STUDENT AFFAIRS OP 91.178: Policy on Out-of-State Tuition Waivers and Scholarships

Date: November 5, 2010

Purpose

To provide guidelines and regulations governing out-of-state tuition waivers and scholarships.

Policy

Effective fall semester 2005, waiver of full or partial out-of-state tuition is provided for students in the following categories who meet certain initial requirements and continued if specified academic requirements are maintained.

Procedure

1. **Sons and Daughters of Alumni Out-of-State Tuition Waiver**
   
   Application for admissions will also serve as the application for the waiver. Entering non-resident students who do not meet the criteria for the academic out-of-state tuition scholarship who are the son or daughter of an alumnus or alumna who has earned a minimum of 48 semester hours of credit, or earned a degree from Mississippi State University are eligible for a waiver of 50 percent of non-resident tuition. Both undergraduate and graduate students are eligible for this waiver.
   
   - Waiver is 50 percent of out-of-state tuition and continues at the 50 percent level if the undergraduate student maintains full time enrollment and maintains a 3.00 GPA at the end of each fall semester. Graduate students must maintain full time enrollment and maintain a 3.00 GPA.
   
   - Grades are monitored at the end of each fall semester.

2. **Academic Out-of-State Tuition Scholarship**
   
   Entering freshman must meet competitive criteria, including an above average high school GPA and competitive ACT/SAT test scores. The criteria will be determined each year by the Undergraduate Scholarship Committee and will be based on the level of competition of the pool of applicants. Test scores must be earned on a singular testing. This scholarship is applicable to first time entering freshmen only.
   
   - Scholarship ranges from 50 to 100 percent of out-of-state tuition and continues if the student maintains full time enrollment and maintains a 3.00 GPA.
   
   - Grades are monitored at the end of each fall semester.

3. **Community College Students Out-of-State Tuition Scholarship**
   
   Transfer students must have completed at least 48 hours of transferable community college courses (determined according to MSU standard policy and practices) applicable to a bachelor’s degree at MSU with a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA.

   Scholarship is 100 percent of out-of-state tuition and continues at the 100 percent level if the student maintains full time enrollment and maintains a 3.00 GPA.
   
   - Grades are monitored at the end of each fall semester.

**Loss of Alumni, ACT/SAT and Community College Waiver and Scholarship Appeal Process**

Appeals of loss of out-of-state waiver/scholarship may be made on the basis of mitigating circumstances. Mitigating circumstances must be documented in the appeal for reinstatement of the out-of-state waiver/scholarship. Mitigating circumstances are those that have an effect upon the student’s academic performance, were substantially beyond the control of the student, and whose occurrence would not likely be repeated. Illness or injury of the student or death in the student’s immediate family are examples of situations which could be mitigating circumstances. However, there is no circumstance that automatically
qualifies a student for reinstatement of waiver/scholarships eligibility. All appeals must include the Out-of-State Waiver/Scholarship and Award Appeal Form with an attachment with all facts and documentation pertinent to the basis for the appeal. Appeals must be received by the Office of Admissions and Scholarships in Room 150 Montgomery Hall (P.O. Box 6334, Mississippi State, MS 39762) at least five (5) class days prior to the last day to register during the applicable fall or spring semester and prior to registration day for each summer session.

Additional Option for First Time Entering Freshmen:
Freshman students with a cumulative grade point average of less than 3.00 at the end of their first fall semester may appeal the loss of the out-of-state waiver/scholarship. The student must present the Out-of-State Waiver/Scholarships and Award Appeal Form along with a copy of their grades to the Office of Admissions and Scholarships within 30 days of the end of the spring semester documenting a cumulative GPA of 2.85 or above for reinstatement of out-of-state waivers. There is only one probation period for waiver/scholarship recipients.

A completed Out-of-State Waiver/Scholarship and Award Appeal Form must accompany each student’s appeal letter and support documentation. The Out-of-State Waiver Appeals Committee, appointed by the vice President for Student Affairs, has authority over all appeals and its decisions are final. An appeal form can be obtained by contacting the Office of Admissions and Scholarships at the address listed above or through the web at: http://www.admissions.msstate.edu.

4. Athletic Out-of-State Tuition Waiver
   • Institutional Executive Officers are authorized each fiscal year to transfer or use from Unrestricted Educational and General funds for athletic expenditures an amount provided in IHL policy number 704.01. The institution will not exceed the amount authorized in the IHL policy in any fiscal year. For the purpose of this policy, athletic expenditures include, but are not limited to, waivers of non-resident tuition.

   • The Athletic Department will pay for any additional out-of-state tuition waivers not funded by the above referenced policy.

5. Honda/Barrier Scholarship Out-of-State Tuition Waivers
   The E&G portion of the out-of-state tuition waiver is eliminated.

6. Music (Band and Chorus) Out-of-State Tuition Waivers
   Awarded by Music Department. Both undergraduate and graduate students are eligible.
   • Awards are granted through audition.

   • Waiver is either 45 or 90 percent of out-of-state tuition.

   • These awards may be combined with other out-of-state tuition waivers, not to exceed 100 percent of cost of out-of-state tuition.

7. Academic Common Market Out-of-State Tuition Waivers
   The student must be a legal resident of awarding state and approved for a specific major. Both undergraduate and graduate students are eligible.
   • Waiver is 100 percent and will remain at the 100 percent level unless student’s field of study changes.

8. Grade point averages for continuation of all waivers/scholarships are monitored for eligibility at the end of each fall semester.

Review

The Vice President for Student Affairs is responsible for the review of this operating policy every four years or as needed.
DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
OPERATING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

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REVIEWED BY:

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