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AN ACT

RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION; DEFINING TUITION AND FEES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 21-1-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1971, Chapter 235, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:

"21-1-4. TUITION AND GENERAL FEE CHARGES--  
DEFINITIONS.--

A. The state educational institutions set forth in Article 12, Section 11 of the constitution of New Mexico and their branches, community colleges as provided in Chapter 21, Article 13 NMSA 1978 and technical and vocational institutes as provided in Chapter 21, Article 16 NMSA 1978 shall charge tuition, which is in addition to general or other earmarked fees, as provided by law.

B. "Tuition" means the amount of money charged to students for instructional services, which may be charged per term, per course or per credit. "Tuition" does not include required general or other fees.

C. "General fee" means a fixed sum charged to students for items not covered by tuition and required of such a proportion of all students that the student who does not pay the charge is an exception. General fees include fees for matriculation, library services, student activities, student union services, student health services, debt service

1 and athletics. An institution may charge fees in addition to  
2 general fees that are course-specific or that pertain to a  
3 smaller proportion of students.

4 D. During the regular academic year, "full-time  
5 student" means a student who is taking twelve or more credit  
6 hours in one semester or quarter. Full-time students during  
7 the academic year shall be charged tuition at rates provided  
8 by law.

9 E. During the summer session, "full-time student"  
10 means a student who is taking at least a minimum number of  
11 credit hours, which minimum is in the same proportion to  
12 twelve credit hours as the duration and normal credit-hour  
13 load of the summer session in the particular institution is  
14 to the duration and normal credit-hour load of the  
15 institution's regular semester or quarter. Full-time  
16 students in the summer session shall be charged tuition at  
17 resident and nonresident rates in each institution, which  
18 rates shall be in the same proportion to the full-time  
19 resident and nonresident rates of that institution for the  
20 regular semester or quarter as the minimum number of credit  
21 hours is to twelve hours.

22 F. "Part-time student" means a student who is  
23 taking fewer than the minimum number of credit hours in a  
24 semester, quarter or summer session required for full-time  
25 student status. Part-time students shall be charged tuition

1 at rates per semester credit hour or quarter credit hour as  
2 provided by law.

3 G. The higher education department shall define  
4 resident and nonresident students for the purpose of  
5 administering tuition charges in accordance with the  
6 constitution and statutes of the state and after consultation  
7 with the appropriate officials of the institutions concerned.  
8 Each institution shall use the uniform definitions so  
9 established in assessing and collecting tuition charges from  
10 students."

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