



# News Release

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## **Non-Resident Tuition Rate a Winner for South Dakota**

ABERDEEN, S.D. – When the South Dakota Board of Regents in 2006 adopted lower tuition rates charged to all out-of-state students, the concern was whether the state would lose money on the deal. Two years later, those concerns have been laid aside. The non-resident tuition rate is a winner for South Dakota public universities.

The board's action lowered non-resident tuition rates for first-time freshmen and new transfer students to 150 percent of in-state rates, starting with the 2006 summer term. This move was deliberately taken to make a South Dakota public university education more attractive to regional and international students, said Robert T. Tad Perry, the regents' executive director.

A tuition report presented this week shows that, when considering the additional fees brought in by those new students, the impact of the non-resident reduced tuition program over the past year has been a positive \$797,742 to the university system.

The financial scenario assumed when the new rates were adopted was that the universities would have to more than double their number of non-resident students to make the reduced rate program revenue neutral. Campuses geared up their marketing plans to increase the number of non-residents and keep the tuition pool whole.

Campuses had to guarantee they would generate at least 4,706 credit hours, or an additional 157 full-time equivalent (FTE) students. In the first year of the program, the actual number of additional student FTEs was 192, and for the year just completed it amounted to 237.

“The success of the non-resident reduced tuition program lies squarely with the campuses themselves, who have done a terrific job of reaching out and marketing a South Dakota college education to new students from across the country and internationally,” Perry said. “This is definitely a win-win for the university system.”