SURVEY OF STATE TUITION, FEE, & FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE POLICIES FOR PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

The purpose of this survey is to solicit information on state-level policies and procedures governing **public** higher education tuition, fees, and student financial assistance. This is not a survey of the actual rates or amounts of current tuition, since other sources already exist for those data. 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*.

lf y	f you have any questions, please contact Alli Bell at 303-541-1607.					
	DI::1	SECTION A: TUITION				
I.	Phil	osophy and Authority				
1.	a)	Which of the following statements best describes the overall tuition philosophy or approach for public colleges and universities in your state? (Check all that apply):				
		Tuition should be as low as possible. Tuition should be moderate. Tuition should be high. Tuition policy is guided by institutional-level philosophy or budgetary needs. Philosophy differs by sector. No statewide tuition philosophy exists. Other (Please describe):				
	b)	Describe the rationale for the philosophy stated above (e.g., tuition should be low to maximize access, high tuition is combined with high financial aid, institutions best understand their fiscal situation, etc.):				
	c)	Is this tuition philosophy formalized in the state constitution, by legislative statute, by state rule, board rule or policy, or not formalized? (Please check one):				
		Constitution Statute State rule Board rule/policy Not formalized Clarifying comments:				
2.	a)	Have economic conditions over the last three years led to any short-term actions or policies on tuition that are in conflict with general philosophies?				
		□□ No □□ Yes (Please describe):				
	b)	Describe any tuition <u>policy</u> changes in your state in the past three fiscal years (not changes in tuition levels).				

	c)	Are any potential tuition policy changes	under consider	ration in your state	e? If so, plea	se describe:
3.		Has a formal study group or commission in the past three fiscal years? If yes, ple from the initiative.				
		□□ No □□ Yes (Please describe):				
4.	a)	What role does each of the following ind tuition policies in your state?	lividuals or enti	ties play in establi	shing tuition	rates and/or
		Authority to establish tuition rates	Full legal decision- making <u>authority</u>	Informal/ Consultative role	No role	Other role
		Governor nments:				
		Legislature nments:				
	;	Statewide coordinating/ governing agency for multiple systems nments:				
	į	Coordinating/ governing board(s) for individual systems nments:				
		Local district governing board(s) (two-year only) nments:				
		ndividual institutions nments:				
		Other (Please specify) nments:				
	b)	Which of the entities above has primary Governor Legislature Statewide coordinating/ governin Coordinating/ governing board(s) Local district governing board(s) Individual institutions Other: Clarifying comments:	ng agency for r	multiple systems	? (Please cl	heck one)

	C)	nature of their authority?
		Individual institutions set tuition rates within <u>very strict guidelines or parameters</u> established by local or state-level entities.
		Individual institutions set tuition rates within <u>moderate or limited guidelines</u> established by local or state-level entities.
		Individual institutions set tuition rates with <u>no external restrictions.</u>
		Not applicable Clarifying comments:
	d)	How has the degree of centralization changed over the past three years with regard to setting tuition levels?
	e)	Please briefly describe your state's tuition setting process.
5.	a)	How have changes in state legislative culture (ex. term limits, changes in legislative leadership, etc.) affected tuition policies and tuition philosophy in your state over the past three years?
	b)	What incentives (explicit or implicit) exist at the state or institutional level to minimize tuition increases?
6.		Indicate which of the following tuition revenue appropriation policies are in place in your state:
		Tuition revenues are controlled and retained by individual institutions or campuses.
		Tuition revenues are deposited into separate, institutionally designated state tuition accounts from which all funds must be appropriated prior to expenditure.
		Tuition is appropriated and is a direct offset of the state general revenue appropriation.
		Tuition revenues are retained at the state level but under the direct control of a state governing or coordinating board.
		Tuition revenues are deposited into state general funds, with their return to higher education only inferred.
		Other (Please describe): Clarifying comments:

II. Tuition Setting for Resident Undergraduate Students

7. The following factors may be used by various individuals/groups who set public resident undergraduate tuition rates in the states. Using a scale of 0 to 4, please indicate the level of influence exerted by each of the factors in decision-making about tuition levels in your state. If individual institutions are responsible for setting tuition, use your best judgment in assessing the role of each factor in the statewide aggregate.

0 = no influence 1 = minimal influence 3 = significant influence 4= controlling influence 2 = moderate influence

	<u>Factors</u>	No <u>influence</u> 0	Minimal influence 1	Moderate influence 2	Significant influence 3	Controlling influence 4
a.	Consumer Price Index (CPI)					
b.	Higher Education Price Index (HEPI)					
C.	SHEEO Higher Education Cost Adjustment (HECA)					
d.	Other inflation indices. <i>Please</i> specify:					
e.	State per capita personal or disposable income					
f.	State general fund appropriations					
g.	Tuition charged by peer institutions					
h.	Tuition policies of comparison states					
i.	Institutional mission					
j.	Cost of instruction (Please complete) Tuition is approx % of the cost of instruction.					
k.	Prior year's tuition					
l.	Other student fees or charges					
m.	Availability of/appropriations for financial aid					
n.	State workforce needs					
0.	Public/ media concern about the attendance cost of higher education					

	<u>Factors</u>	No influence 0	Minimal influence 1	Moderate influence 2	Significant influence 3	Controlling influence 4		
p.	Formal or informal analyses or beliefs about the relative mix of individual and public benefits of higher education							
q.	State philosophy about the appropriate share of tuition costs to be borne by students vs. the state							
r.	A policy cap on the percentage or dollar increase for tuition							
S.	Other (please describe):							
Clari	fying comments:							
9.	undergraduate tuition rates in your state over the past three fiscal years: 1. 2. 3.							
10.	As an alternative to raising tuition, have individual institutions or state offices responded with attempts to reduce costs (e.g., eliminating programs, freezing new hires, delaying capital outlay projects, etc.)? No Yes (Please describe):							
11.	Does your state have a policy li aid? No Yes (Please describe): a. What percent? b. Does this percentage approximately							

12.	12. a) Differential tuition results when groups or individuals pay different tuition rates based on certain criteria, such as level of study, major, etc. Indicate if each of the following types of differential tuition is used for resident undergraduate students at public colleges and universities in your state. If responses differ by sector, please indicate in item XX.							
	Lower division/ Upper division Programmatic (varies by major or course) Credit/ Non-credit In-district/ Out-of-district (two-year schools only) On-site or classroom based instruction/ Off-site or distance education Credit hours beyond a specific number (e.g., credit hours accumulated above 140 are charged at a higher rate) Cohort-based tuition (Fixed rate for a cohort of entering freshman for some specified period of time) Other (Please describe): Clarifying comments:							
b)	Please describe how the responses above differ for two-ye	ear institutions	in your state				
 Resident Undergraduate Block Tuition: Indicate which of the following practices exist within state. (Check all that apply). 					st within your			
			Statewide policy	Varies by sector	Varies by institution within sector			
	a.	Tuition is set per credit hour regardless of how many credits the student is taking						
	b.	Tuition is set at a flat rate for full-time students. (<i>Indicate the number or range of credit hours, if known:</i>)						
	C.	A per credit surcharge is imposed at or above a specific number of credit hours.						
	d.	No formal policy exists on resident undergraduate tuition setting.						
	e.	Other (Please specify)						
14.	 undergraduate tuition is set in your state (<i>Check all that apply</i>). Nonresident tuition is set at a mandated percentage of the cost of undergraduate instruction. The percentage is %. Nonresident tuition is indexed to the undergraduate resident tuition (e.g., 2 times the resident tuition rate). The percentage is %. 							
Tuiti	No formal policy exists on nonresident undergraduate tuition setting.							

	Other (Please describ	e):						
	Clarifying comments:							
	Clarifying comments.							
15. Has the issue of offering resident tuition rates to undocumented immigrants been discustate?								
	No discussionDiscussion, but no polPolicy (please describ	•						
16.	In addition to the general undergraduate tuition reciprocity agreements that exist within the regional higher education associations (MHEC, NEBHE, SREB, WICHE), does your state have a policy specific to students from neighboring states or individual counties (e.g. a "good neighbor" policy)? If yes, please briefly describe and provide a link to or a copy of the policy.							
17.	<u> </u>				oan forgiveness and/or loan service to the state following			
	Occupational Area ¹	In-School Assistance ²	On-the-Job Repayment ³		Other (please describe)			
	Teaching				Other (picase describe)			
	reaching							
b.	Nursing Medicine/ Dentistry/							
b. c.	Nursing Medicine/ Dentistry/ Optometry							
b. c. d.	Nursing Medicine/ Dentistry/							
b. c. d. e.	Nursing Medicine/ Dentistry/ Optometry Engineering							
b.c.d.e.f.	Nursing Medicine/ Dentistry/ Optometry Engineering Information technology							
b.c.d.e.f.g.	Nursing Medicine/ Dentistry/ Optometry Engineering Information technology Child care							
b.c.d.e.f.g.	Nursing Medicine/ Dentistry/ Optometry Engineering Information technology Child care Other (Please specify) rifying comments:		hy or policy cond		tuition at public two-year vs.			

 $^{^3}$ "On-the-job" programs (sometimes called loan repayment) assist individuals already working in a specified occupation, field, or geographic area in paying *existing* educational debt.

SECTION B: FEES

In this section, the term "fees" applies only to mandatory fees, as opposed to designated fees. Mandatory fees are defined as charges that most 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, services, or groups of students.

1.	a)	Describe the philosophy in your state specifically related to stude for tuition limitations, fees are institutionally controlled, etc.).	dent fees (for ex	ample, fees make u
	b)	Is this fee philosophy formalized in the state constitution, by leg rule or policy, or not formalized?	islative statute,	by state rule, board
		Constitution Statute State rule Board rule/policy Not formalized Clarifying comments:		
	c)	Describe any fee <u>policy</u> changes in your state in the past three levels).	fiscal years (not	changes in fee
	d)	Are any potential fee policy changes under consideration in you	ur state? If so, p	lease describe.
	e)	Has there been a curb, cap, freeze or other limit placed on fees \[\begin{align*}	in the past thre	e fiscal years?
2.	Г	Please indicate which entities in your state have the authority to fees. (Check all that apply):	set mandatory	and/or designated
		Authority to set fees	<u>Mandatory</u>	<u>Designated</u>
	_	a. Governor:		
		b. Legislature:		
		c. State coordinating/governing agency:		
		d. Individual system governing board(s):		
		e. Local district governing board(s) (two-year only):		
		f. Individual institutions:		

up

	Authority to set fees	<u>Mandatory</u>	<u>Designated</u>
	g. Other (Please specify):		
ļ	Clarifying comments:		
•	Please describe any differences in philosophy year institutions in your state.	y or policy concerning fees at pub	lic two-year vs. fo

SECTION C: STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

1. The following is a list of possible goals of student financial aid policy. Understanding that multiple programs might exist in your state to meet a variety of objectives, please indicate, using a scale of 0 to 3, the relative influence of each of the goals in the creation and adjustment of a comprehensive financial aid program.

0 = no influence

1 = minimal influence

2 = moderate influence

3 = significant influence

	<u>Factors</u>	No influence 0	Minimal influence	Moderate influence 2	Significant influence
a.	Promote broad access to higher education				
b.	Improve the affordability of higher education				
C.	Facilitate student <i>choice</i> among higher education providers in the state				
d.	Help equalize tuition between public and independent institutions in the state				
e.	Promote student <i>retention</i> and degree completion				
f.	Recognize talent and reward effort of students				
g.	Keep talented students in the state				
h.	Prepare and place students into specific careers				
i.	Other (please specify)				

a) Which of these goals (a-i) has the **greatest influence** on financial aid policy in your state?

b) Is the financial aid philosophy formalized in the state constitution, by legislative statute, by state rule, board rule or policy, or not formalized?

Constitution

Statute

State rule Board rule/policy

Not formalized

Clarifying comments:

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

	Check which, if any, of the following	ng student finar		rograms your sta	ate offers.
	Student Assistance Programs	Offered under state statute	Offered through a formal policy but not in statute	Offered at discretion of institutions	Not offere
а	. Need-based grants				
b	. General, statewide merit- based scholarships				
С	. Specifically targeted merit- based scholarships				
d	. Loan forgiveness programs (including conditional scholarships)				
е	. State-funded work-study programs				
f.	State-funded guaranteed loans				
g	. Programs designed to increase access/participation of members of specific groups/populations				
h	. State tax credits or tax deductions				
i.	Other (Please specify)				

Student Assistance Programs	Assistance offered under state statute	Assistance offered through a formal policy but not in statute	Assistance offered at discretion of institutions	Assistance not offered		
a. Graduate assistants						
b. Student athletes						
c. Faculty/ staff members						
d. Dependents of faculty/ staff members						
e. State employees/ civil servants (other than faculty/ staff)						
f. Dependents of state employees/ civil servants						
g. Dependents of deceased police officers or fire fighters						
h. Participants in public service programs						
i. Military (<i>Please describe:</i>)						
j. Senior Citizens						
k. Students who qualify for need- based aid						
Students who qualify for merit- based aid						
m. Other (Please specify:)						
Clarifying comments: Please describe any differences in philosophy or policy concerning student financial aid at public two-year vs. four-year institutions in your state.						
Describe the financial aid polic	ies in your state i	n regard to indepen	dent institutions.			
Please indicate if your state is program or a college savings p		development of, or c	changes in, a pre	paid tuition		

b) What consideration, if any, has programs or college savings pla	ans on tuition levels? By who	m?	dymone

SECTION D: ALIGNMENT OF STATE FISCAL POLICIES

The remaining questions assess state efforts to align state appropriations, tuition, and financial aid policies.

- 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 the financing of higher education, including financial aid programs. Please provide a link to or a copy of any written materials developed.
- 2. Below is a list of possible state policy responses to the 1997 federal legislation creating various education tax credits and deductions, including the HOPE Scholarship and Lifetime Learning tax credits. Check which of the following actions, if any, have been taken in your state, those currently under consideration, and those **not** under consideration. (*Check all that apply*):

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

- 3. 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, etc.).
- 4. Describe the relationship (formal or informal) between **tuition policies** and **financial aid policies** in your state (e.g., high tuition/high aid, no relationship, etc.), including any differences that might exist between sectors.
- 5. How is your state working to coordinate state appropriations, tuition, and financial aid policies?

SECTION E: ARRA Funds

- 1. Has your state received any ARRA funding? Yes/no
- 2. How has the availability of ARRA funding influenced the tuition setting in your state?
- 3. How has the availability of ARRA funding influenced the student financial assistance policies or offerings in your state?

Respondent Information

State/ Agency Respondent Title Phone Fax E-mail

Thank you for your assistance in completing this survey. Please email, mail, or fax your completed survey by Wednesday, July 20th to:

Angela Boatman
aboatman@sheeo.org
State Higher Education Executive Officers
3035 Center Green Dr.- Suite 100
Boulder, CO 80301-2251

Phone: 303-541-1610 Fax: 303-541-1639