

# METROPOLITAN STATE UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS



## Non-resident Tuition Waiver for F-1 International Students

### University Policy #3010

#### **Section 1. Policy**

International students shall pay non-resident tuition. This policy is established to govern and define how the non-resident student tuition waiver for F-1 international students will be administered. The international student non-resident tuition waiver is a special award for Metropolitan State's international students who hold F-1 visa and have demonstrated outstanding academic excellence. It allows students to pay tuition at the same rate as Minnesota residents. Students must complete two academic terms of full-time enrollment (may include summer) at Metropolitan State to be eligible for this waiver.

#### **Section 2. Authority**

This policy and procedure is established in accordance with Board of Trustees of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities 2.2 State Residency Requirement policy.

#### **Section 3. Effective Date**

This university procedure becomes effective immediately upon the signature of the President and remains in effect until modified or expressly revoked.

#### **Section 4. Responsibility**

The responsibility for implementation of this university policy is assigned to the Vice President for Student Affairs.

#### **Section 5. Guidelines**

The opportunity to apply for reduced tuition at resident rates is available each semester for eligible F-1 international students. The number of awards available for tuition waivers (tuition at resident rates) is determined by the availability of university financial resources. Students serving as graduate assistants and/or receiving other Metropolitan State grants or scholarships are not eligible for this waiver.

#### **Section 6 A. Eligibility Criteria**

The award is renewable for up to seven semesters for eligible undergraduate students and four semesters for graduate students, if all eligibility and renewal criteria are met and financial resources are available.

To be eligible, F-1 students must:

- Hold valid F-1 international student status (I-20);
- Be enrolled as a full-time student when making application and during the scholarship period;
- Have successfully completed two academic terms of full-time enrollment (may include summer) at Metropolitan State;

- Demonstrate continuing scholarship. Undergraduate students must have a cumulative 3.2 GPA and successfully complete (2.0 semester GPA) a minimum of 12 credits per semester. Graduate students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 and successfully complete (3.0 semester GPA) a minimum of eight graduate credits per semester. Grades of I, W, or F/NC will not be applied towards the credit requirement . A student may not enroll in more than one course as pass/fail per semester.
- Provide proof of university international student health insurance coverage;
- Maintain their current resident address on file with Metropolitan State’s Records and Registration, and International Student Services offices.

## **Section 6 B. Transitional Cohort**

The transitional cohort is comprised of international students who received the waiver of non-resident tuition during fall 2003 and/or spring 2004 semesters, and who maintain eligibility without a break in enrollment (excluding summer vacation) under the criteria listed below. These students will continue to receive the waiver until they complete their current degree programs or exhaust their eligibility. The grant may be renewed each semester for a total of ten semesters for undergraduate students and four semesters for graduate students. Transitional cohort students who lose eligibility must reapply using the section 6A. criteria. The requirements for the transitional cohort are:

- Hold F-1 student status (with a valid I-20);
- Be a full-time student (12 credits for undergraduate and 8 credits for graduate students) when making application and during the waiver period;
- Have a cumulative GPA of 2.5;
- Maintain current local address and phone numbers on file with the Records and Registration Office, and the International Student Office;
- Provide proof of university international student health insurance coverage;
- Submit the waiver application and supporting materials by the deadline dates in section 7.

### Full Course Load

International students with F-1 visas must be enrolled (fall and spring semesters) and complete a full course load (undergraduate students 12 credits/semester and graduate students 8 credits/semester), and maintain their F-1 visa status. Summer enrollment is optional.

### GPA Verification

Each semester, the university will verify students’ cumulative GPA before giving clearance for the non-resident tuition waiver (provided all grades are submitted). Grades of “I” or “W” may disqualify students from receiving the waiver. A cumulative GPA of 2.5 is required for the waiver.

## **Section 7. Application Process**

Non-resident tuition waiver application materials are available from the International Student Services (ISS) office. Students must re-apply each semester. **Applications deadlines are: May 1 for fall semester, December 1 for spring semester and April 1 for summer.** All applicants must submit the following materials to the Metropolitan State University International Services Office, postmarked on or before the deadline:

- International Student Non- Resident Tuition Waiver Application form;
- Provide proof (receipt) of Metropolitan State health insurance coverage.

### **Section 8. Selection Process**

The university will determine which students will be considered for a waiver award based upon the above criteria. From this group, recipients will be selected. The primary selection criteria will be based on academic performance.

#### **Priority:**

**Undergraduate Students**--Priority will be given to students who are pursuing their first four-year degree.

**Graduate Students**—Priority will be given to students who are pursuing their first graduate degree and/or who have received their baccalaureate degree from Metropolitan State.

#### **Dates of Awards**

Final decisions will be made by July 1 for fall, January 8 for spring, and May 30 for summer. If the date falls on a Saturday, notification will be made the preceding Friday, and if it falls on a Sunday notification will be made the subsequent Monday.

### **Section 9. Review**

This regulation will be reviewed on an as-needed basis.

### **Section 10. Signatures**

Issued on March 5, 2004

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Esther Peralez, Vice President for Student Affairs

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Wilson G. Bradshaw, President