The Governor has signed into law an Act of the Legislature that requires all State University campuses to grant deferral, under prescribed circumstances, of certain charges upon the request of any student who is a veteran. A copy of the legislation is enclosed.

The amount which a student-veteran may have deferred is the total of his tuition and fees plus, at the State-operated campuses, the room and board charges payable to the college, less the total of all State and Federal aid he will be receiving. This aid includes Scholar Incentive, tuition waivers, EOG, EOP, NYHEAC and all Federal campus based aid. It also includes, at the State-operated campuses, the State University Scholarship. The amount of a deferral is also limited by the total of the veteran's V.A. monthly benefits for the enrollment period. Finally, the veteran must also indicate his "need for deferral until the receipt of such benefits".

In order to administer this deferral requirement it will be necessary to obtain all of the information indicated above for each veteran-student who requests deferral of his payment. Enclosed with this memorandum is a suggested form to accomplish this purpose. The use of this form is optional; if it would be more appropriate, in the context of your own campus procedures, to use a different form or combination of documents, please do so. The only requirement is that all of the information that the enclosed form would gather be available for the deferral determination and, if necessary, for future audit. It would be appropriate that the office authorized to grant deferrals be assigned to administer this new procedure.

This veteran deferral requirement became effective as of August 1st. Coincidental with that date the Veterans Administration put into effect a new regulation that permits
advance payments of up to the first two months of a veteran's subsistence allowance prior to the date upon which he must register for his college program. If this new VA procedure works reasonably well there should be little need, if any, for veterans to defer the charges allowed under the state law. The registrar and/or bursar should have received instructions from the VA concerning this procedure.

If you have any questions concerning this new state-mandated deferral, please let me know, or direct them to Martin L. Lefkovits, Director of Student Financial Aid, Central Administration, (518) 474-6065.

James S. Smoot

Enclosures

cc: Chancellor Boyer

This memorandum addressed to:
    Presidents, State-operated Campuses
    Presidents, Community Colleges
    Deans, Statutory Colleges

Copies for information only sent to:
    Chancellor Kibbee
    Dean McGrath
    Vice Provost Risley
    President Leland Miles
    Bursars
    Registrars
    Financial Aid Officers
AN ACT

To amend the education law, in relation to deferred educational payments by veterans

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1. Section 1. Paragraph 1 of subdivision two of section three hundred fifty-five of the education law, as last amended by chapter seventy-six of the laws of nineteen hundred sixty-nine, is hereby amended to read as follows:

i. To regulate the admission of students, prescribe the qualifications for their continued attendance, regulate tuition charges where no provision is otherwise made therefor by law, and regulate other fees and charges, curricula and all other matters pertaining to the operation and administration of each state-operated institution in the state university. In such regulations the state university trustee shall provide that upon request by a student who is an eligible veteran the payment of tuition and other fees and charges, less the amounts payable for such purposes from scholarships or other financial assistance awarded said veteran pursuant to article thirteen of this chapter, article one hundred thirty of this chapter or any other state or federal aid program, shall be deferred in such amounts and until such times as the several payments of veterans' benefits under the
Veterans' Readjustment Benefit Act of 1966, as amended, are received by the state university trustees, require lesser tuition charges or fees from persons who are residents of the sponsoring community or communities than the amount necessary in the aggregate to provide one-third of the operating costs, or provide tuition to such persons without charge, provided that the local legislative body or board, or other appropriate governing agency appropriates sufficient funds, or sufficient funds are made available from other sources to provide the amount which would normally be provided by such tuition and fees. Each community college shall provide that upon request by a student who is an eligible veteran the payment of tuition and fees, less the amounts payable for such purposes from scholarships or other financial assistance awarded said veteran pursuant to article thirteen of this chapter, article one hundred thirty of this chapter or any other community college, state or federal financial aid program, shall be deferred in such amounts and until such times as the several payments of veterans' benefits under the Veterans' Readjustment Benefit Act of 1966, as amended, are received by the veteran, provided that the veteran has filed a claim for such benefits and presents to the community college proof of eligibility, extent of entitlement to benefits and the need for deferral until the receipt of such benefits.

§ 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of August next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law.