



**North Central Texas College
Board of Regents Meeting
March 30, 2015**

AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of Approving Tuition Rates/Fees Effective Fall 2015

To facilitate student success, the Administration has established the Institutional Budget Priorities for 2015-2016, which are *Closing the Gaps in Salary Structure, Human Resources, and Physical Resources*. To generate additional revenue to accomplish associated initiatives, the following increased tuition-related fees/rates are recommended:

RESIDENCY CLASSIFICATION	CURRENT RATES	PROPOSED INCREASE	PROPOSED 2015-2016 RATES
In-District (Cooke County Residents):			
<i>TUITION</i>	40	10	50
<i>STUDENT SERVICE FEE</i>	1	0	1
<i>GENERAL USE FEE</i>	19	0	19
TOTAL	\$60	\$0	\$70
Branch Campus: (Graham ISD Residents):			
<i>TUITION</i>			50
<i>STUDENT SERVICE FEE</i>			1
<i>GENERAL USE FEE</i>			19
<i>MAINTENANCE FEE</i>			6
TOTAL			\$76
Out-of-District: (Other Texas Residents)			
<i>TUITION</i>	82	10	92
<i>STUDENT SERVICE FEE</i>	1	0	1
<i>GENERAL USE FEE</i>	19	0	19
<i>MAINTENANCE FEE</i>			6
TOTAL	\$102	\$0	\$118
Out-of-State:			
<i>TUITION</i>	139	35	174
<i>STUDENT SERVICE FEE</i>	1	0	1
<i>GENERAL USE FEE</i>	19	0	19
<i>MAINTENANCE FEE</i>			6
TOTAL	\$159	\$0	\$200

By increasing the total In-District tuition/fee rate to \$70 per Semester Credit Hour (SCH) and \$117 for Out-of-District, NCTC rates would rank 13th lowest for In-District and 20th lowest for Out-of-District, based on Spring 2015 data from Texas Association of Community Colleges (TACC). Both rates are below the state averages of \$80 and \$125, respectively. The Out-of-State total rate of \$200 per SCH, although higher than the state average of \$174, is well below the rate of \$361 currently being charged by two community college districts.



In addition, the Administration recommends the establishment of a Branch Campus Tuition category; the recommended tuition rate of \$50 per SCH is the same as the proposed In-District tuition amount.

Finally, the Administration recommends establishing a Maintenance Fee of \$6 per SCH for students outside the ad valorem taxing district (Cooke County). This fee will help offset the expenditures incurred by offering courses outside the taxing district. Texas Education Code, Section 130.084 states:

(b) The governing board of a junior college district may set and collect with respect to a public junior college in the district any amount of tuition, rentals, rates, charges, or fees the board considers necessary for the efficient operation of the college, except that a tuition rate set under this subsection must satisfy the requirements of Section 54.051(n).

In determining the Out-of-District rate, the provisions of Texas Education Code, Section 130.0032 (d) were considered:

(d) The governing board of a junior college district shall establish the rate of tuition and fees charged to a student who resides outside the district by considering factors such as:

- (1) the sufficiency of the rate to promote taxpayer equity by encouraging areas benefitting from the educational services of the district to participate in financing the education of students from that area;*
- (2) the extent to which the rate will ensure that the cost to the district of providing educational services to a student who resides outside the district is not financed disproportionately by the taxpayers residing within the district; and*
- (3) the rate that would generate tuition and fees equal to the total amount per credit hour determined by dividing the total amount of ad valorem taxes imposed by the district in the tax year preceding the year in which the academic year begins by the total number of credit hours for which the students who were residents of the district enrolled in the district in the preceding academic year.*

Including the Parity Rate calculation for Out-of-District resulted in a rate of \$173 per SCH. The calculation was derived by dividing the 2014 tax levy (\$2,236,392) by the 2013-14 In-District semester credit hours (21,713), yielding an add-on rate of \$103. Using the proposed In-District rate of \$70, adding \$103 would result in a 147% increase between In-District and Out-of-District rates. To remain competitive, the Administration does not recommend using the Parity Rate.

DUAL CREDIT RATES

The second proposal is to continue the practice of discounting tuition and fee rates for dual credit students attending high schools in the NCTC service area for up to six (6) SCH per semester, as well as maintaining the offer of free tuition and fees to eligible dual credit students attending high schools within the NCTC service area who participate in the Free/Reduced Lunch program,



also for up to six (6) SCH per semester. The proposed discounted dual credit rates are:

<u>CLASSIFICATION</u>	<u>DISCOUNT</u>	<u>PROPOSED 2015-16 RATE</u>
In-District, \$70	(12.00)	\$58 per SCH
Branch Campus, \$76	(12.00)	\$64 per SCH
Out-District, \$118	(16.00)	\$112 per SCH
Out-State, \$200	(36.00)	\$164 per SCH

NON-CREDIT (LIFELONG LEARNING) FEES

The third proposal presents the Lifelong Learning Fees, per contact hour, for 2015-2016; the department leadership assessed each category and established the following recommendations:

CATEGORY	PURPOSE	CURRENT RATE	PROPOSED 2015-2016
Community Service	Addresses the needs of educationally and economically disadvantaged adults with limited ability to pay; includes adult basic education such as GED and ELS	4.75	4.75
Community Education	Personal enrichment, individual goals, or a pursuit of a special interest	5.50	5.50
Adult/Professional (Workforce) Ed	Demand occupation driven tracks, professional enhancement and mandatory continuing education units (CEUs)	6.75	7.00
Customized (Contract) Training	Customized curriculum and on-site delivery	8.25	9.75
Concurrent Courses	Charges same rate as credit tuition	--	--
Grant-Funded Courses	Course offerings requiring substantial interface involvement with the planning, implementation, & evaluation of a grant	13.75	14.75

The Administration recommends that the Board of Regents approves the proposed tuition and tuition-related fees, the discounted dual credit rates, and Lifelong Learning Fees, effective Fall 2015.