

Submitted: July 16, 2007
Approved: August 2, 2007

Recommendation #8: Offsetting expenses associated with the Washington Center Program with tuition revenue
Issue number: T-08

Background

Iowa State University, in conjunction with the Washington Center, offers its students the opportunity to gain academic credit and first hand professional work experience in the governmental, nonprofit, and private sectors through a summer or semester-long internship in the nation's capital. The Washington Center places students in a variety of internships and also offers a wide array of academic programs and seminars to complement their internship experience. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Career Services office is the institutional liaison office with the Washington Center.

A student that participates in this program is assessed tuition in the normal manner. The Washington Center bills ISU a fixed program fee per student. ISU pays the Washington Center for this fee up to the amount of tuition paid by the participating student. The student directly pays the Washington Center any remaining balance. Typically, these students are enrolled in the Political Science major, but the program is not restricted. In FY06 the amount that ISU paid to the Washington Center was approximately \$32,900. In FY07 the amount that ISU is estimated to pay is approximately \$20,000.

Recommendation

Because the tuition revenue for the students will be distributed entirely to the colleges, it is recommended that the current practice of centrally managing the costs of the Washington Center Program be discontinued and that the expenses be the responsibility of the college where the student is enrolled.

The students enrolled in the Washington Center Program are counted in the 10th day enrollment census file for the Fall term and would therefore be included in the allocation statistics for allocating the Student Services, IT Services and Library expense pools.