

BOARD OF REGENTS
EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

SECTION: 19

DATE:
June 17, 2008

RECOMMENDATION

RESIDENCE CLASSIFICATION FOR TUITION POLICY REVISION

ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the Board of Regents approve the attached revision of the University's Residence Classification for Tuition Purposes Policy, which would provide for the granting of in-state tuition to active duty members of the United States Armed Forces, their spouses and dependents, where the member of the armed forces is a Michigan resident or is stationed in Michigan.

STAFF SUMMARY

In February 2008, the U. S. Department of Defense joined by Michigan State Senator Jason Allen (Chair of the Senior Citizens and Veterans Affairs Committee) requested that Michigan's four-year public universities provide favorable treatment to active duty members of the U. S. armed forces in regards to in-state tuition. Specifically, it was requested that the universities agree to grant in-state tuition to active duty members of the armed forces and their spouses and dependents, if the member of the armed forces is a Michigan resident (and has not established residency in another state) or is stationed in Michigan. Further, once an active duty member of the armed forces, their spouse or dependent qualifies for in-state status, that status would continue to be recognized as long as the student is continuously enrolled at the university. Agreement by all Michigan four-year public universities to these favorable in-state tuition provisions for members of the armed forces would allow Michigan to be classified by the U. S. Defense Department as a "green" State, which indicates that Michigan is friendly to members of the military and their families. In March 2008, the Presidents of Michigan's four-year public universities directed a joint letter to The Honorable David S. C. Chu, U. S. Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, confirming the universities' commitment to grant in-state tuition to members of the armed forces, their spouses and dependents in accordance with the above referenced provisions. While EMU's residence classification policy is currently being interpreted in a manner that is consistent with the commitment made in the March 2008 letter to the U. S. Department of Defense, the attached policy revision specifically incorporates the above referenced in-state tuition provisions.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The adoption of the policy revision may result in a slight reduction in revenues resulting from the granting of in-state residence status to active duty members of the military, their

spouses and dependents, who may not have qualified for in-state status under EMU's existing policy. However, any such reduction may be off-set by an increase in enrollment of active duty members of the military, their spouses and dependents, due to the University's favorable treatment of these persons as in-state residents for tuition purposes.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION

The proposed Board action has been reviewed and is recommended for Board approval.

Kenneth A. McKanders
University Executive Officer

June 3, 2008
Date