

BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION
REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE AND BOARD ACTION

COMMITTEE: Fiscal Affairs and Administrative Policy **NO.:** FAAP 09-28

COMMITTEE DATE: May 29, 2009

BOARD DATE: June 4, 2009

MASSTRANSFER TUITION WAIVER PROGRAM GUIDELINES

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby revokes the Joint Admission Tuition Advantage Program Guidelines and adopts, in place thereof, the attached *MassTransfer* Tuition Waiver Program Guidelines.

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

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

SECTION E. MASSTRANSFER TUITION WAIVER PROGRAM

DEFINITIONS:

INSTITUTION:

Any two-year or four-year institution within the system of public institutions of higher education under Section 5 of Chapter 15A of the General Laws.

ELIGIBLE PROGRAM:

Any state-supported undergraduate degree program offered by an institution. Institutions are encouraged, where appropriate, to extend waiver eligibility to students enrolled in non-state-supported degree programs.

ELIGIBLE STUDENT:

A student enrolled in a state college or University who has completed an associate degree at a public community college approved under the *MassTransfer* program; or a student who has completed an associate degree under an Additional Transfer Articulation Agreement program; or a student who has completed a Joint Admissions Program within the same or prior calendar year, who meets the following conditions:

- a) Maintains satisfactory academic progress according to institutional standards developed for academic programs with at least an annual review
- b) Has not earned a baccalaureate or professional degree
- c) Meets the minimum required 3.0 Grade Point Average (GPA) for continued eligibility

STUDENT AWARD VALUE:

Eligible students under the *MassTransfer* Tuition Waiver Program will be entitled to a tuition waiver equal to 33 percent of the resident tuition rate at a state college or University for the two (2) years of matriculation which immediately follow their community college enrollment. The tuition waiver for the second year of matriculation is contingent upon the student maintaining a cumulative 3.0 grade point average for the first two semesters of enrollment at the state college or University.

PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT:

All institutions must file a State Financial Aid Participation Agreement to be maintained on file in the Massachusetts Office of Student Financial Assistance.

AUDIT REQUIREMENTS:

- a) The Commissioner shall require each campus to furnish, annually by August 31, a report detailing the number and characteristics of *MassTransfer* Tuition Waiver recipients for the previous academic year.
- b) All financial books, records and documents pertaining to this program shall at all reasonable times be opened to inspection, review and audit by the Commissioner, the State Auditor or their authorized representatives who shall have access to the premises wherever such books, records and documents are located. The institutions shall retain such financial books, records and documents for seven years. An institution may retain records for a period of five years if approval is received from the Records Conservation Board in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 30, Section 42. XII. 3.