

Tuition Surcharge Repeal SB 225

- Filed in NC Senate on March 12
 - Unanimously passed on March 28
- Referred to House on April 1
 - Passed House 104-2 on June 24
- Bill ordered enrolled on June 24, will be passed along to the governor for signature

Summary

- Senate Bill 225 would repeal the 50% tuition surcharge imposed on students who take more than 140 degree credit hours to complete a baccalaureate degree in a four-year program or more than 110% of the credit hours to complete a baccalaureate degree in a five-year program.
- Would become effective July 1, 2019 and apply beginning with the 2019-2020 academic year.
- Senate Bill 225 would repeal G.S. 116-143.7, the tuition surcharge requirement. It would still allow the tuition period to be tolled if the student can demonstrate that any of the following have substantially disrupted or interrupted the student's pursuit of a degree: (i) a military service obligation; (ii) serious medical debilitation; (iii) a short-term or long-term disability; and (iv) other extraordinary hardship, related to the Guaranteed Tuition Program in GS 116-143.9.

UNC Policy review

- Repeal of 1000.1.5 Tuition Surcharge Policy
 - Establishes the requirement to impose a 50% surcharge
- Repeal of 1000.1.5[R] Regulations on Tuition Surcharge
 - Establishes the guidelines for imposing a 50% surcharge, including waiver process, calculation of tuition surcharge, and exemptions
- Change language of 1000.1.7 – Policy for the Tuition Guarantee Program
 - Remove references to tuition surcharge in 1000.1.7 paragraph 1
 - Remove reference in last two paragraphs referencing application of tuition surcharge
 - Add language pursuant to legislation language that the Board of Governors establish the appropriate procedures to implement the process of tolling a student's tuition upon demonstration of a substantial disruption or interruption as detailed in GS 116-143.9.
- Change language of 1000.1.7[R] – Regulations on the Fixed Tuition Benefit
 - Remove references to tuition surcharge in VII.A. and VII.B
- Remove references to tuition surcharge in the following UNC Policies and Regulations
 - 400.1.5[R].2.B
 - 400.1.5[R].2.C
 - 400.1.5[R].2.C.1.b
 - 400.1.5[R].2.C.2.b
 - 400.1.5[R].2.D
 - 400.1.5[R].2.F.2.b
 - 400.1.5[R].3.D.6
 - 400.1.5[R].6.A.5
 - 700.1.1.2[R].3.B
 - 700.7.1[R].11.D
 - 700.7.1[R].12.E.5
 - 700.7.1[R].13.C

Suggestions for ongoing monitoring and data collection

- Where possible, the UNC System Office would request that constituent institutions track students who remain enrolled or re-enroll who would previously have been subject to the repealed tuition surcharge.
 - This request is to further gauge the impact of similar policies that serve as barriers for adult student enrollment and re-enrollment.