This survey solicits information on state-level policies and procedures governing two-year public higher education tuition, fees, and student financial assistance. For simplicity, the term “tuition” as used in this survey includes all standard student charges including required “education fees” in states that prohibit tuition per se.

Some questions are intended to update and clarify information collected through the last SHEEO/WICHE survey on this topic in 1996. Other questions are new or expanded to reflect the changing financial and political circumstances in which tuition policies are set. This is not a survey of the actual rates or amounts of current tuition, since there are already several sources for those data.

Section A – Tuition Philosophy and Authority

1. a) Describe the tuition philosophy or approach in your state (e.g., tuition should be as low/moderate/high as possible, tuition is guided by institutional-level policy, other).

b) Is this tuition policy formalized in the state constitution, by legislative statute, by other rule or policy, or not formalized?
   - [ ] Constitution
   - [ ] Statute
   - [ ] Other rule/policy
   - [ ] Not formalized

c) Describe, if possible, the rationale for the philosophy stated above in question 1a (e.g., tuition should be low to maximize access, institutions best understand their fiscal situation).

2. a) Describe any tuition policy changes in the past three years (not changes in tuition levels).

b) Describe any potential tuition policy changes under consideration for 2000-01.
3. a) Describe the role each of the following bodies has in establishing tuition rates and/or policies in your state.

Governor:

Legislature:

State coordinating/governing agency:

System governing board (not statewide):

Local district governing board (two-year only):

Institution:

Other (Please specify):

b) Indicate which body, if any, has primary authority for establishing tuition.

4. Are public hearings required in your state prior to any changes in tuition levels or tuition policy?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

5. Indicate which of the following tuition revenue policies are in place in your state:

☐ Tuition revenues are controlled and retained by an institution or campus.

☐ Tuition revenues are deposited in separate state tuition accounts from which all funds must be appropriated prior to expenditure for higher education purposes.

☐ Tuition revenues are retained at the state level under the control of a state governing or coordinating board.

☐ Tuition revenues are deposited in the state general funds, with their return to higher education only inferred.

☐ Other (Please describe)
Section B – Undergraduate Tuition Setting

1. The following factors may or may not be used in setting resident tuition rates. Please check the box that best describes the relationship between each factor and the tuition rate. Are they directly indexed, indirectly considered, or not taken into account?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factors</th>
<th>Directly indexed</th>
<th>Indirectly considered</th>
<th>Not taken into account</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Consumer Price Index (CPI)</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Higher Education Price Index (HEPI)</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Other cost of living indexes</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. State personal or disposable income</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. State general fund appropriations</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Tuition charged by peer institutions</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Institutional mission</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Cost of instruction</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Prior year’s tuition</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Other student fees or charges</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. Financial aid</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l. Other (Please specify)</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Has there been a curb, cap, freeze or other limit placed on tuition in the past three years?

☐ Yes (Please describe) ☐ No

3. Indicate which of the following types of differential tuition are used for residents in your state.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of differential tuition</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Upper division/lower division</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Undergraduate/graduate</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Programmatic</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Credit/non-credit</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. In-district/out-of-district (two-year schools only)</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Credit hours beyond a specific number (e.g., credit hours above 140 are charged at a higher rate)</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Other (Please specify)</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Indicate which of the following statements describes how resident tuition is set in your state.

   a. State policy sets tuition per credit hour regardless of how many credits the student is taking. [ ] Yes [ ] No
   
   b. State policy sets tuition at a flat rate for full-time students. [ ] Yes [ ] No
   
   c. State policy provides for a per credit surcharge at or above a specific number of credit hours. [ ] Yes [ ] No
   
   d. Tuition is set at a mandated percentage of the cost of undergraduate instruction. The percentage is ____________% [ ] Yes [ ] No
   
   e. No formal state policy on resident tuition setting [ ] Yes [ ] No
   
   f. Other (Please specify): [ ] Yes [ ] No

5. Indicate which of the following statements describes how nonresident (out-of-state) tuition is set in your state.

   a. Tuition is indexed to the cost of instruction (e.g., 100% of instructional cost). The percentage is ____________% [ ] Yes [ ] No
   
   b. Tuition is indexed to the undergraduate resident tuition (e.g., 2 times the resident tuition rate). The percentage is ____________% [ ] Yes [ ] No
   
   c. No formal state policy on nonresident tuition setting [ ] Yes [ ] No
   
   d. Other (Please specify) [ ] Yes [ ] No

6. Indicate other tuition policies that may be present in your state:

   a. Your state has undergraduate tuition reciprocity agreements with other states. If yes, please briefly describe or provide a copy of the policy. [ ] Yes [ ] No
   
   b. Your state has a "good neighbor" policy for students from neighboring states. If yes, please briefly describe or provide a copy of the policy. [ ] Yes [ ] No
   
   c. Your state has a formal tuition policy for courses offered at alternative sites including distance education via technology. If yes, please briefly describe or provide a copy of the policy. [ ] Yes [ ] No
   
   d. Other (Please specify) [ ] Yes [ ] No
Section C – Fees

1. a) Describe the philosophy in your state related specifically to student fees (e.g., fees make up for tuition limitations, fees are institutionally controlled, other).

   b) Is this fee philosophy formalized in the state constitution, by legislative statute, other rule or policy, or not formalized?
   - Constitution
   - Statute
   - Other rule/policy
   - Not formalized

2. Describe the relationship (formal or informal) between the tuition policies and fee policies in your state (e.g., viewed as similar but different source of funds, no relationship, other).

3. Mandatory fees are defined as charges that a majority of full-time students are required to pay in addition to tuition. Designated fees are defined as charges that apply to specific classifications only, such as certain courses, programs, or services. Indicate which entities in your state have the authority to set mandatory and/or designated fees. Check all that apply.

   Authority to set fees
   - a. Governor
   - b. Legislature
   - c. State coordinating/governing agency
   - d. System governing board (not statewide)
   - e. Local district governing board (two-year only)
   - f. Institution
   - g. Other (Please specify)

   Mandatory  Designated
   - ☐
   - ☐
   - ☐
   - ☐
   - ☐
   - ☐
   - ☐

4. Are public hearings required in your state prior to any changes in fees?
   - ☐ Yes
   - ☐ No

5. Has there been a curb, cap, freeze or other limit placed on fees in the past three years?
   - ☐ Yes (Please describe)
   - ☐ No
Section D – Student Financial Aid

1. a) Describe the student financial aid policy or approach in your state including both need-based and merit-based aid.

b) Is this financial aid policy formalized in the state constitution, by legislative statute, other rule or policy, or not formalized?
   - [ ] Constitution
   - [ ] Statute
   - [ ] Other rule/policy
   - [ ] Not formalized

2. a) Describe any financial aid policy changes (not financial aid appropriations) in the last three years.

b) Describe any potential financial aid policy changes under consideration for 2000-01.

3. Describe the relationship (formal or informal) between the tuition policies and financial aid policies in your state (e.g., high tuition/high aid, other).

4. Check which, if any, of the following student assistance programs your state offers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Assistance Programs</th>
<th>Offered under state statute</th>
<th>Offered through a formal policy but not in statute</th>
<th>Offered at discretion of institutions</th>
<th>Not offered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Need-based grants</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Merit-based scholarships</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Loan forgiveness programs (including conditional scholarships)</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. State-based work-study programs</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. State-funded guaranteed loans</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Waivers guaranteed at early age upon meeting certain criteria (e.g., Taylor/Eugene Lang plans)</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Other (Please specify)</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section E – Affordability

1. Describe any initiatives being discussed in your state to address the affordability of college for students and their families. Include any initiatives or collaboration with other agencies to provide consumer information on college price and financing higher education (including financial aid programs).

2. Indicate below if your state has a tuition prepayment plan or tuition savings plan and the name of each plan. If the state does not have such plans, indicate if one is under consideration.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Plan</th>
<th>If yes, name of the plan</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>If no, is it under consideration?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition prepayment</td>
<td>_________________________</td>
<td></td>
<td>❑ Yes ❑ ❑ ❑ No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College savings plan</td>
<td>_________________________</td>
<td></td>
<td>❑ Yes ❑ ❑ ❑ No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Has your state considered the impact of tuition prepayment plans or college savings plans on tuition levels?
   ❑ Yes *(Please describe)*    ❑ No

4. Below is a list of possible state policy responses to recent federal tax credits (HOPE Scholarship and Lifetime Learning tax credits). Check which of these actions has been taken in your state, those currently under consideration, and those not under consideration. *Check all that apply.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Action Taken</th>
<th>Under consideration</th>
<th>Not under consideration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Raise tuition to take advantage of new tax credits</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Take federal tax credits into account when calculating state student aid eligibility.</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Create additional programs that replicate the federal initiatives.</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Conform the state tax code to federal policy to simplify the tax process for families.</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Create a state prepayment or college savings plan.</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Publicize the availability of federal tax credits as a means to finance college.</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Provide bridge loans to students.</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Other <em>(Please describe)</em></td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
<td>❑</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: These options are based on The National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education’s 1998 report, *Maximizing the Effectiveness of the New Federal Tuition Tax Credits* (July, 1998).
Respondent Information

State/Agency ________________________________________________________________
Respondent ________________________________________________________________
Title ________________________________________________________________
Phone ___________________ Fax ___________________
E-mail ________________________________

Thank you for your assistance in completing this survey. Please send the completed survey by July 12, 1999 to:

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