Morehead State University has joined several other schools that are raising tuition.

The Morehead Board of Regents voted yesterday to increase tuition for in-state undergraduates 14 percent.

The hike will be $238 for resident, undergraduate students, taking tuition to $1,920 per semester. In-state graduate students will also pay an additional $258 per semester for full-time study.

Students who enroll in MSU courses on the Internet will no longer pay a $32 surcharge per semester hour of credit, also effective this fall.

President Ron Eaglin said he was continuing to evaluate the budget situation, which included a $66 million cut ordered by Gov. Ernie Fletcher earlier this year.

That cut came on top of three straight years of funding reductions. All units at the university were asked to cut expenses, Eaglin said.

"We have exhausted all our options, and until the state provides us with adequate funding, we don't want to sacrifice the quality of education our students deserve," Eaglin said.

The increase proposal was based on the cuts and an estimated $1 million rise in operating expenses, including health insurance.

Morehead joins the University of Kentucky and Eastern Kentucky University in raising fees.

The other public universities are expected to follow suit in the wake of three years of budget cuts.

Earlier this month, UK raised tuition 13.6 percent for freshman and sophomores, and 16.9 percent for juniors and seniors. Last week, EKU's tuition went up 16.4 percent.

Also last week, U of L unveiled a proposal to raise tuition 13 percent. Western Kentucky University's tuition is expected to go up 10 percent, and an increase at Northern Kentucky University will probably be closer to 16 percent, officials said.
In other news, the Regents also approved a new tuition discount program for teachers and administrators in K-12 schools and at adult education centers.

Starting this fall, those full-time educators will be eligible for a 10 percent discount on tuition for graduate courses which improve their professional credentials.