

Draft Tuition Survey

Q1.1 Before you begin, please provide us some information about you and your workplace.

Name

SHEEO Agency or Higher Education Agency

State

Email Address

Directions: Many of these survey questions are open-ended. One of our goals in this survey is to allow respondents to articulate the nuances in tuition and fee policies. Sometimes, this survey will ask for your personal opinion. These questions are marked in **red** and responses will be kept confidential. Your personal experience and opinions are extremely informative and we will take care to share our analysis of responses with participants before release to make sure opinions do not become construed as state policy. If you believe that other actors in your state would have qualified, yet differing responses to **red** questions, feel free to send them this link to a condensed survey if you think we should hear those responses as well. Thank you for your participation in our Tuition and Fee Survey.

Philosophy of Tuition, Fees and Affordability

Q2.1 Please describe the tuition setting philosophy in your state. (Examples: Tuition should be low as possible, tuition policy is guided by institutional-level philosophy or budgetary needs, tuition is set to offset changes in state funding levels, etc.)

Q2.2 Does the philosophy described above apply to both the two-year and four-year sectors in your state?

Yes

No

Answer If Does the philosophy described above apply to both the two-year and four-year sectors in your state? No Is Selected

Q2.3 Please describe how the philosophy is different between two-year and four-year sectors in your state.

Q2.4 In practice, does tuition setting in your state adhere to the philosophy you described? Why or why not?.

Q2.5 How is tuition philosophy formalized in your state?

- In state Constitution
- By legislative statute
- By state rule
- By board rule / policy
- Not formalized at the state level

Q2.6 Has the rationale for tuition setting changed due to the Great Recession of 2007-09 and the recovery?

- No
- Yes, please describe _____

Q2.7 Have any of the following policies been formally proposed in the past five years- by the state legislature, board members, the SHEEO agency, or by the governor - for consideration in your state?

	No	Yes
Free community college	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Debt-free college	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
"Pay it Forward" model (state pays for tuition, graduate's future earnings pay back state)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Prepaid Tuition Plan (tuition at public institutions can be purchased years in advance)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tuition Rollback (state reimburses institutions in exchange for tuition reduction)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tuition Guarantee Program (Tuition rates are guaranteed for the expected on-time completion of a degree)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

COMMENTS:

Answer If Have any of the following policies been formally proposed in the past five years - Yes Is Selected

Q2.8 Have any of the policies you marked "Yes" to been adopted? If so, please describe.

Q2.9 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 (or indicate where documentation can be obtained) of any written materials developed.

Q2.10 Describe the philosophy in your state related to mandatory student fees and how this differs from tuition philosophy. (Examples: Fees make up for tuition limitations, fees are institutionally controlled, fees cannot exceed a set amount, fees pay for certain defined expenses only, etc.)

Q2.11 Tuition rates are extremely important to policymakers in my state

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Q2.11 Student fees garner the attention of policymakers in my state.

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Q2.12 Does your state have a unified strategy for student affordability that takes into account institutions, tuition and financial aid?

- Yes, please describe _____
- No, how does the state address affordability instead? _____

Q2.13 Policymakers in my state consider college affordability for students when setting tuition rates.

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Tuition Setting Authority

Q3.1 Please provide a link to tuition setting statutes in your state (if applicable):

Q3.2 Please provide a link to student FEE setting statutes in your state (if applicable):

Q3.3 Please briefly describe how tuition is set in your state.

Commented [JA1]: ANDY – Would like to leave as is, we view this as a question that would lead to follow-ups for phase II of the project. Broad question assists with this.

Q3.4 Has tuition setting changed recently (in the past five years) in your state? If so, please describe.

Q3.5 Which actors PROPOSE tuition rates and / or tuition policies in your state?

	Primarily Responsible (check one)	Informal / consultative role (check all that apply)
Governor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legislature	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Statewide coordinating / governing agency for multiple systems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coordinating / governing boards for systems of institutions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Boards of Individual institutions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other actor, please specify	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q3.6 Which actor SETS tuition rates in your state?

	Primarily Responsible (check one) for 4-year institutions	Primarily Responsible (check one) for 2-year institutions
Governor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legislature	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Statewide coordinating / governing agency for multiple systems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coordinating / governing boards for systems of institutions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Boards of Individual institutions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other actor, please specify	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q3.7 Which actor SETS student fees in your state?

	Primarily Responsible (check one)
Governor	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legislature	<input type="checkbox"/>
Statewide coordinating / governing agency for multiple systems	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coordinating / governing boards for systems of institutions	<input type="checkbox"/>
Boards of Individual institutions	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other actor, please specify	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q3.8 Could multiple actors argue that they have primary tuition setting authority?

- No
- Yes, please describe _____

Q3.9 Please describe the relationship between the primary tuition setter and institutions in your state as rates are being set.

- Very cooperative
- Somewhat cooperative
- Neither cooperative nor uncooperative
- Somewhat uncooperative
- Very uncooperative

Q3.10 If individual institutions have primary authority, which of the following statements best describes the nature of their authority?

- Individual institutions set tuition rates within very strict guidelines or parameters established by local or state-level entities (e.g., a footnote in the appropriations bill providing a percent increase on tuition rates)
- Individual institutions set tuition rates within moderate or limited guidelines established by local or state-level entities (e.g., guidance that tuition rate increases should not exceed inflation)
- Individual institutions set tuition rates with no external restrictions, but may be influenced by expressed opinions of state policymakers
- Not applicable

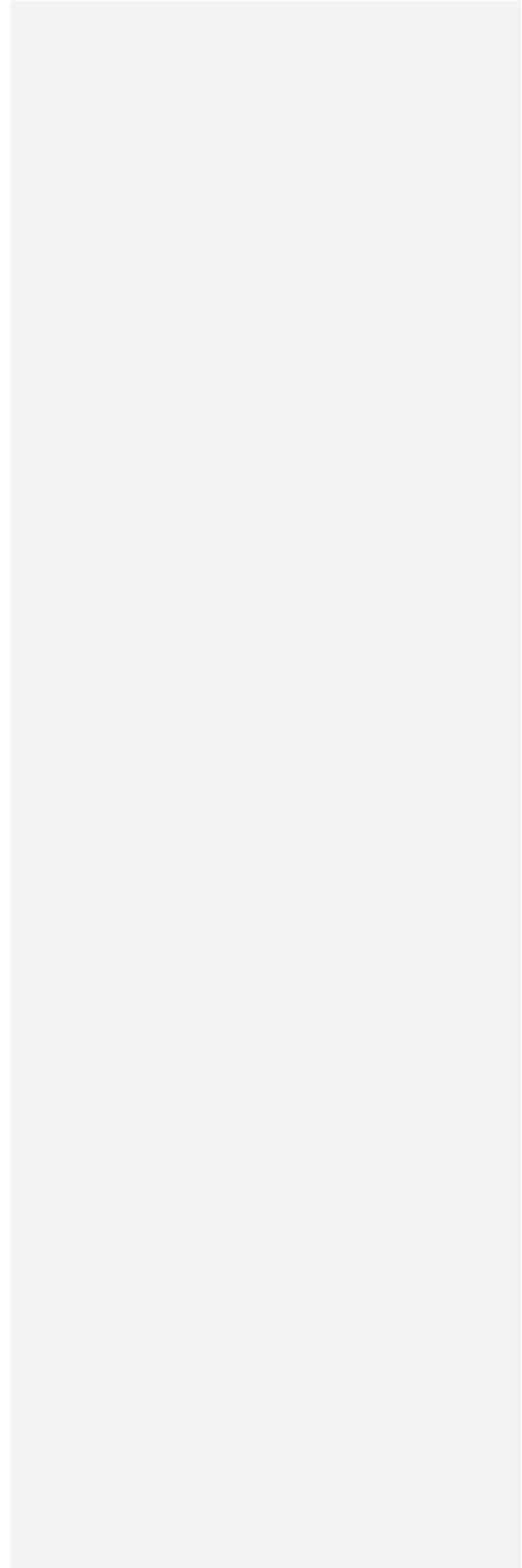
Q3.11 Are tuition revenues appropriated to institutions in your state?

- Yes
- No

Q3.12 Are tuition revenues controlled and retained by individual institutions in your state?

- Yes
- No

Resident and Non-Resident Undergraduate Tuition Policies



Q4.1 The following factors may be used by various individuals/groups who set public resident undergraduate tuition rates in the states. Please indicate the level of influence exerted by each of the factors in decision-making about tuition levels in your state.

	Minimal to no influence	Moderate influence	Significant Influence	Controlling influence
Inflationary indices (CPI, HECA, HEPI, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State per capita personal or disposable income	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Level of state general fund appropriations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuition charged by peer institutions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuition policies of comparison states	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Institutional mission	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost of instruction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Affordability for the student	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Availability of / appropriations for financial aid	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State philosophy about the appropriate share of tuition costs to be borne by the students vs. the state	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Answer If What percentage of the cost of instruction supposed to be covered by tuition? Two-year sector Is Not Empty Or What percentage of the cost of instruction supposed to be covered by tuition? Four-year sector Is Not Empty

Q4.2 What percentage of the cost of instruction is supposed to be covered by tuition?

Two-year sector _____

Four-year sector _____

Answer If What percentage of the cost of instruction supposed to be covered by tuition? Two-year sector Is Not Empty Or What percentage of the cost of instruction supposed to be covered by tuition? Four-year sector Is Not Empty

Q4.3 What actual percentage of cost of instruction was covered by tuition (for most recent fiscal year available)?

Two-year sector _____

Four-year sector _____

Commented [JA2]: ANDY – We cannot get this information from SHEF.

Q4.4 Has there been a freeze or other limit placed on resident, undergraduate tuition at any time in your state in the past three fiscal years?

Yes to a freeze, please describe _____

Yes to a limit, please describe _____

No

Answer If Has there been a freeze or other limit placed on tuition at any time in your state in the past three fiscal years? Yes Is Selected

Q4.5 Who applied the freeze or limit and indicate if it was applied differently to various sectors or institutions:

Q4.6 Differential tuition results when groups or individuals pay different tuition rates based on certain criteria, such as level of study, major, etc. Indicate if any of the following types of differential tuition are used for resident undergraduate students at public colleges and universities in your state. (Check all that apply)

Lower division / Upper division

Programmatic (varies by college/ department, major or course)

Credit / Non-credit

In-district / Out-of-district

In-state / Out-of-state

On-site or classroom based instruction / Off-site or distance education

Credit hours beyond a specific number (e.g., credit hours accumulated above 12 per semester are charged at a different or flat rate)

Cohort-based tuition

Q4.7 Do institutions in your state charge a linear tuition rate model, tuition window model or both (mark YES / NO) and if YES, for which sectors do these policies apply?

	Yes / No	Sectors? (Two / Four Year / Both)
Linear tuition model (students pay per credit)		
Tuition windows (students are charged block rates at certain credit thresholds, e.g. the same rate is charged between 12-17 credits)		

Q4.8 Do institutions in your state guarantee a flat tuition rate for the expected on-time length of the program (For example, tuition does not increase so long as the student graduates within four years)?

- Yes
- No

Answer If Do institutions in your state guarantee a tuition rate for the expected on-time length of the program? Yes Is Selected

Q4.9 Please indicate the length of time that the rate applies and to which types of institutions this flat rate applies (if this differs between 2-year and 4-year institutions in your state, please describe both).

Answer If Do institutions in your state guarantee a flat tuition rate for the expected on-time length of the program? Yes Is Selected

Q4.10 If a student stops out of the institutions, do they still qualify for the guaranteed tuition plan?

Answer If Do institutions in your state guarantee a flat tuition rate for the expected on-time length of the program? Yes Is Selected

Q4.11 Does this guaranteed rate apply to student fees and other differentials?

- Yes, please describe _____
- No

Q4.12 Which of the following statements best describe how nonresident undergraduate tuition is set in your state?

- Nonresident tuition is set at set percentage of the cost of resident tuition
- Nonresident tuition is aligned with rates at peer institutions
- No formal policy exists and institutions set nonresident rates at their own discretion
- Other (please describe) _____

Q4.13 Are institutions in your state able to generate significant revenue from non-residents, please describe?

Q4.14 What percent of resident undergraduate tuition do tuition reciprocity students pay? (e.g. 120% of resident rate, etc.) Mark N/A if no reciprocity agreements exist.

Q4.15 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 (for example, a "good neighbor" policy)? If yes, please briefly describe and provide a link to the policy.

Commented [JA3]: ANDY – Don't think we need separate regional question because according to Brian P "They all do it"

Financial Aid

Q5.1 Does your state have a formal policy regarding the mix between merit and need-based aid?

- Yes, please describe _____
- No

Q5.2 Describe how reductions in available state funding for financial aid programs have been handled in your state (e.g., grant awards made based on "first come first served", changes made to eligibility requirements to reduce the size of the eligible population, etc.). Specify where this policy is formalized, if applicable.

Q5.3 Describe any financial aid policy changes (not financial aid appropriations) and the reasons for them in the past five years.

Q5.4 Is your state considering any major reforms to existing state financial aid programs in the near future? (Please describe if so).

Q5.5 How do changes in tuition policy impact state financial aid recipients? (For example: Aid increases when tuition increases, institutions offer more scholarships, etc.)

Q5.6 Policymakers in my state consider the impact to financial aid programs when setting tuition rates.

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Q5.7 Do the public institutions in your state provide tuition waivers or discounting for particular categories of students (Examples: foreign students, non-resident students, military personnel, children of faculty members, etc.)?

- Yes, which students are eligible for the waivers? _____
- No

Q5.8 Are discounts offered to students in order to optimize revenue for institutions? Please describe.

Q5.9 Do your state board or institutional boards have a policy that requires a portion of revenue from tuition increases to be set aside for student financial aid?

- Yes
- No

Answer If Does your state have a policy that requires a portion of revenue from tuition increases to be set aside for student financial aid? Yes Is Selected

Q5.10 Please describe and provide the percentage applied to financial aid: