

BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

NO.: BHE 26-52

BOARD DATE: April 7, 2026

**ALTERNATIVE NON-RESIDENT UNDERGRADUATE TUITION RATES – BERKSHIRE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2027**

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education adopts the following alternative tuition rates and enrollment caps for new, non-resident, undergraduate students at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and Berkshire Community College for Fiscal Year 2027:

Alternative Non-Resident Undergraduate Tuition Rates

	Change	Rate Per Credit
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts	\$0	\$1,545
Berkshire Community College	\$0	\$39

Enrollment Caps for New Students

	# of Students	Change
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts	125	0
Berkshire Community College	40	0

VOTED: Motion adopted by the BHE on 4/7/2026.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 15A, Section 9(i)

Contact: Matt Cole, Deputy Commissioner for Administration, Finance, and Operations

Background

The Alternative Tuition Program allows residents of New York to attend Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and Berkshire Community College at tuition rates set at reduced out-of-state rates. The rate currently is set at 150 percent of resident student tuition and mirrors the rate charged to students under the New England Regional Student Program through the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE). New York is not a NEBHE participant.

The number of students accepted each year under the alternative tuition arrangement is restricted. The cap is set collaboratively with the associated institutions.

The Alternative Tuition Program supports efforts at both institutions to increase enrollment. The program also provides an important link between the Berkshires and the Albany region for the Commonwealth and the county to develop strategies to strengthen and expand the regional economy.

Letters of support from the institutions participating in the Alternative Tuition Program are included in Attachments A and B.