



10-29-2019

Letter - Board of Regents approves tuition for fiscal year 2020-21

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Recommended Citation

Pallavicini, Maria, "Letter - Board of Regents approves tuition for fiscal year 2020-21" (2019). *Presidential Communications*. 13.

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Board of Regents approves tuition for fiscal year 2020–21

October 29, 2019

Dear Pacific students, faculty and staff,

Last Friday, the **Board of Regents approved** tuition, fees, room and board rates for fiscal year 2020–21, which starts July 1, 2020. After considering several scenarios, the regents have decided to increase tuition for all undergraduate students by 3%, setting aside an additional \$1 million for need-based aid for continuing undergraduate students. The undergraduate tuition increase will go into effect for the fall 2020 semester and will not impact the rates for the current semester or spring semester 2020.

The board's decision came after an intensive period of discussion by the university's budget committee and by university leadership with considerable input from students. The decision took into consideration student affordability, the impact of a tuition increase on continuing students, and the university's need to cover its mandatory costs (payroll and benefits, etc.).

The additional aid for continuing students recognizes many continuing students may have increased financial need beyond their first year. Increased aid for continuing undergraduate students will be directed first toward those with the highest financial need and nearing graduation and then to those in proven need of additional assistance to continue in their degree program. Aid for continuing students will be available for the fall 2020 semester beginning August 24, 2020. Details will be forthcoming.

In addition to incoming and continuing undergraduate students, tuition will be raised 3% for students in the following programs: Education (EdD, EdS); Law (JD, JSD, MPA/MPP, MSL, LLM); and Physician Assistant Studies.

Tuition will be raised 2% for students in the following programs: Pharm D and Dental (DDS/IDS, Orthodontics, Endodontology, Advanced Education in General Dentistry).

Students in all other graduate programs will have no increase.

The proposed 3% increase for all undergraduate students will cover our mandatory costs and require us to tap into our reserves. We will not be able to cover a merit increase for our employees in fiscal year 2020–21 based on current undergraduate enrollment models.

We understand that tuition increases are challenging for our students and can have a significant impact on families. Student tuition makes up 79% of Pacific's unrestricted revenue (our operating income), and 69% is used to compensate the faculty and staff who ensure we deliver a high-quality education. We are focused on two long-term solutions: growing our enrollment and studying tuition pricing models. We are committed to finding a solution that is sensitive to the needs of our students and our ability to provide outstanding teaching and student services, and to maintain our financial sustainability.

Thank you for your continued outstanding efforts and your commitment to Pacific.

Sincerely,

Maria Pallavicini
Interim President