P05.10.010. General Principles for Tuition and Fees.

The constitution of the State of Alaska provides for the establishment of the University of Alaska, governed by a Board of Regents and state law provides that the board may approve tuition rates and fees. The establishment of a state university recognizes the importance of higher education to the state collectively and its citizens individually. It is reasonable, therefore, for both the state, through appropriation to the university, and for students, through the payment of tuition and fees, to provide for the financial support necessary to offer programs of higher education in Alaska. The Board of Regents must balance this financial support through its budgetary request to the state, and the setting of tuition and fees as provided in this chapter.

Tuition revenues will be used primarily to maintain and expand the educational opportunities provided to students, to preserve and improve the quality of existing programs and support services, to respond to enrollment trends, and to implement new programs.

Student fees should have a direct relationship to the associated service, activity, or course and be based upon the estimated actual cost of providing the service or benefit.

The board will set tuition and fees with the following objectives:

1. to provide for essential support of the university’s instructional programs;
2. to make higher education accessible and affordable to all Alaskans and other students who wish to benefit from University of Alaska course offerings by considering student financial capacity including total financial aid (scholarships, grants, waivers and loans), and considering the total debt incurred by students;
3. to consider tuition rates and student fees in the context of education quality and program demand;
4. to maintain tuition and student fees at levels which are competitive with similarly situated programs;
5. to provide transparency for students and stakeholders on the cost of higher education at the University of Alaska; and
6. to provide a framework for setting differential tuition that may (a) reflect the different missions of the major university units (b) acknowledge differing costs of instruction by student level (e.g., undergraduate, graduate, community campus) (c) distinguish between residents and nonresidents, (d) reflect costs of modes of delivery (e.g., online, face-to-face, hybrid) and (e) reflect university standing within a regional or national higher education context with peer institutions;
7. to ensure consistent tuition to meet the community college mission of the university.

(11-10-22)
P05.10.020. Definitions.

In this chapter, unless the context requires otherwise:

A. Course levels

1. “lower division courses,” for purposes of tuition assessment, mean courses with designators lower than 300, including 100- and 200-level and developmental education courses.

2. “upper division courses,” for purposes of tuition assessment, mean courses classified as 300- and 400-level.

3. “graduate courses,” for purposes of tuition assessment, mean post-baccalaureate courses classified as 600-level.

4. “professional development courses,” for purposes of tuition assessment, mean courses classified as 500-level that are designed to meet professional development and other continuing education requirements.

B. “dependent child or children” means an unmarried natural or adopted child who is financially dependent upon the subject individual for support, and who is under 24 years of age.

C. “self-support courses” are those noncredit courses offered with the intent of full cost recovery to the university for all expenses incurred in offering the course.

D. "student fees" are charges to students for specific purposes, including student government fees, course fees, use and service fees, and administrative fees; as defined in this section.

1. “administrative fees” are those fees that are assessed for administrative services such as processing applications, certifications, adding and dropping of courses, transcripts, and other similar activities.

2. “course fees” are those fees that are specific to a particular course, including fees for enrollment in noncredit courses, material fees, lab fees, individualized instruction fees, supplemental self-support fees for summer school, special for-credit programs and courses, and course-specific facility and equipment use and other fees.

3. “student activity fees” are intended to contribute to a well-rounded student education for life by supporting student government, promoting educational, cultural, recreational, and social activities.
4. “student government fees” are those fees assessed to support recognized student government organizations and the programs and activities administered through such organizations.

5. “use and service fees” are those fees assessed to support services and activities such as parking, auxiliary services, recreation center, health center, insurance, technology enhancement, and similar activities, but which are not course specific.

E. "tuition" is the base institutional charge for enrollment in a course offered for credit at the university; it represents the student’s core contribution to the cost of the student’s education at the university and is not directly related to the cost of any specific course or program. Tuition is generally assessed on a per-student credit hour (credit) rate.

1. “regular tuition” is the amount approved by the board for resident and nonresident tuition as distinguished from special tuition or surcharges.

a. “resident tuition” is the tuition cost universities may assess on students meeting Alaska residency requirements or other students exempted from paying nonresident tuition as stated in this policy or regulation.

b. “nonresident tuition” is the tuition cost universities may assess on students not meeting Alaska residency requirements or otherwise exempted in this policy or regulation.

2. “tuition surcharge” is a supplement to tuition for a specified purpose, course, or program that has been approved in accordance with this policy or regulation.

3. “special tuition” is a single charge that may include tuition, tuition surcharges, or discounts.

P05.10.030. Authority to Set Tuition Rates.

Regular tuition rates shall be established or changed only by action of the board or as provided in this chapter. Tuition rates may vary to reflect (a) the different missions of the major university units (b) central urban campuses, community colleges, extended community campuses, and other sites, (c) differing costs of instruction by student level (e.g., lower division, upper division, and graduate courses), (d) distinctions between Alaska residents and nonresidents, (e) costs of modes of delivery (e.g., online, face-to-face, hybrid), (f) university standing within a regional or national higher education context with peer institutions, and (g) different program or course costs or demands. Any such proposed differentiation of tuition rates shall be accompanied by an explicit statement of justification or rationale that considers the objectives laid out in P05.10.010., and includes an analysis of the potential impacts of the differential tuition rates on programs, campuses, colleges, and the university system.

(11-10-22)
P05.10.040. Special Tuition and Tuition Surcharges.

A. The president may establish special tuition, tuition surcharges, and/or fees in lieu of, or in addition to, regular tuition in order to meet special needs or for special for-credit courses and programs. The president shall give advance notice of such charges to the board. The president may delegate this authority and responsibility to chancellors by University Regulation.

B. The difference between regular tuition and special tuition shall be treated as fees, for purposes including but not limited to calculation of financial aid, employee benefits, scholarship benefits, general tuition waivers, and eligible costs, as well as for other Regents’ Policy, University Regulation, procedures, and publications.

(11-10-22)

P05.10.060. Tuition Rates.

A. The president shall notify the board of recommended changes in regular tuition rates prior to the first meeting of the board after September 1 of the year preceding the year in which the proposed changes will take effect, approximately one academic year before the effective date. This notice shall include the rationale and justification for the proposed changes.

B. The board shall act on the recommendation of the president after reasonable opportunity is provided for student, staff, and faculty discussion, comment, input, and public testimony. The board will take no action on regular tuition rates at meetings that occur during semester examinations, holidays, or summer periods, except in extraordinary circumstances. In setting regular tuition rates, the board may consider the recommendations of the administration, the college advisory councils, student leadership, the level of local or community support for the respective campus, and other factors that the board deems appropriate.

C. A table of approved resident and nonresident tuition rates will be published in University Regulation.

D. Notwithstanding A-C of this section and other provisions of this policy, the board reserves the right to change tuition rates at any time, with or without notice, in such amounts as the board, in its sole judgment, considers appropriate and in the best interest of the university.

E. At the first meeting of the board after September 1, the president shall provide an annual review of tuition rates across the system and an evaluation of whether the rates are meeting the objectives set out in P05.10.010.

(11-10-22)

P05.10.070. Student Fees.

A. Student fees, including student government fees, shall be established and approved by the president. The president may delegate this authority and responsibility to the chancellors or the chancellor’s designees
B. In general, student fees should have a direct relationship to the associated service, activity, or course and be based upon the estimated cost of providing the services or benefit. These fees should not exceed, on a long-term basis, the actual cost of the service or activity for which the fee is assessed. Course fees and use and service fees shall be charged only for the purpose of meeting expenses beyond those normally covered by tuition at the respective campus. In certain instances, however, certain administrative fees may be established at amounts unrelated to the cost of providing the service in order to encourage or discourage specific behavior or usage, or to accomplish other administrative or programmatic objectives.

C. The president shall promulgate University Regulations or issue directives for establishing and approval of student fees, the periodic or continuing review of such fees, and reporting to the board.

D. The purpose of student activity fees is to contribute to a well-rounded student education for life by supporting student government and promoting educational, cultural, recreational, and social activities.

E. The board reserves to the administration the right to assess, collect, disburse, and audit student activity fees from any and all students, whether or not there exists an officially recognized organization for student self-government.

F. Once a student activity fee is established, payment of the fee is mandatory. Normally, the appropriation, collection, and disbursement of student activity fees shall be governed by such guidelines as developed by the respective student government organization and the appropriate chancellor or the chancellor’s designees.

P05.10.080. Tuition and Fee Waivers.

A. The president or respective chancellors may waive regular tuition or student fees, in full or in part, when the president determines such action to be in the best interest of the university. When this action is material, the president shall notify the board.

B. Regular tuition shall be waived for Alaska residents who are age 65 or greater on the first day of class and who have registered on a space-available basis. “Space available basis” means when courses can accommodate such students in addition to other enrolled students. Otherwise eligible Alaska residents under this section who register for classes on any basis other than a space available basis shall not be entitled to a waiver under this section.

C. Consistent with AS 14.43.085 and as provided herein and in University Regulation, undergraduate resident or nonresident tuition and fees of for-credit courses, mandatory student fees will be waived for an eligible child or spouse of:

1. a member of the Alaska National Guard, Alaska Naval Militia, or the armed services of the United States who died in the line of duty or who died as a result of injuries sustained while in the line of duty or who was listed by the United States Department of Defense as a prisoner of war or missing in action. The
member must either: reside in Alaska for at least one year prior to service and list Alaska as the “home of record” for purposes of military records; or have been a legal resident of Alaska for one year at the time of death or listing as missing or prisoner of war; or

2. a firefighter employed by a federal, state, or municipal fire department located in Alaska, or performing duties for a regularly organized volunteer fire department registered with the state fire marshal, who died from an act arising out of and in the course of employment or duties as a volunteer firefighter; or

3. a state trooper, municipal police officer, village or regional public safety officer, U.S. marshal or deputy marshal, corrections officer, or other officers whose duty is to enforce and preserve public peace in Alaska, who died from an act arising out of and in the course of employment.

(11-10-22)
R05.10.030. Authority to Set Tuition Rates.

A. Basis of Charge: Students will be charged tuition on a per credit hour basis depending on the level of the courses taken, rather than upon the student’s class standings. For example, a graduate student taking an undergraduate course will be charged tuition for that course at an undergraduate tuition rate.

B. Community Colleges and Extended Community Campuses: Tuition rates at a community college or an extended community campus may differ from the rates set for the regional campus centers. Requests for differential rates must be submitted by the respective chancellor to the university president prior to the September 30 that falls at least 22 months before the beginning of the academic year to which the requested differential rate is proposed to apply. The request should include the proposed tuition rate, the revenue impact of the proposed change in rates, the rationale or justification for the differential rate, the level of local or community support for the campus, and the recommendation of the campus advisory council. This procedure does not apply to the annual inflation or other standardized rate adjustments.

C. Summer School: Summer school tuition rates will be the same as those established for the regular fall semester; however, a self-support fee for summer school may be charged at the discretion of the respective chancellor.

D. WWAMI Medical Education Program: Tuition for students enrolled in the WWAMI (Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho) Medical Education Program will be set at the amount charged by the University of Washington to residents of the state of Washington.

E. Accounting for Tuition Receipts: Tuition receipts will be allocated or assigned to the campus or campuses that provide the program and program support necessary to earn the tuition. The university’s chief finance officer may issues guidelines and directives for the allocation or assignment of revenues.

For purposes of this subsection, "campus" means:

**UAA**
- UAA Anchorage Campus
- KPC Kachemak Bay Campus
- KPC Kenai-Soldotna Campus
- Kodiak College
- Matanuska-Susitna College
- Prince William Sound Community College
- SW Higher Education for Armed Forces

**UAF**
- Troth Yeddha’ Fairbanks Campus
- Bristol Bay Campus
- Chukch! Campus
F. Installment or Deferred Payment Plans: Formal installment payment plans and deferred payment plans shall be approved by each university's chancellor or designee prior to implementation. The chancellor or designee may approve informal deferred payment arrangements based on the circumstances of individual students and groups or consolidated billings.

R05.10.040. Special Tuition and Tuition Surcharges.

A. Universities considering a programmatic tuition surcharge for undergraduate or graduate programs must develop a compelling proposal for review and approval. The chancellor of the requesting campus will recommend to the president for approval a proposal that meets the following criteria:

1. **Quality of the student experience.** The proposal will address how the programmatic tuition surcharge maintains an already high level of program quality or how it substantially increases the quality of the learning experience for participating students.

2. **Program costs.** The proposal must include a justification explaining the variance in the component program cost(s). This applies to cost of instructional delivery, faculty salaries and other contributing factors the chancellor deems pertinent.

3. **Program demand, employment and earnings potential.** The proposal must be based on factors such as program demand, graduate employment and program graduate earnings potential compared to a similar program utilizing base or regular tuition funding of a non-specific nature.

4. **Enrollment and affordability.** The proposal must include a detailed analysis of:
   
   a. current enrollment, retention, graduation and affordability;
   b. existing financial aid, scholarships and other funding support available within the program;
   c. the impact of implementation.

   The analysis shall also include description of an advising process that enables the student to anticipate future cost increases and (if necessary) how to seek additional aid to cover the programmatic surcharge amount over base tuition.

5. **Peer and process review.** A campus must use their protocols and procedures, and the guidance provided by these regulations, to formulate and review proposals. Reviews should include practices at peer institutions in the United States.
Proposals will be presented to the Academic Council (AC) for vetting and to verify (or in some cases facilitate) cross system discussions that could result in surcharge alignment. AC will review each proposal and provide the president with their recommendation.

6. **Student consultation.** All proposals for existing programs must show evidence of consultation with students who will be affected.

7. **Accountability.** Tuition surcharge reviews are to include an operational analysis detailing resources, expenditures and outcomes under baseline. Following implementation of the surcharge, subsequent reviews of the surcharge will follow the universities normal program review cycle.

**R05.10.050. Nonresident Tuition**

A. Generally, tuition, surcharges and financial aid should consider education quality, access, and ability for a student to pay. It is reasonable for nonresident students to pay a larger share of instructional costs than resident students, in closer alignment with the full cost of instruction, when the market allows. Nonresident rates should be competitive with those charged at peer institutions and sensitive to institutional nonresident enrollment changes and objectives. Surcharges may be differential by university to support additional services and programming for students at a particular institution. If a university determines that a student meets residency requirements, that determination shall be honored by the other universities.

B. **Chancellor Authority.** The president delegates to the chancellors the authority to assess a nonresident tuition at the university or program level on individuals who do not qualify as Alaska residents and who have not otherwise been exempted under this chapter.

C. **Definition of Alaska Residency:** For the purpose of tuition assessment under this chapter,

1. a resident is a United States citizen or eligible non-citizen who, at the end of the add/drop period for regular semester-length courses,
   
   a. is physically present in the state with the intent to remain in the state indefinitely;
   
   b. has maintained the person’s domicile in the state for at least the 12 consecutive months preceding the end of the drop/add date; and
   
   c. is not claiming residency, or obtaining benefits under a claim of residency, in another state, territory, or country.

2. In this definition, "eligible non-citizen" shall have the same meaning as that term is used in determining eligibility for federal student financial aid.

3. To prove physical presence in Alaska, a student must be physically present in Alaska and provide at least one of the following:
   
   a. documentation that the student moved household goods to Alaska at least
12 months ago;

b. documentation of the lease, rental, or ownership of real property in Alaska for at least the prior 12 months;

c. documentation of permanent employment in Alaska for at least the prior 12 months; or

d. other indicia of Alaska residency for the twelve months deemed satisfactory by the university chief enrollment officer or designee.

4. Proof that the person has received or has been qualified by the State of Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend Division to receive an Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend within the last 12 months creates a presumption of residency for purposes of this provision.

5. Students applying for resident tuition assessment must file an application for resident tuition with the appropriate university admissions office prior to the published end of the add/drop period for regular semester-length courses for the semester for which residency is sought. Failure to file and provide adequate proof of physical presence by this date will waive any claim that the student was eligible for resident tuition assessment for that semester or prior semesters unless otherwise determined by the university chancellor or designee. Applicants with prior documented Alaska residency will be granted a 60-day extension to the above deadline to prove their residency.

6. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections 1-5 above, a student will not qualify as a resident for purposes of this regulation if:

a. during the 12 months of claimed residency, the student was absent from Alaska for an aggregate of more than 90 days, other than documented absences due to illness, or attendance at another educational institution while maintaining Alaska residency;

b. during the 12 months of claimed residency, the student did any act inconsistent with Alaska residency such as claiming residency in another state or voting as a resident of another state, or currently retaining a driver’s license in another state;

c. during the 12 months of claimed residency, the student has registered as a resident in an educational institution in another state.

D. Exceptions to residency requirement for resident tuition.

1. The following are to pay at resident tuition rates:

a. Active duty members of the United States Military; their spouses and dependents; members of the National Guard and Reservists; their spouses and dependents; and United States Veterans eligible for Veterans Administration education benefits; their spouses and dependents. (For purposes of United States active duty military and individuals receiving VA benefits, their eligibility for in-state tuition and fees shall be consistent with Regents’ Policy or requirements to maintain approval for VA education benefits under applicable law, whichever is more favorable).
b. Residents of other states or provinces (e.g., Yukon Territory) for as long as those other states or provinces have a reciprocal agreement exempting/waiving nonresident tuition rates for Alaska residents.

c. Participants of the University of Alaska College Savings Plan, the John Hancock Freedom 529, and the T. Rowe Price College Savings Plan, who meet eligibility criteria as may be established by the Education Trust of Alaska.

d. Students designated by the UA Scholars Program as UA Scholars for a period of 12 months after UA Scholars designation.

e. Students that graduated within the past 12 months from a qualified Alaska high school. “Qualified Alaska high school” shall have the same meaning used to determine eligibility for the UA Scholars Program.

f. Spouses or dependent children of UA employees.

g. Students who have a parent, step-parent or grandparent (natural or adoptive) currently living in Alaska that qualifies as an Alaska resident (also known as the “Come Home to Alaska” program).

h. Students participating in the Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education (WICHE) Western Regional Graduate Program (WRGP).

2. The following are to have their nonresident tuition adjusted:

a. Nonresident students participating in the Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education (WICHE) Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) will be assessed a nonresident tuition as may be determined by the university’s chief finance officer at an amount not to exceed 150 percent of the resident tuition charge.

b. Tuition and fees for incoming and outgoing participants in the National Student Exchange Program shall be charged in accordance with the terms and conditions of the National Student Exchange. In general, the student will pay resident tuition at either the student’s host or home institution depending upon the exchange plan selected.

3. At the discretion of each chancellor, subject to any terms or limitations the chancellor may specify, each university may enact policies charging resident tuition to:

a. Students at other universities that exempt UA students from nonresident tuition based on reciprocal agreements;

b. Students from foreign cities and provinces that establish sister city or sister province relationships with the State of Alaska, or Alaska municipalities;

c. Dependent children of Alaska residents;

d. Graduates from a UA baccalaureate program who have participated in the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) who earn Alaska residency status upon or after completion of a UA undergraduate degree; participants must meet Alaska residency requirements as listed above with an intention to remain in Alaska.

(06-19-23)
R05.10.060. Tuition Rates.

Tuition rates effective for the respective academic year, fall through summer semesters, are as follows:

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1 In 2023, the Board Policy was changed to replace the term “nonresident surcharge” with “nonresident tuition.” For AY2025, the previously approved nonresident surcharge of $566/credit has been added to each resident tuition rate to establish the nonresident tuition rate.

2 Applies to CTC, Bristol Bay, Chukchi, Interior Alaska, Kuskokwim, and Northwest Campuses (all offerings are 100-200 lower division).

3 The UAF lower division and upper division tuition rates have been combined into a single rate called “undergraduate.” Applies to academic programs offered through Troth Yeddha’ Campus to include the university system definitions “Fairbanks Campus” and “Rural College.” Both include 4-year and graduate degree programs offered at the Troth Yeddha location.

R05.10.070. Student Fees.

A. Student government fees shall be developed and administered in accordance with guidelines established by the student government in conjunction with the respective chancellor and approved in accordance with P09.07.050. Requests to establish or to change a fee shall include a description of the purpose of the fee, the amount of the fee and basis for assessment, the estimated annual revenue, the effective date of implementation, the recommendations of the student leadership, the recommendation of the respective chancellor, and a summary of the input or involvement of the affected students.

B. Course, use, service, and administrative fees may be established if the respective chancellor or designee determines that such fees are reasonable and appropriate. Each chancellor will establish a process for approval which documents the rationale for assessment of the fee, amount of the fee, the estimated annual revenue, the proposed use of receipts from the fee, and the proposed effective date of any new or revised fee. The process for continuing review shall provide for student comment and input, including notice to students of any course-related fees and their purpose at the beginning of each semester.
C. Course fees shall have a direct relationship to the supplemental cost of providing the course, such as the cost of expendable items that normally cannot be economically or conveniently purchased by students in amounts required for individual use or for the use of specialized instruments, laboratory, and other equipment.

D. Self-support course fees for noncredit instruction shall be approved by the respective chancellor or designee. Such fees shall be established considering the costs to provide the service, the needs of the community, and the benefit to the university.

E. Summer school self-support fees will be assessed as a fee in addition to tuition. The respective chancellor or designee may establish the amount of such fees. In determining the fee requirement, the costs related to the program may be averaged across all summer school programs at a campus or assigned on some other consistent basis as approved by the campus chief financial officer.

F. For sponsored courses, seminars, or other instruction offered for credit at any level with the direct instructional costs being paid for by an external sponsor, the respective chancellor or designee may approve charging an administrative fee to cover related facilities and administrative costs, such as charges for classrooms, registration, class lists, grades, transcripts, and other functions required to support the instruction. To the extent practicable, the fee should be established at a rate that will recover the institution’s full cost of instruction including applicable facilities and administrative costs.

G. For credit-free courses, seminars, training programs, or other instruction offered to the general public with all direct instructional costs being paid for by the students in the course, the respective chancellor or designee may approve charging a base fee or supplemental fee to cover related facilities and administrative costs, such as charges for classrooms, registration, class lists, grades, continuing education credits, and other functions required to support the instruction. To the extent practicable, the fee should be established at a rate that will recover the institution’s full cost of instruction including applicable facilities and administrative costs.

H. The university president may establish systemwide administrative, use, service, or course fees at the president’s discretion.

I. All student fees, including student government fees, course fees, use and service fees, and administrative fees, to the extent feasible, shall be published with the semester course schedules, student handbooks, and registration instructions. Each university shall maintain a website that identifies all student fees and discloses for each the amount of the fee, its purpose, the basis for calculation or assessment, and an explanation of the use of the proceeds. The campus academic catalog shall include an information disclosure of the various fees that may be charged to students. Courses listed in the academic catalog that traditionally or normally have an associated course or other fee shall be noted as such with a specific designator that will direct the reader to the appropriate website that contains up-to-date fee information.
J. Fees must be established far enough in advance to be published in the semester course schedule. No unpublished fees or fee increases shall be charged to students, unless the reason for not publishing the fee was beyond the control of the department receiving the proceeds and the fee or fee increase is specifically authorized by the respective chancellor. This approval authority may not be delegated beyond the provost or vice chancellor.

K. The university’s chief financial officer shall provide an annual report to the university president and the board regarding tuition and fees and comparisons with prior periods and similarly situated programs of other western states.

R05.10.080. Tuition and Fee Waivers.

A. Under the authority granted to the president by Board of Regents’ Policy 05.10.080, the president or respective chancellor may waive student tuition and fees, including tuition surcharges and special tuition, upon a determination that such waivers are in the best interest of the university. Such authority cannot be further delegated.

B. By September first of each year, each university must report the amount of tuition and fee waivers granted during the preceding fiscal year to the university’s chief financial officer.

C. To be eligible, for tuition and fee waivers under AS 14.43.085 as described in P05.10.080.C., an eligible child or spouse of a recipient must:

1. establish eligibility for the waiver prior to tuition payment deadlines. Waivers do not cover tuition or fees for non-credit courses, fees that are voluntarily incurred by the student (e.g., fines, late fees, housing, parking, insurance), fees imposed by student government, or fees unrelated to student status;

2. be enrolled as a student in good academic, financial aid, and student code of conduct standing in accordance with institutional standards of the campus attended; and

3. have been the spouse or financially interdependent partner of the officer or member of a fire department or the armed services at the time of the officer or member’s death or listing as a prisoner of war or listing as missing in action; or

4. have been a dependent child at the time of the officer or member’s death or listing as a prisoner of war or listing as missing in action. For purposes of this provision, “child” includes a natural or adopted child, stepchild, acknowledged illegitimate child, or child to whom the officer or member stood “in loco parentis” for at least three years before the officer or member’s death or listing as a prisoner of war or listing as missing in action.

(06-19-23)