BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE AND BOARD ACTION

COMMITTEE: Fiscal Affairs and Administrative Policy   **NO.**: FAAP 12-26

COMMITTEE DATE: January 24, 2012

BOARD DATE: January 31, 2012

APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2013 NEED-BASED TUITION WAIVER AWARDS

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education requires that each institution provide a program of need-based tuition waivers to qualifying students and authorizes the Commissioner to administer the Need-Based Tuition Waiver Program at the level of $19,905,043 for Fiscal Year 2013 with institutional need-based tuition waiver awards not to exceed the allocation, as attached.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 15A, Section 9(i) and 19

Contact: Dr. Clantha McCurdy, Senior Deputy Commissioner, Access and Student Financial Assistance

Background

Each year the Board of Higher Education approves the total of Need-Based Tuition Waivers to be expended at Massachusetts public higher education campuses. Tuition waivers do not offer any net revenue opportunities to the institutions, as they stand for tuition dollars that would otherwise be collected and remitted to the Commonwealth's General Fund.

Consistent with the Cash Grant, Need-Based Tuition Waivers are allocated to institutions based on a weighted formula that considers a student's ability to contribute to the overall cost of their education, as approved by the Board in FY 2012. The funding model utilizes a weighted formula that is based on three-year average data, and phased-in over two years. The formula uses the following data:

    a) the institution's annual undergraduate enrollment;

    b) the number of students that are eligible to receive the Pell Grant; and

    c) the number of students from families at the median income level (Expected Family Income of Pell to 10,000).

This motion recommends that the Board authorize tuition waiver expenditure for Fiscal Year 2013 at the FY2012 level of $19.9 million, which was increased by 10% to reflect the continued spike in enrollment throughout the public higher system over the past three years. The Board of Higher Education will conduct a mid-academic year review of expenditures in the Need-Based Tuition Waiver program and, based upon the findings, may redistribute any unused tuition waiver allocations that are de-obligated by institutions.

Recommended Distribution of Need-Based Tuition Waivers by Campus for Fiscal Year 2013

Name of Institution	FY2012 Award	FY2013 Award
University of Massachusetts Amherst	$3,593,067	$3,262,878
University of Massachusetts Boston	$2,342,214	$2,388,416
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth	$1,365,408	$1,547,960
University of Massachusetts Lowell	$1,584,795	$1,686,230
Sub Total:	**$8,885,484**	**$8,885,484**
Bridgewater State College	$976,360	$940,502
Fitchburg State College	$480,209	$507,844
Framingham State College	$456,296	$444,238
Massachusetts College of Art	$231,643	$234,511
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts	$273,726	$228,541
Massachusetts Maritime Academy	$102,890	$85,334
Salem State College	$1,062,885	$1,068,073
Westfield State College	$545,566	$607,776
Worcester State College	$562,183	$574,942
Sub Total:	**$4,691,760**	**$4,691,760**
Berkshire Community College	$186,146	$188,233
Bristol Community College	$584,829	$542,973
Bunker Hill Community College	$548,503	$616,174
Cape Cod Community College	$289,558	$312,983
Greenfield Community College	$194,819	$191,014
Holyoke Community College	$545,038	$544,598
Massachusetts Bay Community College	$287,722	$297,490
Massasoit Community College	$428,242	$441,758
Middlesex Community College	$464,713	$532,647
Mount Wachusett Community College	$336,008	$344,557
North Shore Community College	$587,451	$517,712
Northern Essex Community College	$481,651	$479,027
Quinsigamond Community College	$467,006	$541,450
Roxbury Community College	$338,328	$253,229
Springfield Tech. Community College	$587,783	$523,955
Sub Total:	**$6,327,800**	**$6,327,800**
Grand Total:	**$19,905,043**	**$19,905,043**