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## LOUISIANA COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

**TO:** Dr. Monty Sullivan  
President

**FROM:** Joseph F. Marin   
Chief Operations Officer

**SUBJECT:** Tuition and Mandatory Fees for Academic Year 2018-2019

**DATE:** May 14, 2018

### FOR BOARD ACTION

**Recommendation:** Given concerns of tuition affordability, staff recommends that the Board continue the past practice and not increase tuition and mandatory fees at LCTCS colleges for Academic Year 2018-2019 and furthermore grant authority to the system president to negotiate and enter into any agreements necessary to reduce tuition should other resources be identified to offset lost revenues from such reductions with a subsequent report of such actions provided to the board.

**Background:** After consecutive years of annual 10% GRAD Act tuition increases, the annual tuition rate of LCTCS colleges is approximately \$1,000 above the southern average at a time when many in the state are facing economic hardships. To help minimize this burden, the LCTCS Board has taken steps to authorize LCTCS colleges to enact institutional aid efforts through such endeavors as the "5 for 6" initiative. While these initiatives have had some measure of success, the ultimate relief that can be afforded to students is to keep the tuition and mandatory fees at academic year 2017-2018 levels even in the face of inflationary cost factors and potential reduced state resources faced by LCTCS colleges for the oncoming fiscal year.

Given the above, there have been public policy discussions regarding the impact that an infusion of state resources could have as a means to both offset and lower tuition rates and/or to provide further state funded scholarship opportunities. With ongoing legislative deliberations, the final outcome of the legislative session is unknown. However, authority to the LCTCS President is sought in this board item in the event some action is taken that requires immediate action by an LCTCS representative.

**Fiscal Impact:** N/A

**History of Prior Action:** The last GRAD Act tuition increase was approved for the 2015-2016 academic year at the June 2015 meeting. The board approved assessing tuition and mandatory fees for the 2016-2017 academic year for sixteen or more student credit hours at the September 2016 meeting.

  
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**Approved for Recommendation to the Board**  
**Dr. Monty Sullivan, President**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**