

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

**COMMITTEE:** Fiscal Affairs and Administrative Policy    **NO.:** FAAP 18-17

**COMMITTEE DATE:** January 16, 2018

**BOARD DATE:** January 23, 2018

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**ALTERNATIVE NON-RESIDENT UNDERGRADUATE TUITION RATES –  
BERKSHIRE COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF  
LIBERAL ARTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019**

**MOVED:**        The Board of Higher Education adopts the following alternative tuition rates and enrollment caps for new, non-resident, undergraduate students at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and Berkshire Community College for Fiscal Year 2019:

**Alternative Non-Resident Undergraduate Tuition Rates**

	<b>Change</b>	<b>Rate Per Credit</b>	<b>Alternative Tuition</b>
Massachusetts College of Liberal Art	\$0	-	\$1,545
Berkshire Community College	\$0	\$39	\$1,170

**Enrollment Caps for New Students**

	<b># of Students</b>	<b>Change</b>
Massachusetts College of Liberal Art	200	0
Berkshire Community College	100	0

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

**Contact:**        Thomas J. Simard, Deputy Commissioner for Administration and  
Finance

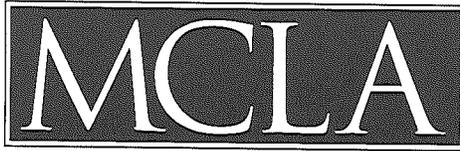
## **Background**

The Alternative Tuition Program allows residents of New York to attend Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and Berkshire Community College at tuition rates set at reduced out-of-state rates. The rate currently is set at 150 percent of resident student tuition and mirrors the rate charged to students under the New England Regional Student Program through the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE). New York is not a NEBHE participant.

The number of students accepted each year under the alternative tuition arrangement is restricted.

The Alternative Tuition Program supports efforts at both institutions to increase enrollment. The program also provides an important link between the Berkshires and the Albany region for the Commonwealth and the county to develop strategies to strengthen and expand the regional economy.

At Berkshire Community College, 39 New York residents are currently enrolled under the Alternative Tuition Program. The College seeks to maintain its enrollment cap at 100 students for FY2019. At MCLA, 253 New York residents are currently enrolled under the Alternative Tuition Program. MCLA has an enrollment cap of 306 students and seeks to maintain that for FY2019.



MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

January 3, 2018

Tom Simard, Deputy Commissioner for Administration and Finance  
Department of Higher Education  
One Ashburton Place  
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Deputy Commissioner Simard:

MCLA appreciates the continued support from the Department of Higher Education for the alternative tuition program for New York state residents. We wanted to provide you with this information in advance of the next BHE fiscal affairs meeting schedule for January 16, 2018.

DHE has consistently authorized MCLA to enroll up to 306 'new' students from New York State at a rate (\$1,545 per academic year) which mirrors that charged to students under the New England Regional Student Program through the New England Board of Higher Education.

Currently 253 students receive the benefits of the alternative tuition program. We also wish to continue the program at the same rate.

By capitalizing on our proximity to New York State, this important program has supported increased enrollment while not displacing any Massachusetts students. We are pleased with the results to date and look forward to continuing with this alternative tuition program for New York students, and maintaining the 306, 'new' student limit, already in place.

Thanks very much for your interest and your support. If you have any questions or would like additional information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lawrence R. Behan", written in a cursive style.

Lawrence R. Behan  
Vice President of Administration and Finance

cc: President James Birge



January 8, 2018

Thomas Simard  
Deputy Commissioner for Administration & Finance  
Massachusetts Department of Higher Education  
One Ashburton Place, Room 1401  
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Deputy Commissioner Simard,

As you know, Berkshire Community College serves a diverse population of traditional and non-traditional students from Berkshire County. Given our westernmost location, we also attract students from contiguous states, including Connecticut, Vermont, and New York.

Berkshire Community College fully endorses the tuition program approved by the Department of Higher Education, which considers a resident of New York on the same basis as a resident of Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, and Rhode Island. In the fall semester of the 2017-2018 academic year, 39 residents of New York attended Berkshire Community College.

This tuition program contributes to the overall vitality of our student population without displacing any residents of Massachusetts. In fact, related fees generated by residents of New York strengthen both academic programs and student services at Berkshire Community College for the benefit of all students.

Thanks very much for your continued support of this important tuition program, which is also a positive for residents of Massachusetts. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John C. Law".

John Law  
Vice President, Administration & Finance  
Chief Financial Officer  
Berkshire Community College  
1350 West Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
(413) 236-3001  
[jlaw@berkshirecc.edu](mailto:jlaw@berkshirecc.edu)

cc Ellen Kennedy, President