



Aug. 5, 2019

To our colleagues in the State of Michigan:

We are writing in support of the continuation of the Michigan-Ohio Tuition Reciprocity Agreement. This agreement has been in place beginning in the late 1970's. Since that time, many thousands of students from Monroe County have taken advantage of in-state tuition rates to attend The University of Toledo or our regional two-year partner, Owens Community College.

We believe that it is important to Monroe County and the State of Michigan that this agreement continue. This partnership contributes to the prosperity of Michigan residents by offering lower-cost, local options for college, giving students access to fields key to the economic development of our region.

Presently, The University of Toledo has nearly 800 students from Monroe County attending our undergraduate programs. These students save over \$7.3 million in tuition every year. Those dollars can make a college education affordable to many students for whom it would otherwise be out of reach, and it puts money back in the pockets of Michigan families.

Beyond the financial savings, The University of Toledo offers an extraordinary breadth of educational programs not found in most local institutions. With a Law School, Medical School, pharmacy, engineering, nursing, business, education, clinical therapy programs, humanities, arts, natural sciences, and social sciences, UToledo has a range of programs matched by only a handful of universities. Our region, including southeastern Michigan, needs graduates with skills in health care, engineering, cybersecurity, data analytics, and other high-demand fields. Michigan students need as many opportunities to access these fields as possible, to help fill the jobs of today and in the future. UToledo has been a key partner with Michigan in meeting these educational needs. By renewing the tuition reciprocity agreement, we can continue to do so into the future.

We understand that recent decisions by partners in Michigan have changed some of the circumstances of this agreement. We believe that continuing the agreement remains in the interest of Michigan residents. If, however, there is a desire to revisit and possibly discontinue the agreement we believe that it is important to do so in a measured fashion. Here in late summer, there are already dozens of Monroe County high school seniors intending to begin their studies at UToledo this Fall. If the program is to be discontinued, we believe it only fair to give students reasonable notice. We would request therefore that any termination come next year, after further deliberation and an opportunity to make sure that students and their families are fully informed of their options.

We appreciate your willingness to consider continuing our long-standing partnership. If there is any additional information we can provide that would be useful, please let us know.

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