

## 2001-2003 BIENNIUM TUITION RECOMMENDATION

### RECOMMENDATION

Consistent with the principle of shared benefits/shared responsibility as outlined in the HECB 2000 Master Plan, the Board recommends linking tuition increases at public colleges and universities for the 2001-2003 biennium to the rate of change in state per capita personal income (PCPI). The Board views PCPI as a measure of students' ability to pay an increased share of the cost of their education. It also recognizes the ongoing responsibility of the state to provide funding to ensure the availability and affordability of higher education for citizens of the state.

#### *Institutional Flexibility*

Consistent with directives in the current biennium, the Board recommends that tuition increases based on PCPI represent the maximum increase that students and families would be asked to pay. Colleges and universities would have the flexibility to set tuition lower than the maximum allowed tuition in response to local conditions and needs. In addition, each college and university would have the flexibility to use tuition proceeds to address its unique needs and priorities.

#### *2001-2003 Biennium Tuition Amounts*

The Fiscal Committee recommends using a three-year average of PCPI to calculate the percentage increase for each year of the next biennium. The table below displays the estimated average PCPI increases for the two years of the biennium, along with the resulting tuition levels **provided that the institutions increase tuition at the maximum percentage each year.** If institutions increase tuition at a lower percentage, the dollar amount in tuition charges to students would be reduced.

### Student Charges: Resident Undergraduates Annual Tuition (Operating and Building) *(Tuition Projections based on maximum PCPI percentage increases)*

	Projections:		Projections:		
	Current year:	2001-02	2001-02	2002-03	2002-03
	Tuition	Maximum % Increase	Tuition	Maximum % Increase	Tuition
UW	\$ 3,368	4.7%	\$ 3,526	3.8%	\$ 3,660
WSU	\$ 3,351	4.7%	\$ 3,509	3.8%	\$ 3,642
CWU	\$ 2,487	4.7%	\$ 2,604	3.8%	\$ 2,703
EWU	\$ 2,451	4.7%	\$ 2,566	3.8%	\$ 2,664
TESC	\$ 2,490	4.7%	\$ 2,607	3.8%	\$ 2,706
WWU	\$ 2,490	4.7%	\$ 2,607	3.8%	\$ 2,706
CTC's	\$ 1,476	4.7%	\$ 1,545	3.8%	\$ 1,604

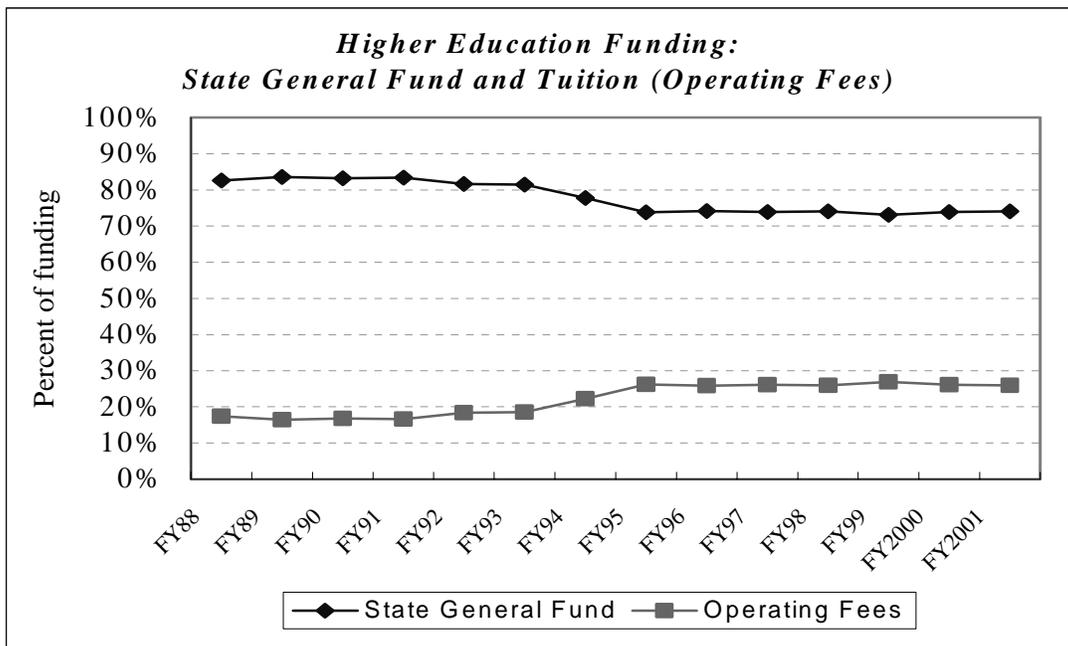
\* Does not include "services and activities fees" or "technology fees."

The calculations above represent **tuition** only. Most of tuition is comprised of "operating fees" (used for instruction), with a small portion dedicated to "building fees" (used for bond retirement

and building projects). In addition, students are charged “services and activities fees,” as well as “technology fees” at some institutions.

**Historical Review of Tuition in Washington**

The chart below displays the funding history for public higher education as reflected in State General Fund appropriations and revenue provided through tuition. In the early 1990s, tuition as a portion of funding increased substantially as the State General Fund portion decreased. Recently, the relative share of each has stabilized. The Board’s recommendation to the state to link tuition increases to PCPI while continuing its commitment to higher education will maintain the current proportional share of funding.



Note: The above graph reflects total State General Fund appropriations and total revenue from operating fees.