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Why are we implementing guaranteed tuition plans?
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (TAMUCC) believes that students and their families should know the costs of obtaining a degree up front and should be able to rely on those costs not increasing if the student commits to graduating on time. With the introduction of a fixed tuition and fee rate, students can count on a consistent rate while enrolled. Our guaranteed tuition plan includes both tuition and fees and complies with House Bill 29 passed by the Texas Legislature in 2013 requiring a guaranteed rate for tuition at a minimum for students at public universities.

What are the benefits of having a guaranteed tuition plan?
The guaranteed tuition plan provides predictability for students and their families regarding tuition and fee charges, and locks in their expected charges for the expected length of their program if a student graduates on time. The plan further incentivizes students to graduate on time and simplifies the overall tuition and fee structure at TAMUCC.

Does the guaranteed tuition plan apply to graduate students?
No, the guaranteed tuition plan only applies to undergraduate students.

Does the guaranteed tuition plan apply to non-resident students?
No, the guaranteed tuition plan only applies to resident students.

What tuition and fees are included in the guaranteed tuition plan?
Tuition and mandatory fees (State mandated tuition, designated tuition, differential tuition, Student Services Fee, Athletic Fee, Student Center Complex Fee, Health Services Fee, Rec Sports Fee, and University Services Fee) are included in the guaranteed tuition plan.

What fees are excluded in the guaranteed tuition plan?
Field trip fees, study abroad fees, lab fees, e-line fees, threepeat fees, excess credit hour fees, parking fees, other non-mandatory fees, and other non-academic costs (e.g. room and board, books, supplies, etc.) are not included in the guaranteed tuition plan.

Will each college have a different guaranteed tuition rate?
Yes, due to differential tuition amounts, colleges will have different guaranteed tuition rates.

How long does a student receive the guaranteed tuition plan?
All undergraduate resident students will be placed on a guaranteed tuition plan based upon their number of semester credit hours. For incoming freshman students, First Time In College/high school dual credit students and for current and transfer students with less than 30 semester credit hours, the rate is fixed for 4 years (12 semesters).

**See stop outs below for more information on continuous enrollment

Please note the time period of a guaranteed plan is a continuous clock regardless of whether the student maintains continuous enrollment.
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Will students at TAMUCC opt into the guaranteed tuition plan?
No, undergraduate resident students will be automatically placed on a guaranteed tuition plan.

Do students need to be full time to have a guaranteed tuition plan?
No, the rates are guaranteed even for part-time students, but the length of the guarantee remains the same. Students can be full-time in one semester and part-time in another semester, but the rates charged are those that were set for the cohort the student entered with.

Will a student taking less than 12 hours be charged the same rate as a full-time student?
No, students are charged only for the hours they register for in any given semester as there is a separate rate for each hour that is charged.

How is the guaranteed tuition plan assigned to a student?
The length of a guaranteed plan is based on a student's classification. First time students in college and currently enrolled and transfer students with fewer than 30 hours in Fall 2014 will receive the plan for 12 consecutive semesters (4 years). Currently enrolled and transfer students with 30 – 59 hours in Fall 2014 will receive the plan for 9 consecutive semesters (3 years). Currently enrolled and transfer students with 60 – 89 hours in Fall 2014 will receive the plan for 6 consecutive semesters (2 years). Currently enrolled and transfer students with greater than 90 hours in Fall 2014 will receive the plan for 3 consecutive semesters (1 year).

What are the cohorts that will be assigned in fall 2014?
Beginning fall 2014 these are the cohorts:
- Freshmen 0-29 hours earned and First Time In College/high school dual credit students (12 semesters/4 year plan)
- Sophomore 30-59 hours earned (9 semesters/3 year plan)
- Junior 60-89 hours earned (6 semesters/2 year plan)
- Senior/Post Baccalaureate more than 90 hours earned (3 semesters/1 year plan)

Term counts include summers. The guarantee is for a specific length of time based on the length of the program, regardless of whether the student enrolls in every term.

Are instructional enhancement fees a separate charge on a student bill?
No, instructional enhancement fees have been eliminated.

Is there still differential tuition being charged to students?
Yes, students will still be charged differential tuition based upon the college of their major, but differential tuition is included in the guaranteed tuition plan.
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Are there guaranteed tuition plans in the summer?
Summer rates are still pending, but separate tuition and fee tables for summer will be available on the web in early Spring.

Will currently enrolled student be placed in a guaranteed tuition plan?
Yes, all undergraduate resident students will be placed in a plan.

How will continuing students be assigned a guaranteed tuition plan length?
Students will be assigned a plan based on their classification as of the end of Summer I 2014 Session.
- Freshmen 0-29 hours earned and First Time In College/high school dual credit students (12 semesters/4 year plan)
- Sophomore 30-59 hours earned (9 semesters/3 year plan)
- Junior 60-89 hours earned (6 semesters/2 year plan)
- Senior/Post Baccalaureate more than 90 hours earned (3 semesters/1 year plan)

How will current transfer students be assigned into a cohort?
Transfer students will be assigned a plan based on their classification.
- Freshmen 0-29 hours earned (12 semesters/4 year plan)
- Sophomore 30-59 hours earned (9 semesters/3 year plan)
- Junior 60-89 hours earned (6 semesters/2 year plan)
- Senior/Post Baccalaureate more than 90 hours earned (3 semesters/1 year plan)

What happens if a student changes their major?
Their guaranteed tuition rate will change based on the new major, but will be the rate charged to other students in that major from the same cohort.

What happens if a student stops out (Leaves and returns to the university)?
Students who leave the university for regular semester (fall/spring) would retain their original rate and time period. Please note the time period is a continuous clock regardless of whether the student maintains continuous enrollment.

What happens if a student does not graduate within the allotted time frame of the cohort assigned to them?
Students, who do not graduate within the allowed number of semesters of their guaranteed tuition cohort, will be placed into the incoming Freshman cohort for that year.

Can a student appeal for extenuating circumstances?
Yes, students can do this through an Appeals Panel.
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What are the circumstances in which a student may appeal for extenuating circumstances?
Some circumstances that are considered extenuating include military activation, significant medical issues that prevent enrollment for one or more semesters, disabilities verified through disability services, Title IX situations, seniors in the military science pre-commissioning program, seniors working on double majors, and other unusual circumstances. The following are not considered extenuating circumstances for an appeal: part-time student, academic suspension, suspension for code of conduct violation, financial aid suspension.

Can students still be charged a higher tuition rate for exceeding credit hours cap imposed by the state?
Yes, students exceeding the state credit hour cap will have to pay an additional excess credit hour fee.

Can students still be charged a higher tuition rate for repeat courses for a third time?
Yes, the guaranteed rate does not cover courses that a student enrolls in for a third time and a threepeat fee will be applied to their account.

How will summer 14 transfers be treated?
For summer 2014, students will be charged under the current summer rates. Beginning in fall 2014 these students will be placed in the appropriate cohort just like other current transfer students.

What rate will be assigned to students who are dual degree seekers?
Degree seekers who are minoring in a subject will be placed in the guarantee tuition and fee rate plan based on their primary major.

Does prior enrollment count toward a student’s guaranteed tuition and fee plan?
Yes, a student’s plan will be determined by the number of semester credit hours they have earned at TAMUCC or at another institution.

Are students who are distance education in a guaranteed tuition plan?
TAMUCC does not currently offer bachelor degrees exclusively through distance education. However, some distance education courses, such as those taught through the College of Education, may have additional charges above the guaranteed tuition rate. A student can elect to enroll in a distance education course for which a distance education fee is assessed. Students will be aware at the time of registration if they are enrolling in a course with an additional distance education fee.

What will the undergraduate students in a Nursing Major be charged?
For the first two years, undergraduate students in the pre-nursing major will be charged the guaranteed tuition rate for Other Colleges. When the student is fully admitted into the Nursing program they will transition to the upper level portion of their program and their rate will be changed to a per hour guaranteed rate for Nursing for the remaining two years.
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
Guarantee Tuition and Fee Plans
Frequently Asked Questions
June 2, 2014

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What will the undergraduate students in College of Business majors be charged?
A student that has declared a College of Business major will be charged the per hour guaranteed rate for College of Business.

Do semesters of withdrawal count towards the guaranteed tuition plans years?
Yes, students who leave the university and then return will retain their original rate provided their time period has not expired. In the event that the time period has expired, the student will have a guaranteed rate based on the rate for new freshman students entering at that time.

How will students in the Employee Betterment Program be affected?
Employees in the EBP will be placed in a cohort based upon their number of semester credit hours. They will continue to pay 50% of the TAMUCC current resident tuition cost per semester credit hour.