Reciprocity and Other Student Exchange Options, 2003

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House Higher Education Committee
Reciprocity and Other Student Exchange Options

**Formal Reciprocity**: a signed agreement between Washington and another state allowing some students to attend out-of-state with the waiver of all or a portion of non-resident tuition.

- Washington statutes allow reciprocity agreements with: Idaho, Oregon, and British Columbia.
- Today, only Idaho continues to sign agreements.
History of formal reciprocity

• Oregon reciprocity authorized in 1979
• Idaho and BC authorized in 1983.

• Highest total participation in 1990:
  WA received 1,100, sent 1,300.

• Beginning in mid-1990s:
  ✓ Several institutions in both Oregon and Washington withdrew from reciprocity.
  ✓ Oregon community colleges began charging in-state tuition to all Washington residents.
  ✓ Most Washington Community Colleges began charging reduced tuition to nonresidents by 2000.
  ✓ 1999: British Columbia withdrew from reciprocity.
  ✓ 2001: Oregon withdrew
Current Washington/Idaho reciprocity: Two agreements with Idaho for 2002-03

The largest agreement is with the Idaho State Board of Education:
- $850,000 waived by each state
- 190 students from each state participate

There is another agreement with North Idaho College:
- $80,000 waived by each state
- 45 students participate at NIC; 15 full-time in Washington institutions

For students under both agreements, all or a significant portion of non-resident tuition is waived.
Other exchange options:

• WICHE programs (15 western states).

• Border County Pilot Project (Washington and Oregon).

• National and international exchanges.

• Non-specific (or “Open” waiver) can be used for non-resident tuition
WICHE Exchange Programs
(15 western states are members of WICHE)

Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)
✓ Students pay 150% of resident tuition.
✓ Fall 2002: WA received 650, sent 1,760 students

Western Regional Graduate Program
✓ Students pay in-state tuition rates.
✓ Fall 2002: WA received 55, sent 47 students

Professional Student Exchange Program
✓ Sending state pays support fees.
✓ Fall 2002: WA received 74, sent 13 students
Border County Pilot Project

• Designates Oregon residents (in counties bordering Washington) as residents for tuition purposes.
• WA Community Colleges near the Oregon border charge in-state tuition to Oregon residents.
• WSU Vancouver and WSU Tri-Cities charge in-state tuition for 8 credits or less.
• These provisions correspond to policies in Oregon.

Participation in Fall 2000:
Oregon residents in Washington:
• 60 at WSU Vancouver, and 400 at 3 comm. coll.

Washington residents in Oregon:
• 240 at four-year, and 2,000 at all comm. coll.
National and International Exchanges

National:
• Under the “home tuition program,” four-year institutions participate in exchange agreements with institutions in other states.
• Students attend out-of-state while continuing to pay in-state tuition.

International:
• State statutes authorize four-year and two-year institutions to charge in-state tuition for limited numbers of foreign students.
• Maximums are specified:
  100 at research universities,
  20 at comprehensive institutions, and
  100 total at community colleges.
Non-Specific / “open” waiver

“Open” waiver allows tuition reductions at the discretion of colleges and universities.

Most Community Colleges in Washington waive all or a significant portion of non-resident tuition for out-of-state students.

Four-year institutions would be able to use this waiver for non-residents (no data on usage is available)
In summary

• Several thousand non-resident students attend Washington colleges and universities at reduced tuition.

• And, several thousand Washington residents enroll in other states at reduced rates.

Although formal reciprocity has diminished, other exchange options continue to be available for students who wish to come to Washington, and for Washington residents looking beyond the borders of this state.