

**SHORELINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
DISTRICT NUMBER SEVEN  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 24, 2015**

**TAB 5**

**ACTION**

**Subject: 2015–16 Tuition Waiver and Fee Changes**

**Background**

**Tuition Waiver for Active Duty Military Personnel**

The community and technical college (CTC) system in Washington recently received notice that the Department of Defense's (DoD's) tuition reimbursement for active duty military personnel will only cover the cost of DoD's definition of "tuition." DoD's definition excludes two components that are embedded in the CTC system's definition of tuition, namely the building fee and the services and activities fee. In order to avoid the possibility of declining enrollments due to active duty students needing to pay approximately \$200 more per quarter for what DoD will not pay, the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges requested an optional waiver that allows colleges to reduce the impact of DoD's interpretation. As a result, House Bill 1706 was signed by Governor Inslee with an effective date of July 24, 2015. This new law allows colleges to waive the portion of our tuition that DoD will not pay.

Because the waiver is optional and not mandatory, the Board of Trustees must approve it in order for the College to grant it to eligible students. The College has approximately 10–15 students using DoD's tuition assistance each quarter, with total waivers likely to be on the order of \$10,000 per year.

**Proposed Fee Changes Beginning Fall Quarter 2015**

NOTE: These fee changes were discussed with the Board of Trustees at its May 27, 2015, meeting.

- **Student completion fee.** The College currently charges fees of \$20.00 to process a graduation application and \$5.00 per official transcript. In order to reduce barriers to student completion, we propose to eliminate the graduation fee and provide each student with two official transcripts (in person or by mail) at no cost. A new quarterly fee of **\$0.50 per credit, up to 10 credits per quarter** (maximum \$5.00 per quarter) would replace the eliminated fees. (Official transcripts beyond two per student would remain at \$5.00 each.) This modification would spread the cost over a longer period, and it would allow the College to move toward automatic conferral of degrees when students meet the requirements.

- Parent-Child Center fees. The Parent-Child Center proposes to increase fees by less than 3 percent for each age-band of children as shown in **Attachment 1** to this tab. This change would become effective as of September 1, 2015.
- Course fees in engineering, computer science, and clean technology. The College proposes to charge a lab fee of **\$10.00 per class** for courses in engineering, computer science, and clean technology. This amount will be used to offset costs of materials, supplies, and hourly staff.

### **Recommendation**

That the Board approve the proposed tuition waiver and fees by motion.

Prepared by:                      Stuart Trippel, Executive Director, Business and Student  
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   June 18, 2015