

TOPIC: University of Baltimore: Proposed FY 2019 Regional J.D. Tuition Rate

COMMITTEE: Finance

DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING: June 8, 2017

SUMMARY: The University of Baltimore seeks approval to apply the current UB regional tuition rate to the School of Law J.D. program beginning in FY 2019.

The Board of Regents in FY 2017 approved a regional tuition rate for specific graduate programs, offering in-state tuition to students who reside in the District of Columbia, Northern Virginia (specific counties/cities), Southern Pennsylvania (specific counties) and Delaware (all counties). This proposal seeks to enroll more J.D. students from these geographic areas by providing more competitive tuition rates.

The University of Baltimore School of Law is poised to expand its strong presence in Maryland to the wider mid-Atlantic region. UB's law alumni network is both vast and loyal to the School of Law, offering its students and graduates a tremendous edge in obtaining jobs. In fact, the placement rate for UB law graduates 10 months after graduation is above 90%. UB's location in the heart of Baltimore, steps from the train station and with access to major roadways, affords a unique opportunity to attract students in neighboring states. Despite these assets, UB has not attracted a significant number of out-of-state students from nearby counties. If, however, UB increases the number of law students and thus the network of alumni in these areas, that success will enhance UB's profile and reputation regionally.

The current out-of-state J.D. tuition rate puts the School of Law at a competitive disadvantage. Students from these areas do not apply in significant numbers, and when they do, the conversion rate has been low. The current out-of-state J.D. tuition rate is comparable to that of some private law schools in the region, which leads many prospective students and applicants to choose private schools in their home states rather than UB. Similarly, UB does not provide a cost incentive to students choosing between UB and two public law schools in the region with which UB competes: University of Maryland and Penn State. Tuition at Penn State University (PSU) is \$46,176, but Pennsylvania residents receive a \$20,000 per year grant, making PSU more economical than UB for residents of Lancaster, York and Adams counties. The regional rate would bring UB's tuition and fees to within \$4,000 of the cost of attending PSU.

UB has actively sought to enroll more out-of-state students. In FY2015, the School of Law established a \$10,000 grant program that reduced the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition for students above its median Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) score and/or median GPA. This grant program has a limited reach, however, as only 25% of the prospects within the catchment area who took the test met the qualification for the grant and applied to UB between 2014 and 2016. Of those admitted, only 27% enrolled. Providing in-state tuition to residents of D.C. and other local counties contiguous to Maryland will increase UB's competitiveness outside the state and improve its ability to convert these students. Further, attracting more out-of-state students will raise the UB School of Law's profile beyond Maryland and enhance its reputation.

Finally, a regional J.D. tuition rate would provide UB's admission team with a strong incentive to use when marketing the school to prospective regional applicants during the 2019 recruiting season. This request is coming forward at this time because postponing it until spring 2018 would limit UB's ability to market this change effectively to benefit the fall 2019 enrollments. This regional J.D. tuition rate will be resubmitted in spring 2018 during the normal FY2019 tuition and mandatory fee request and approval process.

ALTERNATIVE(S): The Board may elect to adjust the recommended rate schedule.

FISCAL IMPACT: The projected financial impact is \$374,000. UB would need to admit 15 additional students to make up this difference and is confident it could do so.

CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION: That the Finance Committee recommend that the Board of Regents approve the regional J.D. tuition for the University of Baltimore School of Law as submitted, with the Chancellor having the authority to make changes consistent with existing board policies and guidelines as necessary. Any such changes would be reported back to the Board.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: RECOMMEND APPROVAL

DATE: 6/8/17

BOARD ACTION:

DATE:

SUBMITTED BY: Joseph F. Vivona (301) 445-1923

SCHEDULE OF TUITION AND MANDATORY FEES
Fiscal 2019

	Recommended Change			
	<u>FY 2018</u>	<u>FY 2019</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>%</u>
<u>UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE</u>				
FULL-TIME LAW STUDENT (J.D.)				
In-State FT Law Tuition - J.D.	28,978	28,978	0	0.0%
REGIONAL FT Law Tuition - J.D. **	43,220	28,978	(14,242)	-33.0%
Out-of-State FT Law Tuition - J.D.	43,220	43,220	0	0.0%
Technology Fee - flat rate	216	216	0	0.0%
Auxiliary Fees - flat rate (unless noted):				
Auxiliary Construction	72	72	0	0.0%
Auxiliary Operation	546	546	0	0.0%
Student Center Fee	814	814	0	0.0%
Student Services Fee	384	384	0	0.0%
Student Bar Association*	<u>74</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Total Fees:	2,106	2,106	0	0.0%
Total In-State FT Law - J.D.	31,084	31,084	0	0.0%
Total Out-of-State FT Law - J.D.	45,326	45,326	0	0.0%
PART-TIME LAW PER CREDIT HOUR				
J.D. In-State Tuition	1,200	1,200	0	0.0%
J.D. Regional Tuition **	1,690	1,200	(490)	-29.0%
J.D. Out-of-State Tuition	1,690	1,690	0	0.0%
Technology Fee - per credit hour	9	9	0	0.0%
Auxiliary Fees - per credit hour (unless noted):				
Auxiliary Construction	3	3	0	0.0%
Auxiliary Operation	23	23	0	0.0%
Student Center Fee	34	34	0	0.0%
Student Services Fee	16	16	0	0.0%
Student Bar Association - flat rate *	74	74	0	0.0%

*Full year rate is shown. Half of the amount will be charged per semester.

**Includes residents of the District of Columbia, Northern Virginia (Arlington, Loudoun, Fairfax, Prince William counties and the incorporated cities of Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park) Pennsylvania (Adams, York, Lancaster counties), and Delaware (all counties).