

**BOARD OF REGENTS
BRIEFING PAPER**

Handbook Revision: Fees and Expenses

BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

Existing policy (*Handbook*, Title 4, Chapter 17, Section 21) provides for the assessment of fees associated with student participation in student associations. The language outlines the credit enrollment threshold that a student would be considered a member of their respective student association. Corresponding with this policy are mandatory student association fees as outlined in the *Procedures and Guidelines Manual* (Chapter 7). These approved student association fees are assessed either as a student fee or as part of the distribution of registration fees for both undergraduate and graduate students.

Recently a discrepancy was discovered between the *Handbook* and the *Procedures and Guidelines Manual* concerning the defined eligible credit enrollment threshold for participation in a student association. Specifically, the *Handbook*, Title 4, Chapter 17, Section 21, provides that a student registered in seven or more credits at the state college or university is a member of their respective student government association. The *Procedures and Guidelines Manual*, Chapter 7 establishes student association fees, which are charged to all enrolled students regardless of credit enrollment level. Additionally, a review of both undergraduate and graduate student government constitutions found that in general a student enrolled in at least one credit is considered eligible to participate as a member of their student association.

The proposed revision brings alignment between the *Handbook's* defined credit limit threshold for participation in a student association and the fee structure provided for in the *Procedures and Guidelines Manual*. This revision was vetted through the Vice Provosts of Graduate Education at UNLV and UNR and reviewed against undergraduate student association constitutions to ensure proper alignment of existing practice.

SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:

Revise Board policy (*Title 4, Chapter 17, Section 21*) to be consistent with the provisions of the *Procedures and Guidelines Manual* (Chapter 7) which establishes student association fees regardless of enrollment level.

IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):

A discrepancy was found between existing policy (*Title 4, Chapter 17, Section 21*) and the *Procedures and Guidelines Manual* (Chapter 7).

CHECK THE NSHE STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL THAT IS SUPPORTED BY THIS REQUEST:

- Access (Increase participation in post-secondary education)
- Success (Increase student success)
- Close the Achievement Gap (Close the achievement gap among underserved student populations)
- Workforce (Collaboratively address the challenges of the workforce and industry education needs of Nevada)
- Research (Co-develop solutions to the critical issues facing 21st century Nevada and raise the overall research profile)
- Not Applicable to NSHE Strategic Plan Goals

INDICATE HOW THE PROPOSAL SUPPORTS THE SPECIFIC STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL

N/A

BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- Creating consistency between the *Handbook* and *Procedures and Guidelines Manual* concerning the defined eligible credit threshold for participation in a student association will eliminate confusion surrounding what constitutes member participation in a student association.
- Students at any enrollment level benefit from participation in their respective student government association.

POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

None have been presented.

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

None have been presented.

RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE:

The Chancellor's office supports this recommendation.

COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:

- Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title # _____ Chapter # _____ Section # _____
 - X Amends Current Board Policy: Title # 4 Chapter # 17 Section #21
 - Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter # _____ Section # _____
 - Other: _____
 - X Fiscal Impact: Yes _____ No X
- Explain:

POLICY PROPOSAL - HANDBOOK
TITLE 4, CHAPTER 17, SECTION 21
Student Association and Health Service Participation

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

Section 21. Student Association and Health Service Participation

1. All community college students are members of their respective student government associations except those in programs for which no student activity fee is assessed (e.g., community service courses and school district cooperative agreements).
2. All students [~~registering for seven (7) credits or more~~] *enrolled* at the state college and universities are members of their respective student government associations or graduate student associations, if organized.
3. Students registering for seven (7) credits or more, undergraduate or graduate, at UNLV, are eligible for treatment at their respective health services during the academic year. A reduced health service shall be available to all UNLV students in summer programs.