6.5 Tuition and Fees - Curriculum

Last Revised: February 2012

Policy: Piedmont Community College (PCC) charges tuition and fees to curriculum students enrolled in courses each semester in accordance with North Carolina General Statutes.

Purpose/Definitions: All tuition and fees charged to students enrolling in a course at any North Carolina community college must be authorized by the Board of Community Colleges (State Board).

As defined by excerpts of North Carolina Administrative Code – 23 NCAC 02D .0202 Tuition and Fees for Curriculum Programs:

(a) Tuition:

(1) Student Residence Classification. The classification of students for tuition purposes shall be made pursuant to G.S. 115B-2, 115D-39, 116-143.1, 116-143.3, and 116-143.5.

(2) Tuition Rates In-State:

(A) A general and uniform tuition rate is established by the State Board as set by the Legislature for full-time curriculum students per semester or term for North Carolina residents.

(B) A North Carolina resident who is a part-time student shall pay a per credit hour rate for curriculum instruction, as established by the State Board, for any semester or term as set by the Legislature.

(3) Learning Laboratory. No tuition fees charged.

(4) Tuition Creditable Upon Transfer of Student. When a student has paid the required tuition at a college and is given permission to transfer to another college within the system during the academic semester for which the tuition was paid, the college from which the student transfers shall issue to him a statement certifying the amounts of tuition that have been paid, and the college to which he is transferring shall accept such certificate in lieu of requiring payment again. [Also, see 23 NCAC 02D .0323(b)(2) which provides information regarding reporting student hours in membership.]

(5) Tuition Student Enrolled in More Than One College. Where a student desires to enroll for the same semester at two or more colleges of the system, the total amount of tuition and fees may be paid to the student's "home" college. "Home" college is defined as the college which the student initially registers for classes. The "home" college shall, in that case, assume responsibility for arranging with the other college or colleges for enrolling the student in appropriate classes without further charge. Such arrangement shall be made by exchange of letters between the colleges involved. Student membership hours for instruction received shall be reported by the college in which the respective instruction occurred.

(6) Tuition Rates Out-of-State:

(A) Any full-time curriculum student who is an out-of-state resident shall pay tuition fees as established by the State Board for each semester or term as set by the Legislature.

(B) An out-of-state resident who is a part-time student shall pay a per credit hour rate for curriculum instruction as established by the State Board as set by the Legislature.

(7) Tuition Waivers:
(A) Individuals in the categories set forth in G.S. 115D-5(b) shall be exempt from tuition for specialized training courses only, unless otherwise permitted under this Rule. ... 

(D) Individuals meeting the criteria set forth in G.S. 115B-2 shall not be charged tuition.

(E) Replaced by: Career and College Promise (Session Law 2011-145, the Appropriations Act of 2011): SECTION 7.1A (a) The State Board of Education and the North Carolina Community College System shall establish the Career and College Promise program. The purpose of Career and College Promise is to offer structured opportunities for qualified high school students to dually enroll in community college courses that provide pathways consistent with subsection (b) of this section that lead to a certificate, diploma, or degree as well as provide entry-level jobs skills. Academic credits earned through Career and College Promise shall enable students who continue into postsecondary education after graduating from high school to complete a postsecondary credential in less time than would normally be required. All existing high school transition programs, including Huskins, Concurrent Enrollment, Cooperative and Innovative High Schools, Learn and Earn, and Learn and Earn Online shall be consolidated and replaced by Career and College Promise.

SECTION 7.1A (b) North Carolina community colleges, subject to approval by the State Board of Community Colleges, may offer the following Career and College pathways aligned with the K-12 curriculum and career and college ready standards adopted by the State Board of Education:

(1) A Career Technical Education Pathway, leading to a certificate or diploma aligned with one or more high school Tech Prep Career Clusters.

(2) A College Transfer Pathway, leading to a college transfer certificate requiring the successful completion of thirty semester hours of transfer courses, including English and mathematics, for qualified junior and senior high school students.

(d) Tuition Refunds:

   (1) A refund shall not be made except under the following circumstances:

   (A) A 100 percent refund shall be made if the student officially withdraws prior to the first day of class(es) of the academic semester or term as noted in the college calendar. Also, a student is eligible for a 100 percent refund if the class in which the student is officially registered is cancelled due to insufficient enrollment.

   (B) A 75 percent refund shall be made if the student officially withdraws from the class(es) prior to or on the official 10 percent point of the semester.

   (C) For classes beginning at times other than the first week (seven calendar days) of the semester a 100 percent refund shall be made if the student officially withdraws from the class prior to the first class meeting. A 75 percent refund shall be made if the student officially withdraws from the class prior to or on the 10 percent point of the class.

   (D) A 100 percent refund shall be made if the student officially withdraws from a contact hour class prior to the first day of class of the academic semester or term or if the college cancels the class. A 75 percent refund shall be made if the
student officially withdraws from a contact hour class on or before the 10th calendar day of the class.

(2) To comply with applicable federal regulations regarding refunds, federal regulations supersede the state refund regulations stated in this Rule.

(3) Where a student, having paid the required tuition for a semester, dies during that semester (prior to or on the last day of examinations of the college the student was attending), all tuition and fees for that semester may be refunded to the estate of the deceased.

(4) For a class(es) which the college collects receipts which are not required to be deposited into the State Treasury account, the college shall adopt local refund policies.

(e) Military Tuition Refund. Upon request of the student, each college shall:

(1) Grant a full refund of tuition and fees to military reserve and National Guard personnel called to active duty or active duty personnel who have received temporary or permanent reassignments as a result of military operations then taking place outside the state of North Carolina that make it impossible for them to complete their course requirements; and

(2) Buy back textbooks through the colleges' bookstore operations to the extent possible. Colleges shall use distance learning technologies and other educational methodologies to help these students, under the guidance of faculty and administrative staff, complete their course requirements.

Piedmont Community College Board of Trustees approved fees are contained in PCC Policy 7.13 Student Fees.

Approval Authority/Monitoring Authority: Piedmont Community College Board of Trustees has approval authority for this policy. The Vice President, Instruction and Student Development has monitoring authority for this policy.

PROCEDURE
1) Tuition and fees are payable at registration or before the class/courses start.
2) Fees for curriculum students are defined in PCC Policy 7.13 Student Fees
3) Collection of tuition and fees.
   a) The Business Office is responsible for collection of tuition and fees.
   b) A fee of $25.00 is charged to the student for each check that is returned for “insufficient funds”.
   c) Students whose checks are returned and who fail to make the payment within one week will not be allowed to stay in class.
4) Outstanding Debt
   a) A student is not eligible for registration if an outstanding debt is due the College.
   b) Any student having an outstanding delinquent account is not allowed to graduate or receive their certificate, diploma or degree. A transcript of records, or any information concerning the student’s permanent record, will not be forwarded to any other source.


History: Effective October 1988; Revised October 2001, February 2012.