

Florida A&M University

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**State University System  
Florida Board of Governors  
Request to Implement a New Fee - Regulation 7.003(23)**

**University: Florida A&M University**

<b>Date</b>	
<b>University Board of Trustees approval date:</b>	December 8, 2011
<b>Proposed fall implementation date (year):</b>	2012
<b>Description</b>	
<b>New fee title:</b>	Bar Review Preparation Fee
<b>Amount of new fee (per credit hour if applicable):</b>	\$2,400
<b>Proposed new fee as a percentage of tuition:<sup>1</sup></b>	NA
<b>Purpose</b>	
<p><b>Describe the purpose to be served or accomplished with this fee:</b></p> <p>The purpose of the fee is to increase accessibility to test preparation through substantive bar review courses for College of Law students. This fee will be required as part of the curriculum which will include the required taking of one of two courses offered by the College of Law for the purpose of enhancing bar examination test taking skills and participation in the College of Law Bar Exam Success Training (B.E.S.T.) skills development program. By making substantive bar review a required part of the curriculum, the fee will be part of the cost of attendance and thus eligible for financial aid. Additionally, the fee is anticipated to lower the total cost to students who complete examination preparation courses by negotiating a contract rate that is significantly less than what is available through private, for-profit providers. The fee will only be charged during students' final year of law school. At a student's request, a waiver of the fee may be approved.</p>	
<b>Demonstrable Student-Based Need / Involvement</b>	
<p><b>Describe the student-based need for the fee that is currently not being met through existing services, operations, or another fee:</b></p> <p><i>Currently The American Bar Association requires the following of all approved law schools:</i>  <i>(a) A law school shall maintain an educational program that prepares its students for admission to the bar, and effective and responsible participation in the legal profession.</i></p> <p>The taking a substantive bar review course for 10 weeks is a necessary preparation tool in addition to the full J.D. educational program. The cost of substantive bar review courses are often beyond the financial resources of students where such costs would not qualify for financial aid assistance. The inclusion of this cost in student fees will allow the student the assistance of financial aid resources.</p>	

<sup>1</sup> If a student is required to pay this fee as a part of registration for a course, the fee shall not exceed 10 percent of tuition. See Regulation 7.003(23) (b).

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**Describe the process used to assure substantial student input or involvement:**

Law students were represented by the Student Bar Association (SBA) and through all major student organizations. A meeting was held with the student leadership where this proposal was discussed. The agreement with the proposal was unanimous and enthusiastic. A written statement from the student leaders is attached hereto.

**Student Impact**

**Explain the financial impact of the fee on students, including those with financial need:**

Students will both save substantially from group pricing discount and will be able to rely on financial aid resources including loans. Students normally would encounter the additional expense during their last year of law school; therefore there should be little negative impact for increased last semester costs. Should at any time the costs charged by a substantive bar review program exceed this \$2400 fee, the student will be responsible for any such additional cost. A review of current cost information from a leading bar review provider indicates that the amount of additional cost, should such occur, would be less than \$100.

**Restrictions / Limitations**

**Identify any proposed restrictions, limitations, or conditions to be placed on the new fee:**

This fee may only be used to pay for a substantive bar review cost provided by a reputable vendor. Additional requirements for students benefitting from this fee include:

1. Students are required to take no later than their last semester in law school either Florida Bar Law and Skills (6966) or Multistate Bar Law and Skills (6304)
2. Students will be required to participate in and complete the College of Law Bar Exam Success Training (B.E.S.T.) skills development program or such equivalent program as may be approved by the College of Law.
3. Students are required to regularly attend and complete all assignments for both the funded substantive bar review program and the B.E.S.T. program. Attendance will be taken.

**Revenues / Expenditures**

Annual estimated revenue to be collected:	\$\$480,000 - Fee is at cost
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Describe the service or operation to be implemented and estimated expenditures (attach operating budget expenditure form).

Proposed Fee: \$2,400.00  
 Participating Students: 200<sup>i</sup>  
 Revenues: 480,000.00 (\$2,400.00 x 200 students)<sup>ii</sup>

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Cost for Bar Review Course: \$2,400.00  
Participating Students: 200  
College Expenditures: 480,000.00 (\$2,400.00 x 200 students)<sup>iii</sup>

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<sup>i</sup> Number of students eligible to graduate will fluctuate from year to year. Students will also have an option to reject or opt out of the proposed fee.

<sup>ii</sup> Should at any time the costs charged by a substantive bar review program exceed this \$2400 fee, the student will be responsible for any such additional cost.

<sup>iii</sup> The fee will be paid directly to the vendor of the student's choice. The fee will only be paid to a reputable and substantive bar review vendor.

#### **Accountability Measures**

**Indicate how the university will monitor the success of the new fee. Provide specific performance metrics that will be used.**

1. College of Law will receive reports of bar examination performance. The Florida bar results will be monitored for improvement in bar passage rates. The measure will be the institutional rate of bar passage increase as compared to prior annual examination performance.
2. Attendance and performance reports from the selected substantive bar review and B.E.S.T. program will be maintained and reviewed.

#### **Other Information**

1. Number of students impacted - Approximately 170 students per year are expected to take the examination preparation.

In 2010, 144 students graduated from the College of Law,  
In 2011, 172, students graduated from the College of Law.

2. Current passage rates - The following data is for students who took the Florida Bar because only a few out-of-state jurisdictions report directly to the College of Law, while others do not. There is no official clearinghouse to track students that take the bar exam in an out-of-state jurisdiction.

Of the 2010 graduates, 74.54% of all takers passed the Florida Bar. The corresponding

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percentage for first time takers of 2010 graduates who took the Florida Bar is 65%.

3. Anticipated positive impact of fee on passage rates; what do we think the pass rate may rise to as a result of the exam prep if the fee is approved? - It is generally known that students who do not take a commercial review course have an extremely low first time bar passage rate, and those who do take such a course fare much better.

There is not the means to calculate the exact impact at this time. The Florida Bar does not provide information regarding whether unsuccessful or successful applicants have taken a commercial bar review. A significant number of such students have no informational contact with the College of Law after graduation making data collection difficult. Recently efforts at reaching students prior to graduation regarding their engagement with a commercial course have produced encouraging news as to a higher level of participation. There is insufficient prior data to make any statistical projection correlated with the commercial bar review course.

4. Affordability to students; will financial aid cover this? Information obtained by the FAMU Financial Aid Office indicates that exam preparations that are required by the academic program are eligible for financial aid. However, the commercial bar preparation course to be funded by this fee is not taken before graduation. It occurs for six weeks after graduation. This is true for all commercial bar prep. courses for all law schools because the students must "peak" at the moment the exam takes place.

5. Has FAMU talked with FIU since they had an exam prep fee approved for Law recently? Has our proposal been modeled after FIU's? Did we negotiate a reduced cost with the vendor as FIU did?

Yes prior discussion was had with FIU regarding their program. Our proposal is modeled closely after the approved FIU request. Prior negotiations with a major commercial bar review vendor produced a negotiated savings of about \$1000 per student based on the number of participants.

# Memorandum

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**To:** Leroy Pernell, Dean  
**CC:** Jabari Bennett  
**From:** Tremaine Reese  
**Date:** 9/8/2011  
**Re:** Bar Prep Fee Proposal

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On behalf of the student body at Florida A&M University College of Law, I am pleased to lend the support of the Student Bar Association (SBA) in the study of applying a fee to the overall student cost of attendance that can be covered by financial aid to assist students with the financial burden related to bar preparation after graduation. The SBA shares the same sentiment of the administration that bar prep is a vital part of the complete law school/ bar passage venture. Additionally, the SBA is vested in exploring opportunities that will assist the student population in increasing the bar passage probability.

Please proceed with planning and exploration of this proposal with the knowledge that the student body is in full support of the efforts. If we can be of any assistance moving forward, please contact me. In the interim, I look forward to updates on where we stand in this effort.

Best regards,

Tremaine Reese

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<b>Date</b>	
University Board of Trustees approval date:	December 8, 2011
Proposed fall implementation date (year):	<b>Fall 2012</b>
<b>Description</b>	
<b>New fee title:</b>	Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Board Review Preparation Fee
<b>Amount of new fee (per credit hour if applicable):</b>	\$200.00
<b>Proposed new fee as a percentage of tuition:<sup>1</sup></b>	NA
<b>Purpose</b>	
<b>Describe the purpose to be served or accomplished with this fee:</b>	
<p>The purpose of this fee is to secure an outside licensure review company to conduct a comprehensive review to assure the success of the Doctor of Physical Therapy students on the National Physical Therapy Exam (NPTE). This fee will be required as part of the curriculum and will be a part of the course PHT 6960- Professional PT Practice aimed at improving board examination performance. By making substantive board review a required part of the curriculum, the fee will be part of the cost of attendance and thus eligible for financial aid. The fee will only be charged during the final semester of the program. At a student's request, a waiver of the fee may be approved.</p>	
<b>Demonstrable Student-Based Need / Involvement</b>	
<b>Describe the student-based need for the fee that is currently not being met through existing services, operations, or another fee:</b>	
<p>The attainment of these resources will assist the DPT graduates to be successful on the National Physical Therapy Exam. Further, these resources will enhance the knowledge of all students which will allow them to be more successful on the board examination.</p>	
<b>Describe the process used to assure substantial student input or involvement:</b>	
<p>The proposed fee was discussed with the faculty and students enrolled in the DPT program. It was recommended by the faculty and agreed upon by the students that the fee would be</p>	

<sup>1</sup> If a student is required to pay this fee as a part of registration for a course, the fee shall not exceed 10 percent of tuition. See Regulation 7.003(23)(b).

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beneficial.

**Student Impact**

**Explain the financial impact of the fee on students, including those with financial need:**

The financial impact is minimal compared to the impact of poor passage rates on the Board Exam which will prolong the student's ability to enter the job market. Should at any time the costs charged by a substantive board review program exceed the fee of \$200 per student, the student will be responsible for any such additional costs. A review of current cost information from leading board review providers indicate that the amount of additional cost, should such occur, would be less than \$100.

**Restrictions / Limitations**

**Identify any proposed restrictions, limitations, or conditions to be placed on the new fee:**

This fee may only be used to pay for a substantive board review cost provided by a reputable vendor. Additional requirements for students benefitting from this fee include:

1. Students will be required to register and complete PHT 6960-Professional PT Practice.
2. Students are required to regularly attend and complete all assignments for PHT 6960-Professional PT Practice. Attendance will be taken.

**Revenues / Expenditures**

Annual estimated revenue to be collected:  $(\$200 \times 30 = \$6,000)$

**\$6,000**

Describe the service or operation to be implemented and estimated expenditures (attach operating budget expenditure form).

Proposed Fee: \$200.00

Participating Students: 30 <sup>i</sup>

Revenues: \$6,000.00  $(\$200.00 \times 30 \text{ students})$ <sup>ii</sup>

Cost for Board Review: \$200.00

Participating Students: 30

Program Expenditures: \$6,000.00  $(\$200.00 \times 30 \text{ students})$ <sup>iii</sup>

<sup>i</sup> Number of students eligible to graduate will fluctuate from year to year. Students will also have an option to reject or opt out of the proposed fee.

<sup>ii</sup> Should at any time the costs charged by a substantive board exam review exceed this \$200 fee, the student will be responsible for any such additional cost.

<sup>iii</sup> The fee will be paid directly to the vendor of the student's choice. The fee will only be paid to a reputable and

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substantive board exam review vendor.

**Accountability Measures**

Indicate how the university will monitor the success of the new fee. Provide specific performance metrics that will be used.

1. The Division of Physical Therapy will receive reports of board examination performance. The National Physical Therapy Exam results will be monitored for improvement in board passage rates. The measure will be the institutional rate of board passage increase as compared to prior annual examination performance.

**Other Information**

1. Number of students impacted - 30 students per year.
2. Current passage rates - The program's current three (3-yr) passage rate of all takers on the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) is 80%. This is the metric used by the accrediting body. The program's first time pass rate on the NPTE for 2010 is 54%.
3. Anticipated positive impact of fee on passage rates; what do we think the pass rate may rise to as a result of the exam prep if the fee is approved? It is anticipated that the student fee will have a positive impact on performance outcomes on the National Physical Therapy Examination. The Faculty of the Division of Physical Therapy anticipate a 85-90% success rate on the three-year average for all takers of the examination as a result of the examination review. For first-time takers, the Division anticipates an improvement to 70% pass rate.
4. Affordability to students; will financial aid cover this? Information obtained by the FAMU Financial Aid Office indicates that exam preparations that are required by the academic program are eligible for financial aid.

**University Tuition, Fees and Housing Projections (non-binding)**  
**Projections Submitted June 2011 - Updates Will Be Provided June 2012**

**Florida A&M University**

<u>Undergraduate Students</u>	-----Actual-----				-----Projected-----		
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
<b>Tuition:</b>							
Base Tuition - (0% inc. for 2012-13 to 2014-15)	\$82.03	\$88.59	\$95.67	\$103.32	\$103.32	\$103.32	\$103.32
Tuition Differential (no more than 15%)		\$5.74	\$12.80	\$21.42	\$40.13	\$61.65	\$86.39
Total Base Tuition and Differential	\$82.03	\$94.33	\$108.47	\$124.74	\$143.45	\$164.97	\$189.71
% Change		15.0%	15.0%	15.0%	15.0%	15.0%	15.0%
<b>Fees (per credit hour):</b>							
Student Financial Aid <sup>1</sup>	\$4.10	\$4.42	\$4.78	\$5.16	\$4.78	\$4.78	\$4.78
Building/Capital Improvement <sup>2</sup>	\$4.76	\$4.76	\$4.76	\$4.76	\$4.76	\$4.76	\$4.76
Activity & Service	\$10.50	\$10.50	\$10.50	\$10.50	\$10.50	\$10.50	\$10.50
Health							
Athletic	\$10.07	\$11.30	\$12.62	\$13.97	\$15.32	\$16.67	\$18.02
Transportation Access							
Technology <sup>1</sup>		\$4.42	\$4.78	\$5.16	\$4.78	\$4.78	\$4.78
<b>Total Tuition and Fees per credit hour</b>	<b>\$111.46</b>	<b>\$129.73</b>	<b>\$145.91</b>	<b>\$164.29</b>	<b>\$183.59</b>	<b>\$206.46</b>	<b>\$232.55</b>
% Change		16.4%	12.5%	12.6%	11.7%	12.5%	12.6%
<b>Fees (block per term):</b>							
Activity & Service							
Health	\$59.00	\$59.00	\$59.00	\$59.00	\$59.00	\$59.00	\$59.00
Athletic							
Transportation Access	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$65.00	\$65.00	\$65.00	\$65.00	\$65.00
<b>Total Block Fees per term</b>	<b>\$114.00</b>	<b>\$114.00</b>	<b>\$124.00</b>	<b>\$124.00</b>	<b>\$124.00</b>	<b>\$124.00</b>	<b>\$124.00</b>
% Change		0.0%	8.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total Tuition and Fees for 30 credit hours</b>	<b>\$3,571.80</b>	<b>\$4,119.90</b>	<b>\$4,625.30</b>	<b>\$5,176.70</b>	<b>\$5,755.73</b>	<b>\$6,441.76</b>	<b>\$7,224.62</b>
<b>\$ Change</b>		<b>\$548.10</b>	<b>\$505.40</b>	<b>\$551.40</b>	<b>\$579.03</b>	<b>\$686.03</b>	<b>\$782.86</b>
<b>% Change</b>		<b>15.3%</b>	<b>12.3%</b>	<b>11.9%</b>	<b>11.2%</b>	<b>11.9%</b>	<b>12.2%</b>
<b>Out-of-State Fees</b>							
Out-of-State Undergraduate Fee	\$379.07	\$379.07	\$379.07	\$379.07	\$379.07	\$379.07	\$379.07
Out-of-State Undergraduate Student Financial Aid <sup>3</sup>	\$18.95	\$18.95	\$18.95	\$18.95	\$18.95	\$18.95	\$18.95
Total per credit hour	\$398.02	\$398.02	\$398.02	\$398.02	\$398.02	\$398.02	\$398.02
% Change		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total Tuition and Fees for 30 Credit Hours</b>	<b>\$15,512.40</b>	<b>\$16,060.50</b>	<b>\$16,565.90</b>	<b>\$17,117.30</b>	<b>\$17,696.33</b>	<b>\$18,382.36</b>	<b>\$19,165.22</b>
<b>\$ Change</b>		<b>\$548.10</b>	<b>\$505.40</b>	<b>\$551.40</b>	<b>\$579.03</b>	<b>\$686.03</b>	<b>\$782.86</b>
<b>% Change</b>		<b>3.5%</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>3.4%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>4.3%</b>
<b>Housing/Dining</b>							
	\$7,031.00	\$7,396.00	\$7,907.00	\$8,826.20	\$9,299.62	\$9,804.06	\$10,341.59
\$ Change		\$365.00	\$511.00	\$919.20	\$473.42	\$504.44	\$537.53
% Change		5.2%	6.9%	11.6%	5.4%	5.4%	5.5%

<sup>1</sup> can be no more than 5% of tuition.

<sup>3</sup> can be no more than 5% of tuition and the out-of-state fee.

<sup>2</sup> capped in statute.