



Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

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## Memorandum

Date: June 16, 2020

To: Deans, Directors, Departments of Participating Professional Student Exchange Programs (PSEP)  
WICHE Certifying Officers  
Western State Higher Education Executive Officers

CC: WICHE Commissioners  
WICHE Veterinary Medicine Advisory Council

From: Jere Mock, Vice President, Programs and Services  
Margo Colalancia, Director, Student Access Programs

RE: NEW: Approved Support Fee Increases for the 2021-22 and 2022-23 Biennium  
for Students Enrolled in WICHE's Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP)

REMINDER: 20 Percent Cap on PSEP Support Fee Incentives for Public Programs for New Students

### Approved Support Fee Increases for the 2021-22 and 2022-23 Biennium

This is to notify you that the WICHE Commission approved a 2.3 percent increase in the Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP) support fees during its video conference held on May 18, 2020. The increase applies to all 10 fields served by PSEP: allopathic medicine, dentistry, occupational therapy, optometry, osteopathic medicine, pharmacy, physical therapy, physician assistant, podiatry, and veterinary medicine. It is in concert with the average annual increase of the HECA (Higher Education Cost Adjustment) index from 2017 to 2019. A memo describing the proposed PSEP support fee increases for the 2021/2022 biennium was sent for your review and comment via survey on April 1, 2020.

The following table lists the per student fee rate by field and academic year, for new and continuing students.

## Approved Support Fees for the 2021-22 and 2022-23 Biennium

Field	2020-21*	2021-22	2022-23
Dentistry	\$27,350	\$28,000	\$28,625
Medicine (Allopathic)	32,650	33,400	34,175
Occupational Therapy	14,300	14,650	14,975
Optometry	18,830	19,275	19,700
Osteopathic Medicine	23,400	23,950	24,500
Pharmacy	8,330	8,525	8,725
Physical Therapy	15,750	16,125	16,500
Physician Assistant	18,650	19,075	19,525
Podiatry	16,250	16,625	17,000
Veterinary Medicine	32,400	33,150	33,900

*\*Fees for 2020-21 were approved by the Commission in May 2018.*

Unless noted, the approved support fees are calculated based on standard program length. Adjustments to accommodate accelerated programs or other special circumstances are spelled out in the *PSEP Administrative Manual* which can be accessed at [www.wiche.edu/psep](http://www.wiche.edu/psep) along with an updated chart of support fee amounts. We encourage you to bookmark the URL and save a copy of this memorandum for future reference.

### REMINDER: 20 Percent cap on support fee incentives for public programs, for new students enrolled AY 2019-20 and forward

*(Original notification memo sent: July 7, 2017)*

In May 2017, the WICHE Commission approved an action item to cap support fee incentives received by public programs enrolling students through WICHE's PSEP. The Commission and WICHE staff recognize that there are divergent stakeholder and state views on the appropriate level of financial incentives for the programs at public universities that enroll students through PSEP, along with significant historical precedents. WICHE staff and Commissioners serving on WICHE's Programs and Services Committee spent considerable time trying to find an option that would best serve the needs of Western states, WICHE students, and the professional public programs that enroll them.

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The compromise position approved by the WICHE Commission caps the maximum incentive for each PSEP public program at 20 percent of the respective field's support fee. This approach still provides some financial incentive to participating programs whose resident/nonresident tuition differential is less than their field's respective support fee.

This policy became effective for new students enrolling in Fall 2019 and will be applied for new students moving forward. Continuing students (those who enrolled in their respective PSEP program prior to academic year 2019) continue to pay resident tuition to public programs receiving an incentive, and programs are allowed to retain the full incentive for continuing students until they graduate. Additionally, for new students enrolling in summer/fall 2019 and later, any incentive amounts in excess of the 20 percent cap must be credited to the student's account, further reducing his/her resident tuition. If your program is affected by the 20 percent cap on support fee incentives for AY2020-21, WICHE staff will contact you with an illustration.

Programs not affected by the 20 percent cap on support fee incentives are listed below. If your program falls into one of these categories, credit the support fee to the student's nonresident or full private tuition, and charge the PSEP student the balance:

1. Public programs whose resident/nonresident tuition differential is greater than the support fee;
2. "Self-pay" public programs that charge residents and nonresidents the same tuition rate; and,
3. Private programs.

## Contact us

If you have questions about PSEP and how to apply support fees, contact Margo Colalancia at 303.541.0214 or [mcolalancia@wiche.edu](mailto:mcolalancia@wiche.edu) for assistance. Alternatively, you may contact Kate Springsteen at [kspringsteen@wiche.edu](mailto:kspringsteen@wiche.edu).

## Thank you for making a difference

You and your program staff and faculty play a vital role in building the West's professional healthcare workforce. We appreciate your commitment to our WICHE PSEP students and want to express our heartfelt gratitude for the many sacrifices you and your colleagues are making to ensure continued education for students in your program during the pandemic.

Thank you for everything you do.