

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Full Board

AGENDA ITEM: 27

DATE: April 1-2, 2015

SUBJECT: Children of Alumni Proposal

The Council of Presidents is requesting approval of a Child of Alum (COA) program. Participation in the program is limited to incoming freshmen or transfer students attending the same university from which one of their parents or legal guardian received a degree. The new students would be eligible for in-state tuition and fees.

The idea of giving resident tuition to undergraduate COA students attending the same school from which their parent or guardian graduated was first introduced to COPS in March of 2014. The number of eligible students for such a program has been estimated at 256 students, requiring an additional 53 students system-wide to break even. The Council has agreed that having such a program would provide incentives for alumni that have moved out of state to send their children back to South Dakota to attend school. Donors often ask if such a program exists and having one would create goodwill with alumni and donors.

The presidents also agreed that each school could identify initial and on-going eligibility criteria for the program:

BHSU/DSU/NSU

- ACT composite score or at least 20
- To retain the award, the student must complete no less than 30 semester credit hours within an academic year and maintain a 2.5 cumulative GPA.

SDSM&T

Initial Eligibility:

- Minimum 25 ACT Composite or minimum 1130 SAT Composite, and
- A minimum 25 ACT Math Sub-Score or minimum 570 SAT Math Sub-Score

(Continued)

RECOMMENDED ACTION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Approve resident tuition for undergraduate Children of Alumni that attend the same university where their parent or legal guardian received a degree. Approve the initial eligibility and renewal criteria requested by each university.

Tuition retention criteria:

- The tuition reduction can be retained for up to four years (eight semesters) of education at SD Mines, excluding approved education absences, such as co-ops, study abroad, and other approved absences.
- Recipients must maintain SD Mines GPA of 3.0 or greater at the end of each academic year, including any summer courses completed before the start of the next fall semester.
- Recipients must complete a minimum of 24 SD Mines credits per academic year, including any academic credits earned in the summer before the start of the next fall semester.
- Once in-state tuition is lost, it will not be reinstated unless waived by the Provost because of extenuating circumstances (medical/personal/family emergencies, etc.) Voluntarily taking time off from school is not an acceptable reason for appeal.

SDSU

Initial Eligibility:

- If a first-year full-time student, has a minimum 20 ACT Composite or comparable SAT Composite.
- If a transfer student, has a 2.5 cumulative GPA for credits transferred.

Resident Tuition Retention Criteria (failure to meet the retention criteria will cause the recipient to be ineligible to receive resident undergraduate tuition and fees):

- Recipients must complete a minimum of 30 South Dakota State University credits per academic year with a GPA of 2.75 or greater.

Years of Eligibility:

- Resident tuition can be retained for up to four academic years (eight semesters) for first-year students and for transfer students for the difference between four years and the years of credit transferred (i.e. if 60 hours transferred in, resident rate can be retained for two academic years ($4 - 2 = 2$), excluding approved education absences, such as co-ops, study abroad, and other approved absences.
- Once resident tuition is lost, it will not be reinstated unless waived by the Provost because of extenuating circumstances (medical/personal/family emergencies, etc.) Voluntarily taking time off from the university is not an acceptable reason for reinstatement.

USD

USD proposes to offer in-state tuition to any new undergraduate non-resident students admitted under current admission standards whose parent graduated from USD.

It should be noted that the approach USD is proposing will result in the least amount of manual administration of the program. All tuition reduction programs put in place to date have relied on current admissions standards and eligibility has continued as long as the student is

enrolled. The initial eligibility requirements and the on-going retention requirements identified by the other universities will need to be manually reviewed and monitored. No commitments are being made to alter systems or develop reports to provide the data. The COA student type can be term specific and each term the universities will need to review eligibility and then update the student type and term.

Attachment I identifies the current number of students attending that would be eligible for a COA program based solely on their parent's graduation from that school. This report identifies the total number of eligible students at the undergraduate level – a 4-year number. It will give some idea of how many students might be eligible in the future.

