

Student Organization Resource Fee Board
36th Membership
2013-2014 Academic Year

29 August 2013
Resolution 2013-03

Vote: Divided Question – See Individual Items

WHEREAS, the Board is responsible for the fair allocation of the funds received by it from the students; and,

WHEREAS, to accomplish this goal, the Board maintains policies and standards for its allocation decisions; and,

WHEREAS, amendments to funding standards have been recommended to accommodate the anticipated revenues for the 2013-2014 academic year; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board amends its governing documents, policies, manuals, handbooks and standards, with the exception of the bylaws, to reflect and enforce the funding standards enumerated herein; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the officers and advisor of the Board are charged to undertake these amendments and may take any reasonable action necessary to do so; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the amendments shall take effect upon approval of a two-thirds vote of the Board and concurring approval of the Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs and apply beginning with the Fall 1 2013 Funding Period.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shawn J. Gordon
Vice-Chairman

Attest: Matthew Stuart, Board Secretary

1. Funding of Lodging and Automobile Travel (6-0-3)

(The following clarify existing standards.)

SORF will reimburse one room for every four persons, when the ratio of persons/room is ≤ 4 to 1.
SORF will reimburse one vehicle for every four persons, when the ratio of person/vehicle is ≤ 4 to 1.

2. Ineligible Items (8-0-1)

SORF shall not fund, in addition to items already ineligible:

- Costs to process or file tax returns or applications for tax-exempt status.
- Taxes, including but not limited to: income, employment, sales/use, occupancy and transportation taxes. This includes taxes on purchases of items eligible for SORF funds. Taxes on operational expenses of the Board or salaries or wages to SORF personnel (FICA tax) may be paid from SORF funds.

3. Funding of Contractual Services (7-0-2)

SORF will fund ~~75%~~ **50%** of honoraria, speaker fees, performance fees, etc.
SORF will fund contractor transportation consistent with its existing travel standards.
(This is a substitution in replacement of the \$400 funding standard.)

4. Rebalancing the Automobile Mileage Rate (8-0-1)

(Since the SORF fund is a University fund and not an Agency fund, it may be beneficial to mirror state rules to ensure that reimbursement does not appear arbitrary. Accordingly, this proposal fixes the rate at the IHETCB rate and allows for flexibility in the number of miles reimbursed.

Generally, the mileage rates change once a year, if at all.

The net effect of this change is a reduction in the effective rate from \$0.15 to \$0.14125)

SORF will reimburse ~~50%~~ **25%** of roundtrip mileage travelled at ~~\$0.30~~ the Illinois Higher Education Travel Control Board mileage reimbursement rate for private motor vehicles (currently \$0.565).

The mileage rate will automatically adjust for changes made to this rate. Should the Illinois Higher Education Travel Control Board be unable to provide a rate, the reimbursement rate shall default to the IRS reimbursement rate and shall also automatically adjust for changes to this rate.

5. Board Position on Travel for Charitable Purposes (8-0-1)

(The following position addresses a taxable income issue which would adversely impact students.)

The Board considers travel by an RSO, in which the mission of the RSO incorporates charitable purposes, for the purpose of conducting charitable activities (e.g. volunteering) to be a furtherance of the mission and business of the University. Accordingly, the Board takes the position that appropriate charitable activities qualify for business travel reimbursement.