



Iowa Energy Center Tuition Policy for Grants

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This policy is in effect for the period: July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

Principles

- Eligible grantees for the Energy Center include both undergraduate-only institutions and those awarding advanced degrees. The Energy Center tuition policy is intended to apply consistently and equitably to students working on Energy Center grants at all eligible institutions. Within the context of contribution to the goal(s) of the grant, the policy covers both undergraduate and graduate students.
- While educational institutions have multiple research, academic, and training priorities, the Energy Center's priority in providing a grant is the performance of the grant. The Energy Center will verify, prior to award of tuition, that the student work is necessary and critical to the performance of the grant.
- The Energy Center will strive to work within the individual tuition policies and procedures at each eligible institution.

Policy Statement

1. Only tuition will be paid, not additional fees since such fees will vary greatly and cover a wide variety of purposes.
2. For Iowa Regents Institutions, principal investigators may request reimbursement of tuition scholarships for graduate research assistants according to established institutional policy for proposals. For Iowa non-Regents institutions, the maximum tuition amount that will be reimbursed per graduate or qualified undergraduate student will be \$13,000 per year.
3. To qualify for tuition reimbursement from an Energy Center grant, students must be enrolled full time and must contribute significantly to the research goals of the grant. Exceptions to the full-time enrollment requirement may be made if the student's institution has a published policy allowing students to have full-time status (e.g., for the purposes of maintaining graduate assistantships) while registering for a reduced credit load. The Energy Center maintains the right to review the institution's policy and make the final decision on payment of tuition using Energy Center grant funds. Tuition will not be reimbursed for students working, on average, less than 20 hours per week on an Energy Center grant. Tuition will not be reimbursed for casual labor or for solely the financial benefit of the student.
4. Tuition scholarships must be used during the grant period for which they are budgeted. Budgeted tuition may not be used for any purpose other than payment of tuition. If actual tuition expenditures are less than the budgeted amount, the remaining tuition budget may not be used to cover shortfalls in any other budget category. However, funds from other grant budget categories may be used to cover a shortfall in tuition funds with the prior



written approval of the Energy Center. Tuition scholarships may not be "banked" by the institution for future use or diverted to any other use.

5. Tuition scholarships may not be transferred from one student to another without the written authorization of the Energy Center (for example, to replace a student who withdraws from school or is transferred to another, non-Energy Center, project). The student must work on the grant for the entire period (semester, quarter, block, etc.) for which the scholarship is provided. Tuition reimbursement will not be pro-rated based on the start or end date of the student engagement within a particular period. If a student fails to meet the work obligation and tuition reimbursements have already been made, the institution shall make financial restitution to the grant for the entire tuition amount paid during the affected academic period(s).
6. Eligibility for Energy Center tuition reimbursement remains tied to the minimum level of work effort regardless of the percentage of tuition actually charged to the Energy Center grant. If an institution chooses to charge less than the amount allowed under this policy against the Energy Center grant, the student remains obligated to the minimum level of work effort required by the Energy Center.
7. Tuition will cover student work on the grant only during the institution's academic periods (semesters, quarters, blocks, etc) for which the grant period also covers the entire academic period.

For example, if the Energy Center awards a grant having a start date of October 1, but the educational institution's fall semester began in August, tuition reimbursement will not be made for students during that fall semester.

Summer session tuition may present special challenges regarding student work effort and academic enrollment and should be discussed with the Iowa Energy Center prior to budgeting student employment and tuition on Energy Center grants.

Related Policies

Grant Budget Reallocation Policy



Last updated: 02.2014