

Southern Illinois University – Board of Trustees

Stone Center – Mail Code 6801

1400 Douglas Drive

Carbondale, Illinois 62901



March 27, 2020

TO REPORTERS WHO COVER SIU BOARD MEETINGS:

The next special meeting of the Board of Trustees of Southern Illinois University has been called by the Chair and is scheduled for Monday, March 30, 2020, to begin at 12 p.m. in the Large Dining Room of the Stone Center, Southern Illinois University System Office, 1400 Douglas Drive, Carbondale, Illinois. For the open portion of the meeting, the items are listed on the attached agenda.

To avoid health concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and to comply with current guidelines and various orders, including those issued by the Governor of the State of Illinois, this meeting can be viewed via Zoom meeting. The public is encouraged to view the meeting via Zoom meeting rather than attend in person. If you wish to view the meeting via Zoom meeting or sign up for the public comment segment of the Board agenda, please contact Board Executive Secretary Misty Whittington at mistyw@siu.edu. Alternatively, if you wish to make public comments you are encouraged to provide them in writing to Ms. Whittington at the email address above, to be read aloud during the pertinent portion of the meeting.

Sincerely,

Misty Whittington
Executive Secretary
of the Board

AGENDA

Meeting of the Board of Trustees
of Southern Illinois University
Monday, March 30, 2020
12 p.m.
Stone Center, Large Dining Room
Southern Illinois University System Office
Carbondale, Illinois

Roll Call

OPEN MEETING ITEMS

A. Public Comments and Questions

EXECUTIVE SESSION

B. Authorization for Presidential Delegation for Refunds

Adjournment

Southern Illinois University
Board of Trustees
March 30, 2020

AUTHORIZATION FOR PRESIDENTIAL DELEGATION FOR REFUNDS

Summary

This matter presents for approval authorization to allow the President of Southern Illinois University to make decisions and take all actions necessary and relative to refunding student fees and charges due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rationale for Adoption

On March 9, 2020, the Governor of Illinois issued a Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation in response to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and to mitigate its effects. Governor Pritzker has also issued numerous Executive Orders to mitigate and minimize the spread of COVID-19 and help ensure the health and safety of residents and visitors. Likewise, Southern Illinois University has taken many steps to facilitate the health and well-being of its campus communities, which is a top priority for the University.

Particularly, in response to the continuing spread of COVID-19, the institutions of Southern Illinois University extended their previously scheduled spring breaks by an additional week and have subsequently modified courses to provide for online or alternative format learning options for the remainder of the Spring 2020 semester. In turn, because most students will not be on campus, Southern Illinois University is considering steps to refund portions of certain fees and charges related to the Spring 2020 semester.

Pursuant to applicable Board of Trustees legislation, including, without limitation, its Policies, the Board retains authority for various fees and charges. Given the fluid situation of the COVID-19 pandemic and the importance of being able to react quickly to related and continually evolving needs and requirements, approval of this matter would delegate to the President, or any designees which he may name, the ability to authorize refunds for portions of certain fees and charges assessed to students enrolled at the Southern Illinois University system's institutions or to provide emergency grants to cover certain student costs as allowed by law. The President will work closely with the Board Treasurer and administrators of Southern Illinois University Carbondale and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville in determining which fees and charges to refund, or emergency grants to allow, if any, and in what proportion. In addition, the President will keep the Board of Trustees apprised as plans are made and decisions are implemented.

If approved, this delegation of authority will extend through such a time as the President determines, in consultation with the Board, that the COVID-19 pandemic emergency has passed or until the Board rescinds such delegation, whichever is sooner.

Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Trustees of Southern Illinois University in special meeting assembled, That:

1) The President of Southern Illinois University, or any designees which he may name, be and is hereby authorized to take any and all actions necessary in order to refund portions of certain fees and charges assessed to students enrolled at the Southern Illinois University system's institutions, or provide emergency grants to cover certain student costs as allowed by law, for the Spring 2020 semester.

2) The President will work closely with the Board Treasurer and leaders of Southern Illinois University Carbondale and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville in determining which fees and charges to refund, or emergency grants to allow, if any, and in what proportion. In addition, the President will keep the Board of Trustees apprised as plans are made and decisions are implemented.

3) This delegation of authority to the President, or any designees which he may name, will extend through such a time as the President determines, in consultation with the Board of Trustees, that the COVID-19 pandemic emergency has passed or until the Board rescinds such delegation, whichever is sooner.