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## LEGAL UPDATE

Legal Services Division



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### STATE BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING — JUNE 24, 2021

**Purpose.** *Legal updates are prepared by the nonpartisan Legal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency. A legal update is intended to provide legislators, legislative staff, and other persons interested in legislative matters with summaries of recent meetings, court decisions, Attorney General Opinions, regulatory actions, federal actions, and other occurrences of a legal nature that may be pertinent to the General Assembly's consideration of a topic. Although an update may identify issues for consideration by the General Assembly, it should not be interpreted as advocating any particular course of action.*

**Meeting.** The State Board of Regents met virtually on June 24, 2021, to hold the first reading of proposed 2021-2022 tuition and fee rates for the Regent universities, effective with the Fall 2021 session. Board President Michael J. Richards noted that no action is required by the board at this meeting. The agenda and materials for the meeting, as well as a video recording of the meeting, can be found at the following Internet site: [www.iowaregents.edu/meetings/past-meeting-agendas/june-24-2021](http://www.iowaregents.edu/meetings/past-meeting-agendas/june-24-2021).

**Board Office Reports.** Mr. Brad Berg, Chief Business Officer, Board Office, presented the proposed undergraduate resident tuition rates for 2021-2022 as follows:

- For the University of Iowa (UI), an increase of \$283 for a new annual tuition rate of \$8,356.
- For Iowa State University (ISU), an increase of \$282 for a new annual tuition rate of \$8,324.
- For the University of Northern Iowa (UNI), an increase of \$115 for a new annual tuition rate of \$7,780.

**Table 1** displays the proposed changes for tuition and mandatory fees at each institution. The proposed tuition rates at the UI and ISU combined are projected to generate \$24.0 million in incremental revenue for FY 2022, approximately 1.5 percent of the current total general education fund operating budget for the two institutions.

Mr. Berg stated that differential tuition rates for higher-cost programs are also included in the docket. Ms. Andrea Anania, Associate Chief Business Officer, Board Office, described common and university-specific fees.

**Comments from Student Organizations.** The board heard comments from representatives of the universities' student government organizations. Ms. Julia Campbell, ISU Student Body President, asked that any increase in tuition and fees for 2021-2022 be as small as possible in order to reduce and mitigate student financial burdens while maintaining the exceptional level of education the Regent institutions have offered for generations. Ms. Regan Smock, UNI Undergraduate Student Body President, emphasized the importance of, and need to increase, state funding for Iowa's Regent institutions, and asked the Legislature to prioritize investments in students and acknowledge the Regent universities as economic powerhouses for the state. Ms. Alisanne Stuck, UNI Undergraduate Student Body Vice President, proposed a 1.5 percent increase in tuition, with no increase for mandatory fees; and asked the board and the Legislature to support a \$4.0 million increase for UNI. Mr. Walt Wang, Chairperson of the UI Graduate & Professional Student Government, described the drastic decades-long declines in state appropriations for higher education as troubling. His organization hopes to work with the board to make education affordable for every student.

**Next Meeting.** The second and final reading regarding proposed 2021-2022 tuition and fees will be at the July 28, 2021, virtual meeting.

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**Table 1**  
**Proposed FY 2022 Tuition and Fees June 24, 2021**

	Base Tuition			
	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2022 v FY 2021	Percentage Change
University of Iowa				
Resident	\$ 8,073	\$ 8,356	\$ 283	3.5%
Nonresident	\$ 30,036	\$ 30,319	\$ 283	0.9%
Iowa State				
Resident	\$ 8,042	\$ 8,324	\$ 282	3.5%
Nonresident	\$ 23,230	\$ 24,136	\$ 906	3.9%
Northern Iowa				
Resident	\$ 7,665	\$ 7,780	\$ 115	1.5%
Nonresident	\$ 18,207	\$ 18,480	\$ 273	1.5%
Mandatory Fees				
	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2022 v FY 2021	Percentage Change
University of Iowa				
Resident	\$ 1,533	\$ 1,586	\$ 54	3.5%
Nonresident	\$ 1,533	\$ 1,586	\$ 54	3.5%
Iowa State				
Resident	\$ 1,274	\$ 1,310	\$ 36	2.8%
Nonresident	\$ 1,274	\$ 1,310	\$ 36	2.8%
Northern Iowa				
Resident	\$ 1,273	\$ 1,273	\$ -	0.0%
Nonresident	\$ 1,273	\$ 1,273	\$ -	0.0%
Total Base Tuition and Mandatory Fees				
	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2022 v FY 2021	Percentage Change
University of Iowa				
Resident	\$ 9,606	\$ 9,942	\$ 337	3.5%
Nonresident	\$ 31,569	\$ 31,905	\$ 337	1.1%
Iowa State				
Resident	\$ 9,316	\$ 9,634	\$ 318	3.4%
Nonresident	\$ 24,504	\$ 25,446	\$ 942	3.8%
Northern Iowa				
Resident	\$ 8,938	\$ 9,053	\$ 115	1.3%
Nonresident	\$ 19,480	\$ 19,753	\$ 273	1.4%