

Memorandum

Date: May 20, 2024

To: Deans, Directors, and Departments of Participating Professional Student Exchange Programs (PSEP)

WICHE Certifying Officers

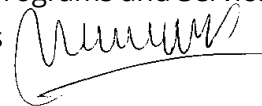
Western State Higher Education Executive Officers

CC: WICHE Commissioners

WICHE Veterinary Medicine Advisory Council

From: Raymonda "Ray" Burgman Gallegos, Vice President, Programs and Services

Margo Colalancia, Director, Student Access Programs



RE: Approved Support Fee Increases for the 2025-26 and 2026-27 Biennium for Students Enrolled in WICHE PSEP and the 20 Percent Cap on PSEP Support Fee Incentives for Public Programs

Approved Support Fee Increases for the 2025-26 and 2026-27 Biennium

On May 7, 2024, at the WICHE Commission meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada, WICHE Commissioners approved a 4.35 percent increase in the Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP) support fees. The increase applies to all ten fields served by PSEP:

Allopathic Medicine

Osteopathic Medicine

Dentistry

Physical Therapy

Occupational Therapy

Physician Assistant

Optometry

Podiatry

Pharmacy

Veterinary Medicine

The support fee increase aligns with the average annual HECA (Higher Education Cost Adjustment) increase in 2022 and 2023. On February 26, 2024, a memo describing the proposed PSEP support fee increases for the 2025/2026 biennium was sent to cooperating programs via a survey for their review and comment. WICHE Certifying Officers were consulted and shared the proposed increase with their State Higher Education Executive Officers. Staff also consulted with WICHE Commissioners on the Programs and Services Committee and the Executive Committee in March 2024.

Table 1 (below) lists the per-student fee rate for new and continuing students by field and academic year.

Table 1. Approved Support Fees for the 2025-26 and 2026-27 Biennium

Field	2024-25*	2025-26	2026-27
Dentistry	\$29,900	\$31,200	\$32,550
Medicine (Allopathic)	\$35,700	\$37,250	\$38,875
Occupational Therapy	\$15,625	\$16,300	\$17,025
Optometry	\$20,575	\$21,475	\$22,400
Osteopathic Medicine	\$25,600	\$26,725	\$27,875
Pharmacy	\$9,125	\$9,525	\$9,925
Physical Therapy	\$17,225	\$17,975	\$18,750
Physician Assistant	\$20,400	\$21,275	\$22,225
Podiatry	\$17,750	\$18,525	\$19,325
Veterinary Medicine	\$35,400	\$36,950	\$38,550

*Note: * The Commission approved fees for 2024-25 in May 2022*

Unless noted, the approved support fees are calculated based on standard program length. Adjustments to accommodate accelerated programs or other circumstances are spelled out in the *PSEP Administrative Manual*. To access the manual: www.wiche.edu/resources/professional-student-exchange-program-psep-administrative-manual/. The updated chart of support fee amounts can be found here: www.wiche.edu/tuition-savings/psep/whats-a-psep-award-worth/. We encourage you to bookmark the URL and save a copy of this memorandum for future reference.

REMINDER: For new students enrolled in AY 2019-20 and forward, support fee incentives for public programs are capped at 20 percent. (See the July 7, 2017, notification memo for additional information.)

In May 2017, the WICHE Commission approved an action item to cap support fee incentives received by public programs enrolling students through WICHE’s PSEP. The Commission and WICHE staff recognize that there are divergent stakeholder and state views on the appropriate level of financial incentives for the programs at public universities that enroll students through PSEP, along with significant historical precedents. WICHE staff and Commissioners serving on

WICHE's Programs and Services Committee spent considerable time discussing which option would best serve the needs of Western states, WICHE students, and the professional public programs that enroll them.

The compromise position approved by the WICHE Commission caps the maximum incentive for each PSEP public program at 20 percent of the respective field's support fee. This approach still provides some financial incentive to participating programs whose resident/nonresident tuition differential is less than their field's respective support fee.

This policy became effective for new students enrolling in Fall 2019 and applies to all new students moving forward. For students enrolling in summer/fall 2019 and later, any incentive amounts over the 20 percent cap must be credited to the student's account, further reducing their resident tuition. If your program is affected by the 20 percent cap on support fee incentives for AY 2024-25 and future years, WICHE staff will contact you with an illustration of how support fees should be applied.

Programs not affected by the 20 percent cap on support fee incentives are listed below. If your program falls into one of these categories, credit the support fee to the student's nonresident or full private tuition and charge the PSEP student the balance:

1. Public programs where the resident/nonresident tuition differential is greater than the support fee;
2. "Self-pay" public programs that charge residents and nonresidents the same tuition rate; and,
3. Private programs.

Contact Us

If you have questions about PSEP and how to apply the support fees, contact Margo Colalancia at 303.541.0214 or mcolalancia@wiche.edu or Kate Springsteen at kspringsteen@wiche.edu for assistance.

Thank You for Making a Difference!

You, your program staff, and your faculty play vital roles in building the West's professional healthcare workforce. We appreciate your commitment to our WICHE PSEP students and want to express our heartfelt gratitude for all you and your colleagues do to assist our students.