



AB 06-04

ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN

Date: May 4, 2006

Subject: Technical College Participation in the Midwest Student Exchange Program

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Effective: June 1, 2006

At its January 24, 2006 meeting, the Wisconsin Technical College System Board adopted a resolution authorizing WTCS participation in the Midwest Student Exchange Program (MSEP) operated by the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC). As a result of this action, individual technical college districts may now choose to become institutional participants in MSEP.

In 1994, MHEC established the Midwest Student Exchange Program (MSEP) to encourage student access to postsecondary education. Through the student exchange program, MHEC provides more affordable opportunities for students to attend out-of-state institutions.

Participation in MSEP is limited to students who meet all three of the following restrictions:

- Residents of states who are members of the MSEP. Note: although Minnesota is a member state, the statewide reciprocity agreement already exempts Minnesota residents from all out-of-state tuition; participation in MSEP would not be advantageous for Minnesota residents or to other non-resident students eligible to enroll in a Wisconsin technical college under institutional reciprocity agreements.
- Accepted into programs designed by the district.
- Enrolled in courses at the collegiate transfer (aid code 20) and associate degree (aid code 10) level.

More details about MSEP and its potential benefits to Wisconsin are available on the MSEP website at <http://msep.mhec.org/>.

Daniel Clancy, President

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For a technical college to participate in MSEP each of the following steps must be completed and the supporting materials documenting their completion sent to M. J. Best at the System Office:

1. Technical college district board must adopt a resolution committing the college to participate in MSEP (Attachment A);
2. Technical college must:
 - a. Complete and forward to the System Office a Midwest Student Exchange Program Institutional Participation Declaration (Attachment B);
 - b. Develop and implement policies to enroll non-resident students through MSEP. These policies shall ensure that the district will charge MSEP students 150% of the appropriate resident student program fee rates established by the State Board for Associate Degree and Collegiate Transfer program credits for the fiscal year in which the students are enrolled. In addition, these policies shall ensure that no Wisconsin resident seeking admission to a specific program will be denied admission to that program in order for the institution to admit an MSEP student to that program. These policies are to be kept on file in the district office and copies forwarded to the System Office;
 - c. Develop and implement procedures to identify on an annual basis programs leading to an associate degree that would accept MSEP students and students actually enrolled through MSEP;
 - d. Identify an institutional contact for MSEP and communicate that assignment to the System Office;
 - e. Compile a list of eligible programs and a brief description of the college and admission procedures a student would need to follow to enroll as an MSEP student suitable for posting to the MSEP website and communicate this information to the System Office by June 1st of each year.

For further guidance on implementation and reporting of enrollment and educational services provided to MSEP students, district personnel should consult the Student Fees section of the WTCS Client Reporting System Users' Guide and Client Reporting System section of the Information Systems Manual.

Sincerely,



Daniel Clancy
President
Wisconsin Technical College System

**Model District Board Resolution
Authorizing Participation in the Midwest Student Exchange Program**

Whereas existing Wisconsin statutes discourage enrollment in Wisconsin technical colleges by non-resident students by requiring the Wisconsin Technical College System Board to establish a non-resident fee based on 100% of the statewide cost per full-time equivalent student for operating the programs in which they are enrolled;

Whereas state labor economists and employers are predicting a growing shortage of skilled labor in Wisconsin over the coming decades and Wisconsin's technical colleges could assist the state in meeting this demand for skilled workers by attracting non-residents who, like most graduates of Wisconsin's technical colleges, would be more likely to remain in Wisconsin after completing their studies than graduates of other postsecondary institutions;

Whereas the State of Wisconsin is a signatory to the Midwestern Higher Education Compact and technical college participation in the Midwest Student Exchange Program (MSEP) operated by the Midwestern Higher Education Compact would provide expanded opportunities for students from other Midwestern states to attend Wisconsin technical colleges at a much reduced rate of tuition compared to the current non-resident tuition and fees;

Whereas technical college participation in MSEP also is desirable to the extent that it results in increasing flows of students from other states to Wisconsin who then become residents and members of the state's work force;

Whereas each technical college participating in MSEP retains the right to determine the programs leading to an associate degree that will admit MSEP students and the number of MSEP students the technical college district accepts into those programs;

Whereas no state resident will be displaced from an associate degree or collegiate transfer program offered by the **[insert district name]** Technical College by the enrollment of an MSEP student; and

Whereas the Wisconsin Technical College System Board has adopted a resolution at its January 24, 2006 meeting to authorize the President of the WTCS to enter into a participation agreement with the Midwestern Higher Education Compact and to appoint a representative to the Midwest Student Exchange Program;

Therefore, be it resolved that the **[insert district name]** Technical College District Board directs the President of **[insert district name]** Technical College to enter into an MSEP institutional participation agreement with the Midwestern Higher Education Compact and complete any other steps required by the System Office to permit the college to accept MSEP students.



Midwest Student Exchange Program (MSEP) Institutional Participation Declaration

Institution: _____ Date: _____
State: _____ Phone: _____
Contact: _____ E-Mail: _____
Title: _____ Fax: _____
Address: _____

This document is intended to signify the desire of this higher education institution to participate in the Midwest Student Exchange Program (MSEP) as defined in the Participation Agreement adopted by the participating state. This institution specifically acknowledges that participation in this agreement requires that it will undertake the following commitments, as well as such other actions that may be required from time to time by the Participation Agreement.

- a. Students admitted under the Midwest Student Exchange Program will be charged a tuition fee that is no more than 150% of regular in-state tuition when attending a public institution. Students admitted to an independent institution under this exchange program should receive at least a 10 percent reduction in the posted regular tuition.
- b. Once a student is admitted to a program under the exchange agreement, that student shall continue to receive the discounted fee as long as he or she remains in the program (or has an approved leave of absence) and maintains satisfactory academic progress regardless of the subsequent status of the Participation Agreement or the institution's participation in the exchange program.
- c. The institution agrees to provide the state contact in a timely manner all data requested by the Midwestern Higher Education Commission to document exchange student participation.

Signed by Chief Executive Officer or Designate