

PROGRAM FEE MODIFICATION

University: **University of Arizona** College: **James E. Rogers College of Law**
 Program: **Master of Professional Studies in Indigenous Governance (MPS)**

Graduate X Undergraduate Upper Division Lower Division Both

<p>New \$..... Fall 2016 (Proposed) (Effective Date)</p> <p>Proposed: \$26,000-fixed (excluding mandatory fees) \$866.67/unit fixed (per credit) plus mandatory fees</p> <p>Current: \$26,000-fixed (fixed cost) 2013 (Year Approved)</p>	<p>Proposed fee to be applied as: <input type="checkbox"/> Per Term X Per Unit, Total of 30 Units per Program</p> <p>Proposed fee to be applied: X Fall X Spring X Summer X Winter</p> <p>Date Submitted: November 2015</p>
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Rationale for Request (~100 words)

The Master of Professional Studies (MPS) in Indigenous Governance degree program was introduced in Fall 2013, largely in response to demand by non-lawyer, indigenous elected officials, government employees, and practitioners in indigenous rights. The original program fee (tuition) requested, and approved, was a flat/fixed rate tuition of \$26,000. Since approval, it's become evident that the program needs to be adjusted to accommodate part-time students—the clear target market for this degree. To accommodate all students, we are requesting to maintain overall tuition at \$26,000, but are requesting that the tuition be structured on a pro-rated, **per-unit basis of \$866.67/unit. Mandatory fees will be assessed in addition to the fixed-unit price of \$866.67/unit.** This pricing structure will increase access to the degree for all interested individuals, and will become similarly priced to the Master of Legal Studies (MLS) program.

Compliance with Board Guidelines (~250 words)

Quality of Student Experience:

The MPS program is one of the suite of programs offered as part of the College of Law's Indigenous People's Law and Policy Program (IPLP). An Academic Program Review conducted in Fall 2012 described that experience as an "exceptional instructional model that allows students to simultaneously engage with theoretical classroom teachings [and gain] real-life practical experience through clinical instructions/advocacy workshops and other outreach projects." The proposed change in fees will improve the quality of student experience by allowing for a more diverse enrollment in MPS courses—including practitioners, professionals, and Native leaders—which will benefit all involved.

Student Access and Affordability: The proposed change in fees will greatly improve student access, while maintaining affordability. As demonstrated in the tuition comparisons below, the MPS continues to be priced competitively, and, more importantly, the change in fees will allow part-time student participation, which is where the demand for courses in Indigenous governance currently lies. Since this is a professional program, no financial aid set aside funds will be awarded, but scholarship funds may be available.

Cost of Instruction: The proposed change in fees is not likely to alter the cost of instruction. The costs of instruction includes, but are not limited to, the amount of individual, student-focused time faculty spend with each student, the costs of providing a fully-equipped legal library, as well as 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.

Likelihood to Enhance Potential Earnings for Graduates: The MPS program attracts students seeking to enhance their knowledge of the intersection of law, governance, and public administration. The proposed per-unit rate structure will allow working professionals and part-time students to earn an affordable master's degree they otherwise could not have accessed. According to both the U.S. Census Bureau and the Pew Research Center, individuals with Master's degrees significantly out-earn their counterparts who only have undergraduate degrees. The majority of our students are individuals seeking their first graduate level degree, and it is very likely to benefit their earning potential.

Student Consultation (~100 words)

Prior to the approval of the MPS, courses were offered to students interested in the field of Indigenous governance (in part, to gauge interest for a degree program). Over the course of that trial period and the time after the MPS's approval, more than 70 individuals have participated in MPS courses. The vast majority of these students have indicated—in one form or another—a desire for more flexible course offerings and a pro-rated fee structure to enable continuing education while maintaining their other professional obligations. Throughout that same time frame, our program has received dozens of requests for part-time access to the MPS. This feedback has been nearly universal in support of a change of this nature.

MARKET PRICING (~200 words)

Although the MPS in Indigenous Governance is a unique degree, one can compare an average graduate degree at peer institutions with the full-price of the MPS at the University of Arizona and can see that the MPS will remain a competitively priced degree with the proposed changes:

Institution	Tuition & Fees
Pennsylvania State U	\$39,110 (full year)
U Minnesota-Twin Cities	\$33,488 (full year)
Michigan State U	\$30,416 (full year)
U California-Davis	\$26,742 (full year)
The University of Arizona	\$26,000 (full 30 credits)
U California-Los Angeles	\$25,644 (full year)
U Wisconsin-Madison	\$24,190 (full year)
U Texas-Austin	\$22,272 (full year)
U Iowa	\$19,555 (full year)

ACCOUNTABILITY

Proposed Annual Revenue

Program Fee	\$	26,000 (\$866.67/unit * 30)
Number of Students	#	~6 full-time equivalent
Total Revenue	=	\$156,000

Proposed Annual Expenditures

Administrative Charge (14.38%; 12.38% RCM tax + 2% SI)	\$	22,500
Institutional and Advising Personnel	\$	100,000
Support Staff Expense	\$	20,000
Operating Expenses/Student Services and Support, other	\$	13,500
Total Program Costs	=	\$156,000