Workshop on Market Tuition Rate Programs

September 2, 2026

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STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA

Discussion Items

June Workshop Follow-up

	QUESTION	RESPONSE
1	**What threshold or metric is used to classify programs as high- or low-wage?**	• 1-year median earnings compared to System median $69,880 master's $89,076 research doctorate $70,898 professional doctorate
2	**How many students across all market rate programs incur debt?**	• 1,983 graduates (52%) took out loans in 2024-25
3	**How are market tuition rate programs reported & included in low-cost education rankings?**	• Measure uses resident undergraduate tuition
4	**Are the 32 Programs of Strategic Emphasis market-rate only, or does this vary by university?**	• 27 have a comparable state-funded program; 5 do not

Discussion Items

June Workshop Follow-up

	QUESTION	RESPONSE
5	**Are in-state students priced out, or are state-funded (E&G) alternatives available?**	• Florida residents are 65% of completers overall • A state-funded alternative exists for 64 of 102 programs • 70% of completers in the 38 programs with no comparable state-funded option are FL residents
6	**Is there data on debt repayment after graduation?**	• Data for market rate programs is unavailable
7	**Could a 3-year outlook identify programs nearing low-wage, high-debt status?**	• 1 program moved into low-wage, high-debt status, while 4 programs moved out

Goals With Regulation Update

Proposed 8.002 Overhaul

Criteria for Every Request

Clearly define criteria for each request

1. New Programs
2. Existing Programs
3. Tuition Increases

Clear Approval Path

Define an approval path for each request

1. University Submission
2. Board of Trustees
3. Board of Governors

Questions to Consider

1	**Regulation Compliance**	Is the university compliant with Regulation 8.002?
2	**Programs of Strategic Emphasis**	Should market-rate programs be included in PBF 8? Is a state-funded (E&G) alternative available to Florida residents?
3	**Low-Wage & High-Debt Programs**	How should low-wage, high-debt programs be addressed?
4	**Return on Investment**	How should return on investment be measured?

Regulation 8.002

Staff Recommendations: Criteria for Market Rate Requests

Regulation Compliance

1

- Publish side-by-side tuition & fee comparison with aid & loan information on program & fees website — **EXPANDED**
- Board reviews programs every 5 years — **NEW**

Programs of Strategic Emphasis

2

- Programs of Strategic Emphasis need a state-funded (E&G) option — **NEW**
- Will not count in PBF 8 unless designated by the Board of Governors — **NEW**

Regulation 8.002

Staff Recommendations: Criteria for Market Rate Requests

Low-wage, high debt

3

- Wages 1-year out must exceed wages of a similar bachelor's degree level — NEW
- The proposed tuition amount cannot exceed the caps on federal loans — NEW

Return on Investment

4

- Evidence of return on investment to the student & state — NEW
- Convincing rationale for seeking a market tuition rate — EXPANDED

Regulation 8.002

Staff Recommendations: Criteria for Market Rate Requests

Other Clarifications

University-wide tuition & fee increases do not apply to approved programs	NEW
Students are eligible for tuition waivers & exemptions	NEW
No request while on a Student Success Plan	NEW
Evidence of tuition at least 3 comparable public & private programs	EXPANDED

Process

New Program Requests

1	**Institution Request**	New graduate program proposed at a market tuition rate
2	**Board of Trustees**	Approves the new program & market tuition rate at the same meeting
3	**Board of Governors**	Board consider the market tuition rate *
4	**If Approved**	Rate effective the next academic year; annual reporting begins

* Program approval is also required for doctoral programs & New College of Florida master’s programs

Process
Tuition Increase Requests

1	**Institution Request**	Tuition & fees increase for an existing approved market rate program
2	**Public Notice & Board of Trustees**	28-day public notice, then trustees approve the proposed increase per Regulation 7.001
3	**Board Governors**	Board consider the new market tuition rate
4	**If Approved**	New rate effective the next academic year; updated rate posted & annual reporting continues

Next Steps

Staff Recommendation

1. Consider how to implement new criteria for existing approved programs
2. Allow programs that are performing with high wages & low debt to request increases in tuition under new criteria for the next BOG meeting
3. Allow for new program requests meeting criteria to come to BOG in January 2027

High Wage Low Debt Programs

32 Programs*

- ✓ Wages exceeded SUS average for degree level
- ✓ Median debt did not exceed E&G tuition
- ✓ Less than 50% of grads with loans

1,256 graduates

11 Programs of Strategic Emphasis, all with E&G option

Degree Programs

- Risk Management & Insurance
- Finance
- Engineering Management
- Business Administration
- Information Systems
- Instructional Systems
- Real Estate
- Civil Engineering
- Electrical & Computer Engineering
- Industrial & Systems Engineering
- Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Nursing Post-MSN DNP
- Accounting

*Excluded 4 programs with 1 or fewer graduates

Next Steps
Timeline

September 2026

Board workshop on proposed regulation updates

November 2026

Board considers regulation amendment

Board may consider tuition increases for approved high-wage, low-debt programs

January 2027

Board considers other market rate requests

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