

**SHEEO Information Request  
Credit Hour Limitations  
November 18, 2011**

**Question:**

1. Does your state have in place policies or guidelines that limit the funding of enrollment (FTE funding) or charge higher rates of tuition once a student exceeds a certain credit hour threshold? If so, please provide links to the relevant policies or guidelines, and any other documents or additional information describing the policy.
2. What year were the policies or guidelines established?
3. Are the policies or guidelines due to statutory requirements or legislation?

**Below are the responses:**

State	Response
Alabama	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No</li> <li>2. NA</li> <li>3. NA</li> </ol>
Arkansas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No</li> <li>2. NA</li> <li>3. NA</li> </ol>
Colorado	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Colorado allows the Governing Boards for each institution to establish the tuition rates and any differentials that may exist for specific fields. Using the College Opportunity Fund (COF) program, Colorado no longer makes direct operating appropriations to institutions and instead pays a portion of students' bills using a stipend mechanism. Colorado statute limits the number of credit hours that COF will pay for a student to complete an undergraduate degree to 145 credit hours, though waiver processes are in place for students that reach the limit (see Colorado Revised Statutes, Title 23 Article 18 [CRS 23-18]).</li> <li>2. COF was 2005, additional statutory changes in 2010 and 2011.</li> <li>3. Yes.</li> </ol>
Florida	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Yes, we have an Excess Hour fee outlined below in our Board of Governors' Regulation. Excerpt below</b>  <a href="http://www.fibog.edu/documents_regulations/regulations/Sept152011_7_003FeesfinespenaltiesregulationFINAL.pdf">http://www.fibog.edu/documents_regulations/regulations/Sept152011_7_003FeesfinespenaltiesregulationFINAL.pdf</a> <p>(22) Excess Hour Fee –This fee shall be budgeted in the Student and Other Fee Trust Fund.</p> <p>(a) All state university undergraduate students who entered a postsecondary undergraduate program at any Florida public institution of higher education for the first time in fall 2009 or thereafter and prior to fall 2011 shall pay an excess hour fee equal to 50 percent of the undergraduate tuition identified in Regulation 7.001(3) for each credit hour in excess of 120 percent of the number of credit hours required to complete the baccalaureate degree program in which the student is enrolled.</p> <p>(b) All state university undergraduate students who entered a postsecondary undergraduate program at any Florida public institution of higher education for the first time in fall 2011 or thereafter shall pay an excess hour fee equal to 100 percent of the undergraduate tuition identified in Regulation 7.001(3) for each credit hour in excess of 115 percent of the number of credit hours required to complete the baccalaureate degree program in which the student is enrolled.</p> <p>(c) Each university shall implement a process for notifying students of this fee upon a student's initial enrollment. A second notice must be provided to the student when the student has attempted the number of credit hours needed to complete the baccalaureate degree program in which the student is enrolled. The second notice must include a recommendation that each student who intends to earn credit hours at the university in excess of the credit hours required for the baccalaureate degree program in which the student is enrolled meet with the student's academic advisor.</p> <p>(d) All credit hours for courses taken at the university from which the student is seeking a baccalaureate degree shall be included when calculating the number of hours taken by a student, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Failed courses.</li> <li>2. Courses dropped or withdrawn from after the university's advertised last day of the drop and add period, except as</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

	<p>provided in subparagraph (22)(e).</p> <p>3. Repeated courses, except repeated courses for which the student has paid the full cost of instruction as provided in Regulation 7.001(11).</p> <p>4. All credit hours earned at another institution and accepted for transfer by the university and applied toward the student's baccalaureate degree program.</p> <p>(e) All credit hours earned under the following circumstances shall not be calculated as hours required to earn a baccalaureate degree:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. College credits earned through an articulated accelerated mechanism.</li> <li>2. Credit hours earned through internship programs.</li> <li>3. Credit hours required for certification, recertification, or certificate programs.</li> <li>4. Credit hours in courses from which a student must withdraw due to reasons of medical or personal hardship.</li> <li>5. Credit hours taken by active-duty military personnel.</li> <li>6. Credit hours required to achieve a dual major taken while pursuing a baccalaureate degree.</li> <li>7. Remedial and English as a Second Language credit hours.</li> <li>8. Credit hours earned in military science courses that are part of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps program.</li> </ol> <p>2. The fee was initially established in 2009 and amended in 2011 to add paragraph (b) above which raised the fee from 50% of tuition to 100% of tuition.</p> <p>3. The Board's regulation is based on statutory authority Section 1009.286 .  <a href="http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?mode=View%20Statutes&amp;SubMenu=1&amp;App_mode=Display_Statute&amp;Search_String=excess+hour&amp;URL=1000-1099/1009/Sections/1009.286.html">http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?mode=View%20Statutes&amp;SubMenu=1&amp;App_mode=Display_Statute&amp;Search_String=excess+hour&amp;URL=1000-1099/1009/Sections/1009.286.html</a></p>
Iowa	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No</li> <li>2. NA</li> <li>3. NA</li> </ol>
Idaho	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No</li> <li>2. NA</li> <li>3. NA</li> </ol>
Indiana	<p>For Question B, the State does not have a statewide policy regarding students that exceed a certain number of credit hours and changes in funding or rates paid by students. That policy is set at the institution level.</p> <p>Some of the institution's policies regarding higher rates for more than a set number of credit hours are:</p> <p>Indiana State University:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yes. 12-18 hours, 18 and above are charged a flat fee. Less than 12 hours are charged an hourly rate. <a href="http://www.indstate.edu/admissions/">http://www.indstate.edu/admissions/</a></li> <li>2. Not sure but I believe it was around 1985. The current structure was in place when I arrived now 25 years ago.</li> </ol> <p>Ball State University:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yes, BSU has reduced the minimum amount of credit hours required for most baccalaureate degrees from 126 credit hours to 120 (adopted by BOT on September 16, 2011). BSU established a penalty for a undergraduate student who has been enrolled at BSU for more than 4 years and have not yet attained a degree. A student who meets the definition of exceeding the credit hours exceeding 144 BSU credit hours will pay \$257+150(penalty)=\$407 per credit hour.</li> <li>2. This was implemented in June of 2011.</li> </ol> <div style="text-align: center;">         Ball State        NOTIFICATION OF F     </div>

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Louisiana	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We do not, but there is some serious discussion about possibly creating one patterned after some of those in existence, probably charging nonresident tuition for courses beyond a percentage of the degree requirements (e.g., 130-150%).</li> <li>2. NA</li> <li>3. NA</li> </ol>
Massachusetts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On April 15, 1997, the Board voted to require the University of Massachusetts and the state universities to charge students the full cost of education for course registrations in excess of 118% of academic degree program credit hour requirements.</li> <li>2. 1997</li> <li>3. No, not specifically.</li> </ol>
Maine	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No</li> <li>2. NA</li> <li>3. NA</li> </ol>
Mississippi	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No</li> <li>2. NA</li> <li>3. NA</li> </ol>
North Dakota	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No</li> <li>2. NA</li> <li>3. NA</li> </ol>
Nebraska	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No</li> <li>2. NA</li> <li>3. NA</li> </ol>
Nevada	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No</li> <li>2. NA</li> <li>3. NA</li> </ol>
Ohio	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In Ohio, a student's subsidy eligibility at the graduate level is restricted such that the FTEs for students who have earned more than 260 quarter or 174 semester credit hours are designated ineligible. While Ohio does not have a specific policy regarding higher tuition once a student exceeds a certain credit hour threshold there is no prohibition from establishing such a fee. Each institution's board of trustees is responsible for determining the tuition policy at all levels of instruction rather than the state's coordinating agency, the Ohio Board of Regents.</li> <li>2. The state policy limiting graduate funding beyond a certain credit hour threshold has been in place for more than twenty years.</li> <li>3. Unknown</li> </ol>
Oregon	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No</li> <li>2. NA</li> <li>3. NA</li> </ol>
South Carolina	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. No</li> <li>5. NA</li> <li>6. NA</li> </ol>
Texas	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Texas Administrative Code Formula Fundin</p> </div> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yes. See attached. <a href="#">Texas Administrative Code Formula Fundin</a></li> <li>2. The provisions of this subchapter adopted to be effective November 22, 2005.</li> <li>3. Statutory.</li> </ol>
Virginia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yes. <a href="http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?000+cod+23-7.4">http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?000+cod+23-7.4</a> Please see the link above for the applicable citation in the Code of Virginia (§ 23-7.4. F)—the last four paragraphs of the citation.</li> <li>2. 2006</li> <li>3. Legislation</li> </ol>

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Washington	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Washington does not have statewide policies or guidelines that limit the funding of enrollment (FTE funding) or allow or require higher rates of tuition once a student exceeds a certain credit hour threshold at 2- or 4-year institutions.</li><li>2. NA</li><li>3. NA</li></ol>
West Virginia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. No</li><li>2. NA</li><li>3. NA</li></ol>
Wyoming	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. No</li><li>2. NA</li><li>3. NA</li></ol>