IV. Students

A. Admissions Policies

The University shall develop policies for the admission of undergraduate and graduate students. The policies shall become effective when approved by the President and shall be:

1. Consistent with the Board's commitment to equal opportunity for qualified students to attend Western Illinois University.

2. Consistent with admission standards approved by the Board of Higher Education.

3. Published in appropriate university catalogs.
IV. Students (continued)

B. Student Financial Aid (Approved June 3, 2011)

1. Definition

Student financial aid includes tuition waivers, scholarships, grants, loans, and employment opportunities which are provided for students to assist them in meeting the costs of university attendance whether from university, state, federal, or private resources.

2. Financial Aid Policies

The University shall develop policies and procedures for the administration of its financial aid program. The policies and procedures shall become effective when approved by the President.

Financial aid policies shall be consistent with the Board's commitment to provide an equal opportunity to qualified Illinois residents. The policies shall include the following provisions and such other provisions as are necessary and appropriate:

a. Policies and procedures concerning the award of tuition waivers. The policies and procedures shall describe all tuition waivers issued by the University and the criteria for their award. The policies and procedures shall comply with Board of Higher Education tuition waiver policies and the other applicable laws, policies, rules, or requirements.

In compliance with 110 Illinois Compiled Statutes 605/8h, the University's policies and procedures for the award of tuition waivers shall provide that each eligible child of any Western Illinois University employee who has been by any one or by more than one Illinois college or university for an aggregate period of at least seven years shall upon proper application and verification of eligibility, be offered a fifty percent tuition waiver for any academic year for which he or she:

1) must verify that their mother or father has been employed for an aggregate period of at least seven years at one or more "Illinois college or university", which means any of the following: the University of Illinois, Southern Illinois University, Chicago State University, Eastern Illinois University, Governors State University, Illinois State University, Northeastern Illinois University, Northern Illinois University, and Western Illinois University

2) must verify that s/he is under the age of twenty-five at the commencement of the academic year during which the partial tuition waiver is effective;

3) qualifies for admission to Western Illinois University under the same admission requirements, standards, and policies which Western Illinois University applies to applicants for admission generally to its respective undergraduate colleges and program.

4) Subject to the provisions and limitations of subsection (b), an eligible applicant who has continued to maintain satisfactory academic progress toward graduation may have his or her partial tuition waiver renewed until the time as he or she has expended 4 years of undergraduate partial tuition waiver benefits under this Section.
IV. Students (continued)

B. Student Financial Aid (continued)

2. Financial Aid Policies (continued)

5) No partial tuition waiver offered or allocated to any eligible applicant in accordance with the provisions of this Section shall be charged against any tuition waiver limitation established by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

6) The Board shall prescribe rules and regulations as are necessary to implement and administer the provisions of this Section.

b. Policies and procedures concerning the employment and compensation of student hourly workers. The policies and procedures shall comply with the rules of the State Universities Civil Service System and with applicable state and federal employment law.

c. Policies and procedures concerning the appointment, hours of work, and compensation of graduate assistants. Graduate assistants may not hold faculty rank and must hold at least the baccalaureate degree or its equivalent.

3. Financial Aid Report

The President, or the President’s designee, shall submit an annual report to the Board on student financial aid programs at the University.
IV. Students (continued)

C. Residency Status (Approved October 2, 2015)

1. Definitions

For purposes of this regulation, the following definitions pertain:

a. An "adult student" is a student who is eighteen or more years of age.

b. A "minor student" is a student who is less than eighteen years of age.

c. An "emancipated minor student" is a completely self-supporting student who is less than eighteen years of age. Marriage or active military service shall be regarded as effecting the emancipation of minors, for the purposes of this regulation.

d. "Residence" means legal domicile. Voter registration, filing of tax returns, proper license and registration for driving or ownership of a vehicle, and other such transactions may verify intent of residence in a state. Neither length of university attendance nor continued presence in the university community during vacation periods shall be construed to be proof of Illinois residence. Except as otherwise provided in this regulation, no student, parent or legal or natural guardian will be considered a resident unless the student, parent or guardian maintains a bona fide and permanent residence in Illinois, except when temporarily absent from Illinois, with no intention of changing his or her legal residence to some other state or country.

2. Residency Determination

The University shall determine the residency status of each student enrolled in the University for the purpose of determining whether the student is assessed in-state or out-of-state tuition. Each applicant for admission shall submit at the time of application evidence for determination of residency in accordance with this regulation. The office responsible for admissions shall make a determination of residency status.

a. If a non-resident is classified by error as a resident, a change in tuition charges shall be applicable beginning with the term following reclassification. If the erroneous resident classification is caused by false information submitted by the student, a change in tuition charges shall be applicable for each term in which tuition charges were based on such false information. In addition, the student who has submitted false information may be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

b. If a resident is classified by error as a non-resident, a change in tuition charges shall be applicable during the term in which the reclassification occurs, provided that the student has proven residency in accordance with this regulation.
IV. Students (continued)

C. Residency Status (continued)

3. Residency Requirements

a. Adult Students

To be considered a resident, an adult student must be a bona fide resident of Illinois as defined in IV.C.1.d. In the case of adult students who reside with their parent(s), the student will be considered a resident if one of the parents has established and is maintaining a bona fide residence in Illinois.

To be considered a resident, an adult student not residing in Illinois must be a bona fide resident of one of the approval states outside of Illinois. The Board of Trustees will approve the appropriate states which will be listed in the cost section of the official Western Illinois University catalog.

b. Minor Students

The residence of a minor student shall be considered to be the same as that of his/her parents or that of either parent if the parents are separated or divorced or that of his/her legally appointed or natural guardian such as a grandparent, adult brother or adult sister, adult uncle or adult aunt by whom the minor has been supported.

c. Emancipated Minors

If emancipated minors actually reside in Illinois, such minors shall be considered residents even though their parents or guardians may not reside in Illinois.

d. Minor Children of Parents Transferred outside the State of Illinois

The minor children of persons who have resided in Illinois immediately prior to a transfer by their employers to some location outside of the State of Illinois shall be considered residents. This rule shall apply, however, only when the minor children of such parents enroll in the University within five years of the time their parents are transferred by their employer to a location outside the State of Illinois.

e. Married Students

A non-resident student, whether minor or adult, who is married to a person who meets and complies with all of the applicable requirements of these regulations to establish residence status, shall be classified as a resident.
C. Residency Status (continued)

3. Residency Requirements (continued)

f. Armed Forces Personnel

Non-residents of Illinois who are on active duty with one of the services of the Armed Forces of the United States who are stationed in Illinois and who submit evidence of such service and station, as well as the spouses and dependent children of such persons, shall be considered residents as long as such persons remain stationed in Illinois and the spouses and/or dependent children of such persons also reside in Illinois. If such persons are transferred to a post outside the continental United States but such persons remain registered at the university, residency status shall continue until such time as these persons are stationed within a state other than Illinois within the continental United States. Effective July 1, 2015, students using benefits under the federal Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 (Chapter 33), the All-Volunteer Force Educational Assistance (Chapter 30), or any subsequent variation of those Acts, WIU shall deem that student an Illinois resident for tuition purposes regardless of the covered student’s state of residence.

g. Staff Members of the University, Allied Agencies, and Faculty of State-Supported Institutions in Illinois

Staff members of the University and of allied agencies, and faculties of state-supported institutions of higher education in Illinois, holding appointment of at least one-quarter time, and their spouses and dependent children, shall be treated as residents.

h. Teachers in Public and Private Illinois Schools

Teachers in the public and private elementary and secondary schools of Illinois shall, if subject to payment of tuition, be assessed at the resident rate during any term in which they hold an appointment of at least one-quarter time, including the summer session immediately following the term in which the appointment was effective.

4. Residency Status Appeal Procedure

Students who take exception to their residency status classification shall pay the tuition assessed but may appeal to the University Registrar by proving Illinois residency in accordance with these regulations. The appeal must be filed within sixty (60) calendar days from the date of the tuition bill or the student loses all rights to a change of residency status for the term in question. If the student is dissatisfied with the ruling in response to the appeal made within said period, the student may file a written appeal within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the decision of the Administrative Hearing Committee, which shall consider all evidence submitted in connection with the case and render a decision which shall be final.
IV. Students (continued)

C. Residency Status (continued)

5. Special Situations

The President may, in special situations, grant residency status to categories of persons otherwise classified as non-residents under this regulation.
IV. Students (continued)

D. Student Conduct

The University shall develop policies concerning student rights and conduct. The policies and any changes shall become effective when approved by the President.

The policies shall include the following provisions and such other provisions as are necessary and appropriate:

1. Recognition of basic student rights.

2. Clarification of the distinction between university conduct standards and those established by civil and criminal statutes.

3. Specific prohibited conduct, with sanctions which may be imposed for such conduct.

4. Procedures for presenting complaints of prohibited conduct and a due process for determining whether violations have occurred.

5. Grievance procedures.
IV. Students (continued)

E. Student Activities and Organization

The University shall develop policies concerning student activities and organizations. The policies and any changes shall become effective when approved by the President.

The policies shall include the following provisions and such other provisions as are necessary and appropriate:

1. Procedures for recognition of approved university activities and organizations.

2. Procedures for the approval of allocations and expenditures of student activity funds.
IV. Students (continued)

F. Student Publications and Broadcasting Policies

The University shall develop policies concerning the operation of all student media which are supported in whole or in part by University funds. The policies and any changes shall become effective when approved by the President.

The policies shall include the following provisions and such other provisions as are necessary and appropriate:

1. Necessary management elements for the conduct of student media organizations, including specifying the line of authority and responsibility from the President to the staff of each organization.

2. Method of funding and procedures for budget approval.

3. Establishment of a staff organization, of fiscal authority responsibility, and of guidelines for the conduct of operations.

4. Provisions for a faculty/staff advisor and for selection of principal student staff and advisors.

5. Establishment of appropriate ethical and professional standards.

6. Complaint procedures.

7. Requirements for assuring compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.
IV. Students (continued)

G. Student Legal Services

The University may develop policies concerning the provision of student legal services. The policies and any changes shall become effective when approved by the President.

The policies shall include the following provisions and such other provisions as are necessary and appropriate:

1. That the attorney may be an independent contractor or an employee of the University.

2. That the attorney acts on behalf of students and not as an attorney or agent for the Board or the University.

3. Functions of the attorney, types and limitations of legal service which may be provided.

4. Establishment of an Advisory Board.
IV. Students (continued)

H. Student Housing

The University with student housing shall develop policies concerning student housing. The policies and any changes shall become effective when approved by the President.

The policies shall include the following provisions and such other provisions as are necessary and appropriate:

1. Eligibility for housing.
2. Procedures for assignment of housing.
4. Sanctions for violations of housing policies.
IV. Students (continued)

I. Military Science

The University shall develop policies concerning credit for students who enter active military service. The policies and any changes shall become effective when approved by the President.

The policies shall include the following provisions and such other provisions as are necessary and appropriate:

1. Provisions for course credit and residence credit for students who withdraw during the term.

2. Provisions for make up of coursework missed while attending annual training.
IV. Students (continued)

J. Intercollegiate Athletics Policy

An intercollegiate athletics program is an important and worthwhile activity. A properly administered program can make a significant contribution to the quality of campus and student life.

The primary responsibility for management of an intercollegiate athletics program rests with the President. The President's exercise of that responsibility is subject to applicable law and Board policies, including the following:

1. The President shall inform the Board in advance of any action or proposal which significantly affects the intercollegiate athletics program, including proposals to change conferences, athletic associations or divisions, or to add or drop sports.

2. State appropriations may be used to support the intercollegiate athletics program, but no more than 1.5 percent of the university's annual state appropriation may be expended for intercollegiate athletics. The University will advise the Board at the next scheduled Board meeting when expenditures exceed the 1.5 percent limit.

3. Student athletic fees may be used to support the intercollegiate athletics program, but increases in such fees should normally not exceed the projected rate of inflation for the year in which the increase is to take effect. Proposals to increase student athletic fees should not be presented for Board approval without prior consultation with appropriate student advisory bodies.

4. Every effort should be made to minimize reliance on state appropriations and student fees as revenue sources for intercollegiate athletics.

5. The President shall prepare an annual report for the Board on intercollegiate athletics which shall include appropriate financial and program information.