Section: Business and Support Operations Receivable/Collections Procedure

Section Number: 3.7.18 Subject: Accounts
Date of Present Issue: 1/7/19
Date of Previous Issues: NONE

## POLICY:

University accounts receivables include receivables from students (for tuition, fees, room & board, etc.) and from other individuals and businesses (for catering, advertising, rentals, etc.) which are referred to as general receivables. All university revenues are recorded on the accrual basis of accounting. This requires that revenues be recorded at the time goods or services are provided. If a customer does not make cash payment at the time of service, a receivable must be established.

Receivables established must be entered into the University's Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software on a monthly basis or per the applicable contractual agreement by the originating department. All originating departments will be responsible for the monitoring of outstanding accounts receivables to ensure that billing and collection activities are managed according to applicable campus business processes. University receivables, both student and general, are accounted for in the accounting records using the University's (ERP) software under the direction of Business Operations. Any exception must be approved by the Vice President of Finance & Operations. The minimum required billing activity, performed by the originating department, for receivables is:

- 1. Initial Billing Notice
- 2. 30-Days Past Due Notice
- 3. 60-Days Past Due Notice
- 4. 90-Days Past Due Notice

\*The time-line above is approximate. Actual communications should be based on a monthly processing calendar rather than on the specific age of individual accounts. Generally, collection procedures should not accelerate faster than indicated in the time-line above.

The process of collecting past due accounts that exceed 120 days is a cooperative effort between Business Operations and the various other departments which are providing the product, service or loan and who bear ultimate financial responsibility for the receivable. The University will employ all reasonable and customary business practices to collect receivables and loans owed to the University. Such practices include, but are not limited to: terminating current student registration or restricting students' ability to register for future classes; credit reporting; use of collection agencies and litigation. The following minimum collection efforts will occur for past due accounts within Business Operations:

- 1. Dunning notices will be sent to the debtor.
- 2. Financial holds will be placed on the debtor's record.
- 3. Various communications (letters, emails, phone calls, etc.) will be placed to debtors.
- 4. Payment plans may be offered to the debtor.
- 5. Remittance to a Collection Agency for further collection activities.

All debtors who do not meet their financial obligations will be held responsible for all collection fees and related expenses incurred by the University as provided by law or as permitted by an applicable signed agreement.

Use of external collection agencies in the collection of past due accounts is considered the most efficient way to collect past due accounts which have not responded to repeated billing requests and collection efforts by University employees. Business Operations will contract with several outside agencies, including, but not limited to, the State of Michigan, at the discretion of the Vice President for Finance & Operations. The University does not restrict methods used by the external agencies, however, the

University does make reasonable efforts to ensure that external agencies follow all applicable federal and state laws and are generally professional in their efforts.

University receivables are reviewed regularly and adjusted to their expected net realizable value using an Allowance for Doubtful Accounts on an annual basis. Accounts receivable that are deemed completely uncollectible are removed from the university accounting records as described in Policy 3.7.2 Accounts and Notes Receivable Write Off.