500. For the 2017-18 academic year support for nursing students has increased significantly with 65 scholarships available totaling \$81,500.

### **Plan for implementation:**

Pending approval of the differential fee proposed, the differential fee revision on all required NURS-prefix courses (excluding NURS 130) will be applied beginning with the new nursing cohorts admitted in the fall semester of 2018. Students already enrolled in the program will be allowed to complete under the existing fee structure.

During the spring of 2018, all prospective students applying for admission for the 2018-19 year will be notified during the nursing orientation sessions, through personal e-mail communication from the Director of Nursing, via a prominent announcement on the departmental web site, and written letters upon admission regarding the amount of differential fees to be implemented. Included in this communication will be information and links related to scholarship funding and financial aid. This plan provides sufficient time for notification of new and prospective students about the date of implementation and provides them with time to develop strategies to cover the additional costs.