

**ITEM 156-104-R0912**

**Revision of Board of Regents Policy 940.13, Tuition Waivers**

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**THAT**

The Montana Board of Regents of Higher Education hereby revises Policy 940.13, Tuition Waivers, to allow the strategic use of resident and nonresident tuition waivers with the goal of increasing overall tuition revenues and the enhancement of the academic experience for all students.

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**EXPLANATION**

When Board of Regents policy 940.13 was first enacted in 1974, the primary source of funding for the university system was state general fund. Because at that time nonresident students were partially supported by state funding, the intent of the legislature and the Board of Regents, in setting limits on nonresident waivers, was to limit the number of nonresident students benefitting from the state's funding of higher education. Four decades later, funding for the university system is very different. Now, at some campuses, tuition revenues from nonresident students subsidize the cost of education of resident students.

The Montana Constitution conferred full management and control of the university system on the Montana Board of Regents. Other state and national authorities also support the principle that it is within the regent's sole authority to set tuition and fees, which includes the judicious use of tuition waivers.

Recognizing that the strategic use of resident and nonresident student waivers can be useful in attracting larger numbers of students, which in turn can increase the overall tuition revenue generated by a campus and create economies of scale, and recognizing the additional educational benefit to all students of enhanced student academic achievement and ethnic diversity, tuition may be waived, on a full or partial basis, for superior academic achievement, service to the campus, or other meritorious achievement. For nonresident student waivers certain revenue conditions apply.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

Proposed Revised Policy 940.13