

Tuition Review Proposal

February 6, 2025



Proposal Summary

Background

City Colleges adjusted tuition for this current fiscal year by \$7 per credit hour.

- That adjustment came after 8 years without increases to tuition, which had been held at \$146 per credit hour since FY16
- That adjustment was also insufficient, on its own, to maintain desired levels of student services and supports and still required some use of cash reserves.
- At the time, City Colleges signaled to the Board that it would be asked to consider annual incremental adjustments thereafter.

Guiding Principle

City Colleges seeks to maintain affordability as Chicago's most accessible higher education engine of socio-economic mobility while ensuring continued investments in student supports and services and in key priorities.

Context

All community colleges enter this current budget season with uncertainty around levels of state funding going into FY26.

City Colleges is committed to preserving comprehensive supports for students

Student Supports include:

- Enrollment management and admissions teams
- Financial aid teams
- Academic advisors
- Tutors
- First-Year Experience directors/assistant deans
- Career centers
- Transfer centers
- Access centers
- Athletics
- Wellness centers
- Nights/weekend telehealth
- Virtual student services
- Veteran's centers
- Undocumented student liaisons
- Child Development Lab Schools
- Food pantries
- Housing insecure student liaisons
- Benefits coordinators
- One Million Degrees
- Tech equity



Tuition Plan Proposal

The proposed tuition increase for FY26 is for \$4/credit hour and will result in the following credit hour rates:

Fiscal Year	In-District	Out-of-District	Out-of-State	International
FY 25 (Current)	\$153	\$403	\$505	\$505
FY 26 (Proposed)	\$157	\$414	\$518	\$518

- Impact to full-time (enrolled in 12-credit hours) would be a semester increase of \$48 or an annual increase of \$96.
- Proportional increases are proposed for programs with specialized tuition rates, including Nursing, Licensed Practical Nursing, Radiography, Dental Hygiene, Basic Nursing Assistant, and Aviation.
- Similar to last year, City Colleges would offer an early-registration discount to students who register for classes (in Summer, Fall, or Spring terms) by June 29, 2025. Students registering by this date will continue to pay the current FY25 rates. Those registering June 30 and thereafter will pay tuition at the new rate.