

STATE AUDITOR  
ROBERT R. PETERSON



STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
**OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR**  
STATE CAPITOL  
600 E. BOULEVARD AVE. - DEPT. 117  
BISMARCK, ND 58505

PHONE  
(701) 328-2241  
FAX  
(701) 328-1406

## Legislative Audit and Fiscal Review Committee

### Information Related to Future Performance Audits

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NDCC Section 54-10-01, Subsection 4 states the State Auditor is to perform or provide "for performance audits of state agencies as determined necessary by the state auditor or the legislative audit and fiscal review committee."

In March 2012, the Legislative Audit and Fiscal Review Committee passed a motion for the State Auditor to conduct a performance audit of tuition waivers and student stipends at North Dakota University Systems. The motion requested the audit review information starting with the 2008-09 academic year moving forward and identified 12 specific items for the performance audit to include. Attached to this testimony is the motion as identified in the meeting minutes.

Due to various factors, including projects the audit team worked on and significant turnover within the performance audit section, no performance audit has been performed on tuition waivers. The Office of the State Auditor respectfully brings this motion to the Committee's attention to determine whether this area is still a topic the Committee would like to have a performance audit completed. If so, the Office of the State Auditor would like the Committee to consider the starting date for reviewing information as well as considering the 12 specific items the audit was to include.

The Office of the State Auditor is working on audit follow-ups of past performance audits. Upon completion of this work, a new performance audit would be started. If tuition waivers are still a topic the Committee would like, this could be the next audit started. If it is not, the Office of the State Auditor is considering a number of potential audit topics including the following areas:

- One time funding provided by the 2013 Legislature
- Various oil related topics and operations
- Department of Trust Lands

## *Exert from March 27, 2012 LAFRC Minutes*

It was moved by Representative Skarphol, seconded by Representative Kreidt, that pursuant to Section 54-10-01, the State Auditor conduct a performance audit of the use of tuition waivers and student stipends at North Dakota University System institutions by reviewing since the 2008-09 academic year student unit records and other available information and that the performance audit include:

- The number and amount of waivers or discounts granted at each institution due to statutory requirements.
- The number and amount of waivers or discounts granted at each institution due to reciprocity agreements with other states.
- The number and amount of waivers or discounts granted at each institution to graduate students.
- The average amount of tuition waived or discounts for each student receiving a waiver or waivers, including the average percentage of total tuition waivers compared to gross tuition charges for the students by institution.
- The number and amount of waivers granted at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences.
- The number and amount of stipends or other payments awarded at each institution to graduate students, including the source of funds.
- The number of students that received both a waiver or discount and a stipend or other payment at each institution.
- The number of internships at each institution and those paid or subsidized by state internship programs.
- The number of Dickinson State University employees terminated during the 2009-11 biennium and the number of those employees that have been rehired.
- Recommendations for improving accountability for the awarding of tuition waivers and student stipends.
- Recommendations for improvements to the information included in student unit records and to the use of the information.

It was moved by Senator Christmann, seconded by Representative Skarphol, and carried on a voice vote that the motion be amended to provide that the performance audit of tuition waivers and student stipends include the number and amount of waivers or discounts for resident students, nonresident students, and international students.