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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT—CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT 1111 Franklin Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor Oakland, California 94607-5200 510/987-9029

September 1, 2022

## **CHANCELLORS**

Re: Compliance with the Department of Defense Tuition Assistance (TA) Program

## Dear Colleagues:

I am writing to provide updated guidance for complying with the Department of Defense requirements regarding its Tuition Assistance (TA) Program, which provides tuition reimbursement for eligible students who are Active Duty, Reserve, and National Guard service members.

The TA Program requires participating institutions to charge tuition to TA recipients on a per-unit or percourse basis rather than as a flat amount per term. Consistent with the University's desire to remain a welcoming educational option for TA-eligible students, campuses should continue to follow the guidance provided in the letters of December 19, 2014, and June 4, 2020, on this same topic. The updated guidance provided here reflects how campuses should assess per-unit rates within the context of the University's Tuition Stability Plan, which includes cohort-based tuition rates for eligible undergraduate students and annual changes to undergraduate and graduate tuition rates, effective with the 2022-23 academic year. This letter will also serve as guidance for how unit-based rates compliant with TA Program requirements should be calculated for future student cohorts and annual tuition rates.

## Assessing Unit-Based Tuition for Tuition Assistance Recipients

Display 1 below shows the per-unit Tuition rates for TA recipients for the 2022-23 academic year. Rates are calculated based on the applicable Tuition rates for new and continuing students and a standard, full-time unit load per term (15 units for undergraduate students, 12 for graduate students). Campuses should use this same methodology to calculate per-unit Tuition rates in future years.

Display 1
University of California Tuition Per Unit for Regularly Enrolled Students
Receiving Department of Defense Tuition Assistance (TA) Benefits for 2022-23

Student Level	Full-time	Full-Time	Per Quarter	Full-time	Per Unit
	Tuition	<b>Quarter Units</b>	Unit	Semester Units	Semester
Undergraduate (UG) Students					
UG Cohort First Enrolled in AY 2022-23	\$11,928	45	\$265	30	\$397
UG Cohorts First Enrolled in AY 2021-22 or earlier	\$11,442	45	\$254	30	\$381
Graduate Students	\$11,700	36	\$325	24	\$487

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In cases where a TA recipient's unit load results in unit-based Tuition that is *lower* than the standard Tuition charge per term, campuses should assess the flat rate and apply a waiver to the student's account so that the student's net Tuition reflects the lower, unit-based amount. In cases where a TA recipient's unit load would result in Tuition that is *higher* than the standard Tuition charge per term, campuses should apply a waiver as needed to ensure that the TA recipient's net Tuition charge does not exceed the standard Tuition charge per term. In no case will a TA recipient pay higher Tuition than a non-recipient student with the same enrollment status and taking the same number of units. In some cases, a TA recipient will pay less, depending on the student's unit load.

These unit-based Tuition rates apply to regularly enrolled, matriculated TA recipients during periods of enrollment when the recipient would otherwise be subject to the University's standard, term-based systemwide Tuition. They do not apply to Summer Session or Extension courses since charges for those courses are already assessed to all students on a per-unit or per-course rate.

Note that the Department of Defense requirement applies to "tuition" and not "fees," which are generally not reimbursed by the TA program. Campuses should continue to assess applicable fees, including the Student Services Fee and campus-based fees, on a flat-rate basis.

If you have any questions about implementing unit-based tuition charges for TA recipients, please contact Caín Díaz, Director of the Operating Budget (cain.diaz@ucop.edu), or David Alcocer, Associate Vice President for Budget Analysis and Planning (david.alcocer@ucop.edu).

Thank you for your assistance in ensuring that service members can continue to use this education benefit at the University of California.

Sincerely,

Nathan Brostrom

Executive Vice President - Chief Financial Officer

cc: President Drake
Provost and Executive Vice President Brown
Vice President Gullatt
Associate Vice President Alcocer
Director Díaz