UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

SPECIAL PROGRAM FEES
FEE REQUEST

College/School: College of Nursing
Program: Doctor of Nursing Practice WEB delivered

Is this a graduate or an undergraduate fee?

GRADUATE X UNDERGRADUATE □ OTHER □

Is this a new fee or an increase to an existing fee?

NEW FEE □ Amount requested: $

EXISTING FEE X Current Fee: $2,600/semester Requested Fee: Maximum of $700 per SCH for residents and non-residents. Applies to Summer, Fall and Spring semesters.

BACKGROUND: Include information concerning the establishment of the fee, history of increases (if any), references to policy, and the campus review/approval process.

DISCUSSION: Include in the discussion how the request is covered under the ABOR Policy 4-104B, and the criteria listed below, for evaluating requests for fees.

A change to the special program fee for the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) web delivered program is proposed for the College of Nursing. Students enrolled in the referenced program receive all of their didactic coursework via the D2L on line learning platform. The competitive dynamic for web delivered courses and especially within nursing necessitates flexibility in setting tuition for online content in order to maintain the market position of the College of Nursing. Nursing is the largest health profession and high on the list of growth industries so more and more proprietary educational entities are entering the market. As more competitors enter the space, the College of Nursing must have the ability to adapt to changing market conditions in order to attract students and maintain viability. Competitors include peer institutions and for-profit entities, many of which are able to react quickly to implement pricing strategies to undercut competitors and gain market advantage. Distance learners may reside anywhere yet still benefit from a University of Arizona education, thereby enhancing student access and extending the reach of the University of Arizona. This change is consistent with the concepts and recommendations included in the Arizona Higher Education Enterprise Strategic Realignment 2010.

Quality of Student Experience: Ranked among the top 6% of all Colleges of Nursing nationally for graduate education, the University of Arizona College of Nursing provides a high quality
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educational experience for students with attention to all aspects of instruction and training
inclusive of didactic content, clinical exposures and scholarly mentorship.

Access and Affordability: (Include a financial aid plan with a 17% set-aside for need-based
financial aid.) The College of Nursing remains committed to providing access to graduate
education for students seeking advanced practice preparation to embark on careers as
professional and advanced practice nurse leaders. 17% of the fees will be set aside for financial
aid to students who demonstrate need as evidenced on the FAFSA or equivalent calculator. The
College of Nursing, through philanthropic sources, provides scholarships to a large number of
graduate students and development efforts continue to focus upon student support.

College/School/Campus Cost of Instruction: The cost of instruction within the College of
Nursing is relatively higher than non-clinical academic disciplines due to the need for specialized
training, equipment and clinical oversight of students. On line programs require novel and
advanced teaching/learning modalities and extensive development of collaborations and
contracting with practicing clinicians that impact upon cost.

Market Pricing: From a market perspective, the program is priced at the peer median for resident
students and below the peer median for non-resident students. Because it is essential that pricing
for WEB delivered content is competitive and market driven, regardless of domicile, the actual
program fee per SCH will be determined by the College of Nursing and posted by the Bursar in
accordance with University policy prior to the start of the academic year.

Benefits to entire University: The fee will enable the College to maintain the quality of its
programs and continue the over 50 year tradition of offering a nationally distinguished education
in healthcare to meet the needs of the citizens of Arizona

Student Consultation and Support: Requested change to program fee will not result in increased
cost of education to existing students.

Increased Earnings Potential of Program Graduates: The market demand for advanced practice
nursing professionals remains very strong. An advanced practice nurse with a nurse practitioner
certification and a graduate degree may expect a starting salary of $85,000 to $100,000.
Registered nurses with graduate training typically have opportunities for career advancement and
salary augmentation.

Accountability: The College of Nursing submits annually to the Office of the Provost a full
report on expenditures related to Program Fees. Fees are expended for instructional support,
technology, and goods and services to enhance the student experience in the program.

Recommendation

The College of Nursing recommends approval of a program fee of $700 (maximum) per student
credit hour for the web delivered Doctor of Nursing Practice program.