Policy

The purpose of this policy is to determine the conditions under which non-resident domestic and international students may receive tuition remission.

Authority

The UW-River Falls Chancellor issues this policy in accordance with the Administrative Policy process.

The Assistant Chancellor for Business and Finance is responsible for the administration of this policy. Request an exception to this policy by writing to administrative-policy@uwrf.edu.

Background and Purpose

The guiding principal for this policy is that nonresident domestic and international students enrich the UW-River Falls campus and learning environment. Therefore, it is appropriate to strategically utilize non-resident tuition remission to enhance nonresident domestic and international enrollment with the priority being degree-seeking students. Tuition remission can significantly enhance recruiting efforts by keeping UWRF competitive with other universities, especially for students who have multiple admissions offers, and assist with retention of students.

The basis for offering tuition remission for non-resident domestic and international students is in accordance with Chapter 36 of the Wisconsin Statues. Chapter 36.27(3) states that:

“Tuition Remissions. The board may remit nonresident tuition either in whole or in part at each institution, but not other fees:

(a) To nonresident students upon the basis of merit, to be shown by suitable tests, examinations, or scholastic records and continued high standards of scholastic attainment
(b) To additional students who, in the judgment of the board, are deserving of relief from the assessment of nonresident tuition.
(f) In addition to the remission of nonresident tuition under this subsection, the board may, as athletic scholarships, grant full remission of fees and nonresident tuition, up to the maximum number allowed by the appropriate athletic conference as recommended by the chancellor of each university.
(g) The board may remit nonresident tuition and fees, in whole or part, to resident and nonresident graduate students who are fellows or who are employed within the system as faculty, instructional academic staff, or assistants with an appointment equal to at least 33% of a full-time equivalent position.”
Effective Date

1. This revised policy is in effect for non-resident students enrolled beginning Fall semester 2018-19.
2. Undergraduate non-resident students who enrolled in 2016-17 and 2017-18, who were eligible for a tuition remission, will continue to receive the $2,000 annually for their first two semesters and $4,000 annually for up to eight additional semesters for a total of 10 semesters as long as they maintain the required GPA and continue to meet satisfactory academic progress. Graduate non-resident students will continue to receive the $2,000 annually for their first two semesters and $4,000 annually for up to four additional semesters for a total of six semesters as long as they maintain the required GPA and continue to meet satisfactory academic progress.
3. Non-resident students enrolled prior to fall of 2016, who were eligible for a tuition remission, will continue to receive $2,500 annually for up to 10 semesters as long as they continue to meet satisfactory academic progress.

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The tuition remission will be $3,000 per academic year (or $1,500/semester). Tuition remission may be pro-rated according to criteria listed in this document.

Criteria

Eligibility

1. Students must be new (including transfers and ELT students transitioning into degree programs) degree seeking undergraduate and graduate nonresident students, domestic and international, to be eligible for a remission. Students must meet the current UWRF admissions standards as referenced on page 1, item (a).
2. International students are not eligible for a tuition remission if they:
   a. are participating in exchange programs (J-1) where they do not pay tuition to UWRF
   b. are attending UWRF under a special partnership agreement/inter-institutional agreement (AP-01-121 International Agreements)
3. Students receiving tuition rates under Minnesota Reciprocity, Return to Wisconsin, or Midwest Student Exchange are not eligible for tuition remission.
4. Domestic non-resident and international students who are admitted to undergraduate or graduate programs with special tuition rates are not eligible for the non-resident tuition remission program, for example, MBA, Early Childhood.
5. Students must maintain a full course load (12 credits for undergraduates and 8 credits for graduates) of courses during fall and spring and a cumulative GPA of 2.5 for undergraduate students and 3.0 for graduate students.
6. International students pursuing a full course of study (completing at least 12 undergraduate credits a semester) and taking no more than three (3) credits of ESL courses are eligible for 75% of the tuition remission for the semester.
7. Undergraduate students receiving a tuition remission may receive the remission for no more than 10 semesters. Graduate students may receive the remission for no more than six semesters.
8. International students must maintain F-1 SEVIS compliance and F-2 SEVIS compliance for their dependents (if applicable).

9. Occasionally international students are allowed to carry a reduced course load, as an approved SEVIS exception. International students who have been receiving the tuition remission will continue to be eligible for a remission proportional to the course load carried (i.e., an UG student carrying 9 credits will be eligible for 75% remission).

10. Remission will only be granted for fall and spring terms (not summer or J-term).

11. Students must meet the criteria listed in Wisconsin State Statutes Section 36.27(3) and other applicable laws, UW-System policies and other requirements listed in this document.

12. Students who do not continue to meet the requirements for a tuition remission will become ineligible for a remission for the remainder of their time in their current education level (i.e., graduate or undergraduate).

Additional Limitations

1. With the exception of revenue from ESL courses and programs with special tuition rates (see item 4. under Eligibility), all tuition revenue from domestic nonresident and international students will be collected in the same manner as other tuition and 100% of these funds will be part of the university’s general revenue pool. Revenue from ESL courses supports the English Language Transition Program.

2. In no case shall the tuition of a nonresident domestic or international student be less than resident tuition rates.

3. All students will pay full/regular student segregated fees.

4. All agreements and actions engaged in by UWRF personnel must comply with federal, UW System, NCAA and other related laws and policies.

Criteria for Withdrawing or Denying Tuition Remission

1. Failure to complete the minimum “full load” of credits per semester.

2. Failure to maintain the minimum cumulative GPA, for undergraduate students, 2.5, and 3.0 for graduate students, or to make adequate progress toward their intended degree. Students will be warned in writing by Financial Aid as part of the satisfactory academic progress policy.

3. International students who fail to maintain immigration status will be required to leave the USA and will no longer be eligible for the tuition remission.

4. It is discovered that false information was provided in order to obtain the tuition remission.

5. Students are granted a departmental assistantship or a foundation grant or fellowship, which will cover their tuition.

Procedure

The student’s residency and degree seeking status will be determined by the Admissions office based on the application materials provided. The office of Financial Aid will determine the remission awards based on this policy. The results will be shared with the Student Billing office for entry on the student’s eSIS account.

Appeals
If a remission is denied, reduced, or withdrawn, a student may make a written appeal for reinstatement by providing proof and/or documentation of change of circumstances, or demonstrating “extenuating circumstances” (i.e. medical reasons, etc.). The appeal must be made within 30 days of the start of the semester. Depending on the circumstance, exceptions may be made. The appeal process will follow the Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) process. In the case of an international student appeal, the International Student Services Coordinator will be included in the appeal process.

**University Responsibilities**

This policy will be carried out through the UWRF Admissions, Financial Aid and Student Billing offices, with support and assistance from UWRF International Student Services, Registrar and Institutional Research, and other offices as deemed necessary.

**Department/Unit Responsibilities**

Admissions
Registrar
Student Billing
International Student Services
Office of Financial Aid
Institutional Research

**Contact**

Please email questions about this policy to administrative-policy@uwrf.edu.