



Council for Lifelong Learning

Tuition and Fee Policy in the State University System

Fact Sheet

September 2001

<p>1. What are the fees a student must pay to enroll in a course at a public university?</p>	<p>A student who enrolls in a course at a public university must pay the following fees: matriculation, tuition (if out-of-state), a building fee, a capital improvement fee, a financial aid fee, an activity & service fee, an athletic fee and a health fee. Fees are typically assessed on a per credit hour basis.</p>
<p>2. Who establishes the fees?</p>	<p>The Florida Board of Education (FBE) is directed by statute to annually establish matriculation, tuition, and financial aid fees. Undergraduate matriculation and tuition are related to the cost of undergraduate education. The financial aid fee is related to tuition and matriculation; it may not exceed 5 percent of tuition and matriculation. At least 75 percent of the revenues from the financial aid fee for new financial aid awards must be based on absolute need.</p> <p>The building fee is set in statute at \$2.32 per student credit hour and the Capital Improvement fee is set in statute at \$2.44 per student credit hour. The FBE may recommend changes to these fees.</p> <p>If spending authority is provided in the General Appropriations Act, the FBE must approve a state university's request to implement a differential matriculation and tuition (out-of-state) fee. Additionally, the FBE is authorized to implement individual plans for a differential tuition (out-of-state) fee for state universities that have a service area that borders another state.</p> <p>State universities are authorized by statute to establish local fees that include an activity & service fee, health fee, and athletic fee. The FBE must approve these fees. State universities retain revenues from these fees. Committees that include student representation must approve any increases in local fees. Local fees vary at universities and may vary among the branch campuses of the same university.</p>
<p>3. What is the activity & service fee?</p>	<p>The activity & service fee is a local fee charged by the university to provide student services and programs that benefit the student body in general. This includes, but is not limited to, student publications and grants to duly recognized student organizations, the membership of which is open to all</p>

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	students at the university. The student government association determines the allocation and expenditure of revenues from the activity and service fee, although the university president has line item veto authority.
4. What is the athletic fee?	The athletic fee is a local fee charged by the university to provide funding for intercollegiate athletic programs.
5. What is the health fee?	The health fee is a local fee charged by the university to provide basic health care services to students.
6. What other fees are authorized in statute?	The FBE is also authorized by statute to establish any of the following fees that are often described as "user fees": a nonrefundable application fee; an admissions deposit fee for the University of Florida College of Dentistry, an orientation fee; a fee for security, access, or identification cards; registration fees for audit and zero-hours registration; a service charge for the payment of tuition in installments; a late-registration fee; a late-payment fee; a fee for miscellaneous health-related charges for services provided at cost by the university health center which are not covered by the health fee; materials and supplies fees; housing rental rates and miscellaneous housing charges; a charge representing the reasonable cost of efforts to collect payment of overdue accounts; a service charge on university loans in lieu of interest and administrative handling charges; a fee for off-campus course offerings; library fees and fines; fees relating to duplicating, photocopying, binding, and microfilming; copyright services; and standardized testing; fees and fines relating to the use, late return, and loss and damage of facilities and equipment; a returned-check fee; traffic and parking fines, charges for parking decals, and transportation access fees; fee for child care; and fees for transcripts and diploma replacement.
7. What are the applicable statutes and rules?	Section 240.209(3)(e), F.S. -- Powers and duties of the FBE with regard to the State University System Section 240.235, F.S. -- State University System Fees
8. Where can I get additional information?	Florida Department of Education Division of Colleges and Universities (850) 201-7100 www.borfl.org The Florida House of Representatives Committee on Colleges & Universities (850) 488-3711