

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Arizona Public Universities 2019-20 Tuition Proposals Available on ABOR Website

Phoenix, Ariz. – Presidents of Arizona's three public universities released their tuition proposals for the 2019-20 academic year today. Highlights of tuition proposals include:

- Arizona State University (proposal available here)
 - Proposal continues a commitment to hold tuition increases to 3 percent or less for Arizona resident students for the next 10 years.
 - ASU proposes simplifying tuition and program and class fees by bundling into a new structure: base tuition; a single bundled fee for the existing mandatory student-initiated fees and the Arizona Financial Aid Trust; and one of four levels of college fee where applicable. ASU in the last review of fees had 146 program fees and 5,956 separate course fees. More information is available here.
 - o Including college fees, ASU recommends an average 2.8 percent tuition and fees increase for resident undergraduate students and 4.8 percent increase for non-resident students.
 - o There are no mandatory undergraduate fee increases.
- Northern Arizona University (proposal available here)
 - Proposal continues its Pledge guaranteed tuition rate, resulting in no tuition increase for the majority of continuing undergraduate students at the Flagstaff campus.
 - NAU recommends a 2.5 percent base tuition increase excluding program and class fees - for new undergraduate resident and non-resident students at the Flagstaff campus and a 3 percent increase for students not on the Pledge program.
 - Increases in two mandatory fees are also included a \$50 increase from \$500 to \$550 for expansion of counseling and mental health services and a \$20 increase in the Green Fee from \$10 to \$30 for NAU sustainability efforts.
- University of Arizona (proposal available here)
 - Proposal continues the UA's Tuition Guarantee Program, ensuring the majority of continuing undergraduate students will have no tuition or mandatory fee increases.

- A 2 percent base tuition increase excluding program and class fees for new resident undergraduate students and a 1 percent increase for new non-resident undergraduate students is recommended. Students not in the guarantee program would see a 5 percent increase.
- o There are no mandatory fee increases at the UA.

"We appreciate the presidents' work on these proposals and their commitment to maintain affordable options for students to obtain high-quality degrees at our public universities," said ABOR Chair Ron Shoopman. "The board also appreciates the continuation of the tuition guarantee and pledge programs which helps students and families achieve their higher education goals. The board looks forward to hearing from students and families at our public hearing and examining proposals in-depth at our tuition workshop before voting on tuition at our April meeting," said ABOR Chair Ron Shoopman.

The next event in the process for setting tuition at Arizona's public universities is a public hearing that the Arizona Board of Regents will hold for students and individuals to comment on the tuition proposals from 5-7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 2. Comments at the tuition hearing will be heard on a first-come, first-served basis at sites throughout the state. The livestream of the meeting is available here. A list of the statewide hearing sites is available here.

On Thursday, April 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., ABOR will host a **tuition workshop** where university presidents will present their proposals at the ASU Memorial Union, Turquoise Room. On Thursday, April 11, the board is expected to set final tuition and fees for the 2019-20 academic year. The meeting will be held at the University of Arizona. Both meetings will be live-streamed.

Public comments regarding tuition and fees will not be taken at the April 4 or April 11 meetings given the statewide public hearings that will be held on April 2. Individuals may also send comments via e-mail to the Arizona Board of Regents at tuition@azregents.edu; by regular mail, at 2020 N. Central Ave., Suite 230, Phoenix, AZ 85004; or by fax at (602) 229-2555. Comments received prior to April 8 at 5 p.m. will be shared with the regents in advance of the April 11 meeting.

As part of ABOR's mission and commitment to ensure accessibility and affordability for students, the board continues its reform agenda <u>regarding tuition and fee setting</u> and advocates for support of the Arizona resident student funding model that seeks a 50/50 split with the state to educate students. The board and university presidents continue an ongoing, multi-year effort to slow tuition increases and improve predictability for students through tuition guarantee programs. Resident undergraduate tuition increases at the universities averaged less than 3 percent per year from 2013 to 2018, and this year's tuition proposals continue to hold increases at this level.

"Arizona's public universities provide value for students through minimized tuition increases, lower student debt and access to financial aid – much of which is provided by the universities," said ABOR Executive Director John Arnold. "The board remains focused on expanding access to a university degree for every qualified student no matter their economic circumstances. We must continue to develop Arizona's talent and provide individuals with a pathway to a lifetime of success."

In setting tuition, the board considers numerous factors including input received from students along with data related to financial aid, the tuition of peer universities across the country and resources required to meet the universities' performance goals.

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