

BOARD OF REGENTS
BRIEFING PAPER

HANDBOOK REVISION: National Guard Fee Waivers

BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

It was recently brought to the attention of the SA Department of Academic and Student Affairs that some confusion existed concerning whether distance education courses are eligible for the National Guard fee waiver that was originally adopted by the Board following enabling legislation enacted by the 2003 Session of the Nevada Legislature. The current policy specifically excludes “correspondence courses,” which some have interpreted broadly to include all distance education courses. The policy as originally adopted was intended to include all state-supported, academic, credit-bearing courses that will lead to a degree or certificate, including such courses delivered via distance education.

SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:

Amend Board policy (*Title 4, Chapter 17, Section 13*) to clarify that state-supported distance education courses are covered under the existing National Guard Fee Waiver policy. (See attached Policy Proposal.)

IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):

It was recently brought to the attention of the Department of Academic and Student Affairs that reference in the Board’s policy excluding “correspondence courses” from the National Guard fee waiver is being broadly interpreted to mean all distance education courses. The proposed revision clarifies that state-supported distance education courses are eligible for the fee waiver.

BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- The proposed revision clarifies the policy to align with the most consistently held practice across the System to cover distance education courses under the National Guard fee waiver policy;
- Members of the National Guard, subject to the time-consuming demands, are likely to enroll in distance education courses; and
- The original intent of the policy was to cover all state-supported, academic, credit-bearing courses that will lead to a degree or certificate, regardless of delivery method.

POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

The proposed revision is for clarification only and does not change the original intent of the policy, therefore no arguments against have been brought forward.

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

Leave the policy as currently written and clarify the provision via memorandum from the Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs to the campuses.

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:_____

POLICY PROPOSAL
TITLE 4, CHAPTER 17, SECTION 13
National Guard Fee Waiver

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 noted below. 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 (1) 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. (B/R 2/95)
 - a. Only those courses where space is available may be taken. (B/R 2/95)
 - 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. (B/R 2/95)
 - c. Persons 62 years of age or older may register in summer session or off-campus credit courses (independent study by correspondence and field study program excepted) and in non-credit continuing education courses at UNLV or UNR, or in community service courses at the community colleges, all of which are supported by registration fees, for one-half (1/2) the regular registration fee. Reduced fee benefits are always subject to programs being otherwise self-sustaining. (B/R 2/95)
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. 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. (B/R 8/06)
4. 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. (B/R 8/06)
5. Any member of the active Nevada National Guard, including a Nevada National Guard recruit, 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 [~~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 person must be a member 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.
 - f. The member or recruit of the Nevada National Guard must achieve at least a minimum 2.00 semester grade point average in order to maintain subsequent eligibility for the fee waiver.
 - 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.
 - 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. If a fee waiver is granted to a member of the Nevada National Guard and the member does not achieve at least a minimum 2.00 semester grade point average and remain a member in good standing with the Guard, the student 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.
 - 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.
 - k. The Nevada National Guard fee waiver is effective as of Fall Semester 2003. (B/R 6/05)
(B/R 8/03)
6. 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. UNLV may accept federally funded teacher training programs with mandated reduced per-credit fees; undergraduate, minimum \$15 per credit; graduate, minimum \$30 per credit; all course offerings will be approved and delivery overseen through the usual academic processes. (B/R 6/04)