Calvert County Public Schools 1305 Dares Beach Road Prince Frederick, MD 20678

Administrative Procedures for Policy #6110 (Personnel) Regarding Reimbursement of Tuition, Coursework, and Training for Certificated and Educational Support Employees

I. Definitions

- A. <u>Tuition cost</u> tuition paid for earning credit, excluding associated costs such as textbooks, registration, and campus fees
- B. <u>Tuition Reimbursement</u> an employer-paid benefit designed to pay all or a portion of tuition cost for pre-approved coursework completed by employees.
- C. <u>Approved college/university</u> an institution of higher education whose programs and/or courses are recognized by the Maryland State Department of Education.

II. Regulations

A. Eligibility

- 1. Administrators and Supervisors are eligible for tuition reimbursement in accordance with the Agreement between the Board of Education of Calvert County and the Calvert Association of Supervisors and Administrators.
- Teachers are eligible for tuition reimbursement in accordance with the Agreement between the Calvert Education Association and the Board of Education of Calvert County.
- Teachers currently holding an Advanced Professional Certificate and a Master's degree may receive reimbursement for only six (6) semester hours of coursework required for certificate renewal.
- 4. Licensed professional employees completing coursework with a grade of "B" or better or continuing education units required for license renewal are eligible for annual tuition reimbursement in a given fiscal year as indicated in the Agreement between the Calvert Education Association and the Board of Education of Calvert County.
- Educational Support Employees are eligible for tuition reimbursement in accordance with the Agreement between the Calvert Association of Educational Support Staff and the Board of Education of Calvert County.
- 6. An employee who does not earn the requisite grade as indicated in the applicable Negotiated Agreement in a given course will be responsible for paying the related tuition cost in lieu of Calvert County Public Schools (CCPS) paying either the direct billing or tuition reimbursement cost.
- Any employee enrolled in a course for which she/he received tuition, financial
 assistance, or payment from an entity other than CCPS shall not be eligible for
 reimbursement.

- 8. An employee must be actively employed during the time of coursework and during the reimbursement period to be eligible for tuition reimbursement.
- 9. The annual tuition reimbursement allowance is calculated based on the total amount reimbursed for all coursework completed in a given fiscal year (July 1 to June 30).

B. Pre-approval

 Eligible employees seeking tuition assistance must submit the electronic preapproval of college coursework request in advance of registering for a course. Requests must be completed and submitted to the Department of Human Resources at least 10 days prior to registering for the course.

C. Direct Billing and Reimbursement for Tuition Paid

- 1. The direct billing option is limited to only those colleges/universities that have agreed to accept direct billing payment from CCPS.
- 2. Employees electing the direct billing option do not pay any "up front" tuition cost. The college/university bills CCPS after the employee completes the coursework.
- 3. Employees using the Direct Billing process will be billed for any amounts over their annual allocation.
- 4. Employees electing to pay the cost of tuition (i.e., not electing the direct billing option) must have coursework pre-approved. These employees must submit a completed electronic request for tuition reimbursement, along with the required documents noted in Section D.1

D. Deadlines

- 1. Eligible Calvert County Public Schools' employees not electing the direct billing option must:
 - a. A. Complete and submit the electronic request for tuition reimbursement within 60 calendar days of the course completion.
 - b. B. Request an official transcript be sent to the Department of Human Resources.
 - c. Submit a proof of payment in full of actual tuition-only costs.
- 2. Tuition reimbursement will be issued from the Finance Department after all documents are received and processed.