

**BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION**  
**REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE AND BOARD ACTION**

**COMMITTEE:** Fiscal Affairs and Administrative Policy      **NO.:** FAAP 13-36

**COMMITTEE DATE:** March 5, 2013

**BOARD DATE:** March 12, 2013

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**APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2014 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 2014 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**

Annually, 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.

Beginning with Fiscal Year 2012, the Board of Higher Education approved the implementation of a weighted formula to determine the level of Need-Based Tuition Waiver expenditure for each public college campus. This formula, which is based on a rolling three-year average of data, was vetted with the public higher education community before approval by the Board of Higher Education. The formula uses a rolling three-year average of 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 2014, consistent with the FY2013 level of \$19.9 million. 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 2014**

<b>Name of Institution</b>	<b>FY2013 Award</b>	<b>FY2014 Award</b>
University of Massachusetts Amherst	\$3,262,878	\$3,058,115
University of Massachusetts Boston	\$2,388,416	\$2,445,513
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth	\$1,547,960	\$1,533,493
University of Massachusetts Lowell	\$1,686,230	\$1,848,363
<b>Sub Total:</b>	<b>\$8,885,484</b>	<b>\$8,885,484</b>
Bridgewater State University	\$940,502	\$1,038,830
Fitchburg State University	\$507,844	\$499,007
Framingham State University	\$444,238	\$425,027
Massachusetts College of Art	\$234,511	\$226,236
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts	\$228,541	\$222,401
Massachusetts Maritime Academy	\$85,334	\$84,883
Salem State University	\$1,068,073	\$1,013,703
Westfield State University	\$607,776	\$600,207
Worcester State University	\$574,942	\$581,469
<b>Sub Total:</b>	<b>\$4,691,761</b>	<b>\$4,691,761</b>
Berkshire Community College	\$188,233	\$184,533
Bristol Community College	\$542,973	\$547,005
Bunker Hill Community College	\$616,174	\$784,674
Cape Cod Community College	\$312,983	\$283,290
Greenfield Community College	\$191,014	\$167,247
Holyoke Community College	\$544,598	\$512,859
Massachusetts Bay Community College	\$297,490	\$277,453
Massasoit Community College	\$441,758	\$420,152
Middlesex Community College	\$532,647	\$530,030
Mount Wachusett Community College	\$344,557	\$335,596
North Shore Community College	\$517,712	\$524,886
Northern Essex Community College	\$479,027	\$444,398
Quinsigamond Community College	\$541,450	\$593,531
Roxbury Community College	\$253,229	\$218,242
Springfield Tech. Community College	\$523,955	\$503,901
<b>Sub Total:</b>	<b>\$6,327,800</b>	<b>\$6,327,800</b>
<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>\$19,905,043</b>	<b>\$19,905,043</b>