

PROGRAM FEE MODIFICATION

University: **University of Arizona** College: **James E. Rogers College of Law**
Program: **Juris Doctor (JD), Resident Tuition**

Graduate X Undergraduate Upper Division Lower Division Both

New	\$..... (Proposed)	Fall 2016 (Effective Date)	Proposed fee to be applied as: X Per Term <input type="checkbox"/> Per Unit, Total of ___ Units per Program
JD Existing	\$24,500-fixed (excluding mandatory fees) (Proposed Annual)	\$24,500-fixed <u>2015</u> (Current) (Year Approved)	Proposed fee to be applied: X Fall X Spring <input type="checkbox"/> Summer <input type="checkbox"/> Winter Date Submitted: 11/2015

Rationale for Request The College of Law has a longstanding commitment to accessibility in its JD program(s), demonstrated by its competitive pricing models and healthy financial aid offerings. All ABOR approved College of Law professional degree programs are currently offered under a flat/fixed tuition cost structure, providing students with more transparency and predictability in managing their cost of education. Maintaining these flat/fixed rates is vital to the long-term strategy and success of each program, and as such, this request clarifies the following components to the JD resident tuition structure:

- The need for the University's **mandatory fees to be charged in excess of each flat/fixed tuition rate**. Mandatory fees are assessed to all students in addition to tuition, as approved by the Arizona Board of Regents. These fees cover centralized student services such as an Arizona State Financial Aid Trust fee, a Health and Recreation fee, Information Technology and Library fee, Student Media fee, Recreation Center Bond Retirement fee, Recreation Center Program fee, Student Services fee, and a Wildcat Events Board fee. Separating mandatory fees from the College of Law's total cost will ensure these services are adequately funded, without impacting the overall revenue available to support the law programs. **No change in Law tuition and fees.**

Compliance with Board Guidelines

Quality of Student Experience: As a highly-regulated professional program, our accreditation process mandates significant resource inputs and quality checks to ensure a high-quality experience for students in all programs.

Access and Affordability: One of the strongest criticisms of legal education is the high cost, and the cost of law school has increased starkly over the past ten years. The sustained and substantial decrease in law school applicants nationally and in the West over the last five years means a more competitive environment for attracting the best students from Arizona and beyond. The College has worked to cut spending, but is also focused on finding additional revenue streams that will allow a competitively priced JD tuition without sacrificing quality. Maintaining tuition at \$24,500 for resident JD students will allow us to deliver increased value as well as greater transparency in our pricing, while maintaining an outstanding legal education for all students.

Cost of Instruction: The JD and AJD programs operate as fully integrated programs, sharing and leveraging the same costs of instruction. Tuition funding continues to be applied to improve the College's library and research materials, student affairs areas, career and professional development opportunities, and increase the course offerings and focus areas to meet student demands. The costs of instruction also includes the amount of individual, student-focused time faculty spend with each student, research and instructional facilities, administration, and student support funds necessary to make all law programs successful. There are cost efficiencies in that the library costs are already fixed and there is significant overlap in courses, administrative costs, materials and operating costs from the existing JD and all other legal programs. Annual expenditures include costs incurred against base tuition, program fees, and/or state funds.

Increased Earnings Potential of Program Graduates: An affordable and predictable JD education cost enables more graduates to enter the workforce prepared to provide economic return on investment from their degree, as opposed to the fear and burden many JD students face of incurring high student loans, which often

inhibits the decision to attend law school. Maintaining a fixed tuition price for in-state JD/AJD students may incentivize more AZ residents to attend law school and provide an opportunity for these residents to contribute back to their communities. Students who graduate with less debt have more options in their career paths, including careers in public service or in serving clients who cannot afford to pay market rates.

Student Consultation The College of Law's recent fixed tuition from Fall 2014 received a lot of interest, praise and support from students and the broader legal community. Students support the College of Law's effort to maintain a flat/fixed tuition pricing and the need to better integrate the JD and AJD programs. Arizona Law students are very concerned about the cost of JD tuition. At the same time they recognize that resources are required to maintain excellence. Students therefore understand that mandatory fees are a required part of attendance for all students, and that the fees and revenue collected are held centrally in order to maintain UA student services. **Separating mandatory fees from the College of Law's flat/fixed tuition ensures that more tuition revenue is available for vital program needs.**

MARKET PRICING (~200) Board of Regents Peers – 2015-16 Pricing

School	Resident Law Tuition	Non-Resident Law Tuition
University of California, Davis	\$47,339	\$56,590
University of California, LA	\$45,284	\$51,778
Penn State University	\$45,078	\$45,078
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign	\$42,093	\$49,843
University of Minnesota	\$42,230	\$48,710
Michigan State University	\$37,322	\$37,372
University of Texas, Austin	\$33,162	\$49,244
University of Washington	\$30,891	\$43,053
University of Maryland	\$30,177	\$43,657
Ohio State University	\$29,104	\$44,056
University of Arizona	\$24,500 / \$1,022 fees	\$29,000 / \$1,022 fees
University of Iowa	\$24,177	\$42,021
University of North Carolina	\$23,041	\$39,672
University of Florida	\$22,299	\$38,904
University of Wisconsin	\$21,378	\$40,074

ACCOUNTABILITY

Proposed Annual Revenue

Program Fee	\$	24,500 resident
Number of Students	#	~250
Total Revenue	=	6,125,000

Proposed Annual Expenditures

Financial Aid Set Aside (14%)	\$	857,500
Administrative Charge (10%)	\$	526,750
Institutional and Advising Personnel	\$	2,922,000
Support Staff Expense	\$	974,000
Operating Expenses	\$	844,750
Total Program Costs*	=	6,125,000