

University of Florida

1. Undergraduate Enhancement Fee
2. Tuition, Fees and Housing Projections

**State University System
Florida Board of Governors
Request to Implement a New Fee - Regulation 7.003(23)**

University: University of Florida

Date	
University Board of Trustees approval date:	December 2, 2011
Proposed fall implementation date (year):	Fall 2012
Description	
New fee title:	Undergraduate Enhancement Fee
Amount of new fee (per credit hour if applicable):	
Proposed new fee as a percentage of tuition: ¹	6.55% of tuition. (Fractions of a penny will be rounded down to the nearest penny.) <i>(Note: the number 6.55% was chosen because 6.55% of base tuition equates to 5% of the sum of base tuition and differential tuition.)</i>
Purpose	
<p>Describe the purpose to be served or accomplished with this fee:</p> <p>This fee will enhance the educational opportunities afforded to undergraduates by enhancing course offerings and teaching staff. Some of the fee will be devoted to increasing the stipends of graduate teaching assistants (GTAs). This will facilitate recruitment of more talented, better qualified, and trained GTAs in a fiercely competitive national market, thereby improving the quality of the undergraduate experience in classes led or assisted by GTAs. It will also facilitate recruitment of more teaching staff (primarily GTAs) which will lead to reduced class sizes and promote more one-on-one interaction between instructors and students.</p> <p>GTAs play an important role in UF's instructional enterprise. Approximately 33% of class sections were led by GTAs during 2010-11, and UF employed approximately 1,500 GTAs over the course of the year.</p> <p>UF's student-teacher ratio is 21 to 1, which is significantly higher than those of our peer public universities. While this ratio speaks more to faculty numbers than GTA numbers, it accurately reflects the fact that average class sizes taught by both faculty and GTAs is higher than at peer universities.</p> <p>UF's ability to recruit high caliber GTAs is hampered by low salary levels. UF competes with peer universities (particularly the peer publics in the AAU) for the best talent available. When salaries typically lag by 10% or more, as is the case in most disciplines, recruitment suffers. Here is a sampling of typical UF stipends as compared with AAU public peer stipends (2009-10 data). In Computer and Information Sciences (CIP 11), AAU median and average salaries are \$15,654 and \$15,346, respectively, while the UF stipend is</p>	

¹ If a student is required to pay this fee as a part of registration for a course, the fee shall not exceed 10 percent of tuition. See Regulation 7.003(23)(b).

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\$11,692. In Biological and Biomedical Sciences (CIP 26), AAU median and average salaries are \$17,198 and \$17,322, while the UF stipend is \$15,925. In Mathematics and Statistics (CIP 27), AAU median and average salaries are \$15,939 and \$17,092 versus UF at \$15,485. In the Physical Sciences (CIP 40), AAU median and average salaries are \$16,632 and \$17,476, while UF's salary is \$14,702.

As explained above, the revenue generated by this fee will be invested in raising GTA stipends and in recruiting additional GTAs. UF is engaged in a year-long process to determine which areas are appropriate for stipend enhancement and which areas require additional GTAs. A reasonable estimate at this point in time suggests the need for 200 additional GTAs, yielding 200 or more sections per semester. The additional sections will help relieve overcrowding in sections and provide more personalized instructional help, contact, and guidance to undergraduates. That would use approximately \$3.2M, leaving \$4.2M for salary enhancement.

The majority of undergraduates will benefit from this fee. GTAs provide instruction in basic science and general education courses, thereby reaching most FTICs and transfer students. The fee will facilitate a better qualified and more talented cadre of GTAs, it will reduce average section size, and it will create increased opportunities for student-instructor interaction. The State has been unable to provide this type of resource for educational enhancement for a decade or more and shows no sign of being able to do so in the foreseeable future in education and general funds.

Demonstrable Student-Based Need / Involvement

Describe the student-based need for the fee that is currently not being met through existing services, operations, or another fee:

Due to the State's continuing fiscal difficulties, and despite tuition increases, there has been a substantial decline in E&G resources available for undergraduate instruction. This has had several unfortunate effects, including increased class sizes and a deteriorating student-faculty ratio. In addition, because of the strain on resources, graduate teaching assistant stipends have become increasingly uncompetitive. As a consequence, UF has difficulty in recruiting the best and brightest graduate students in sufficient numbers to help provide the high-quality undergraduate experience demanded by the citizens of the State.

Describe the process used to assure substantial student input or involvement:

President Machen consulted with Student Body President Ben Meyers over the course of a year in developing the concept of this fee. Mr. Meyers, in consultation with student leaders and Student Government, recognized the benefits that would accrue to undergraduates, and he fully supported the fee. Mr. Meyers took leave from UF in October and was succeeded by Anthony Reynolds, who abstained from the BOT vote on this fee. The fee was approved by the UF BOT on December 2, 2011.

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Student Impact

Explain the financial impact of the fee on students, including those with financial need: **Resident tuition for Fall 2011 New Undergraduate Students is \$103.32 per Student Credit Hour. 6.55% of \$103.32 is \$6.76. Consequently, had the fee been in place this year, an undergraduate student taking 30 credit hours would have been asked to pay an additional \$202.80.**

Given the benefits of this fee, it does not place an undue financial burden on undergraduates. UF has always met the financial aid needs of all undergraduate students who complete financial aid applications by the deadline. In 2010-11, 81% of undergraduates received some form of aid, including Bright Futures and Florida Prepaid. In addition, 49% of all undergraduates either did not apply for student financial aid through the university or were determined to have no financial aid need. This last statement correlates with the \$100,000 median parental income for the families of UF freshmen (2010 data).

Loan indebtedness statistics also suggest the relatively low financial burden borne by students attending the university. Only 34% of undergraduates graduate from UF with loan debt. Their average indebtedness upon graduation in 2010-11 stood at \$16,982, while the national average was \$25,250.

Restrictions / Limitations

Identify any proposed restrictions, limitations, or conditions to be placed on the new fee: **none**

Revenues / Expenditures

Annual estimated revenue to be collected:	\$7.4M
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Describe the service or operation to be implemented and estimated expenditures (attach operating budget expenditure form).

Hire additional Graduate Teaching Assistants and improve the level of GTA stipends to ensure UF competes effectively in the national pool for a sufficient number of highly qualified GTAs.

Accountability Measures

Indicate how the university will monitor the success of the new fee. Provide specific performance metrics that will be used.

The fee will enhance the quality and availability of undergraduate instruction.

Consequently, the following metrics apply.

- 1. Satisfaction with the UG experience, as measured by student evaluations and the Student Experience in the Research University (SERU) national survey instrument**

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administered at UF and many peer schools.

2. **Class and section size; student-instructor ratio.**
3. **Qualifications and credentials of graduate teaching assistants.**
4. **Success in recruiting high-quality graduate teaching assistants.**

Other Information

University Tuition, Fees and Housing Projections (non-binding)

University of Florida

<u>Undergraduate Students</u>	-----Actual-----			-----Projected-----			
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Tuition (per Credit Hour):							
Base Tuition - (0% inc. for 2013-14 to 2015-16)	\$88.59	\$95.67	\$103.32	\$103.32	\$103.32	\$103.32	\$103.32
Tuition Differential (no more than 15%)	13.74	\$22.00	\$32.00	\$52.29	\$75.63	\$102.47	\$133.33
Total Base Tuition & Differential per Credit Hour	\$102.33	\$117.67	\$135.32	\$155.61	\$178.95	\$205.79	\$236.65
% Change		15.0%	15.0%	15.0%	15.0%	15.0%	15.0%
Fees (per Credit Hour):							
Student Financial Aid ¹	\$4.42	\$4.76	\$5.16	\$5.16	\$5.16	\$5.16	\$5.16
Building/Capital Improvement ²	\$4.76	\$4.76	\$4.76	\$4.76	\$4.76	\$4.76	\$4.76
Activity & Service	\$10.65	\$13.94	\$14.55	\$16.06	\$16.86	\$17.70	\$18.58
Health	\$10.49	\$12.99	\$13.82	\$13.82	\$14.51	\$15.23	\$15.99
Athletic	\$1.90	\$1.90	\$1.90	\$1.90	\$1.90	\$1.90	\$1.90
Transportation Access	\$6.79	\$7.33	\$7.88	\$8.41	\$9.25	\$9.94	\$10.73
Technology ¹	\$4.42	\$4.78	\$5.16	\$5.16	\$5.16	\$5.16	\$5.16
Green Fee							
Marshall Center							
Other fees (insert other Board approved fees) ⁴							
Total Fees	\$43.43	\$50.46	\$53.23	\$55.27	\$57.60	\$59.85	\$62.28
Total Tuition and Fees per Credit Hour	\$145.76	\$168.13	\$188.55	\$210.88	\$236.55	\$265.64	\$298.93
% Change		15.3%	12.1%	11.8%	12.2%	12.3%	12.5%
Fees (Block per Term):							
Activity & Service							
Health							
Athletic							
Marshall Center							
Transportation Access							
Total Block Fees per term	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% Change		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total Tuition for 30 Credit Hours	\$3,069.90	\$3,530.10	\$4,059.60	\$4,668.30	\$5,368.50	\$6,173.70	\$7,099.50
Total Fees for 30 Credit Hours	\$1,302.90	\$1,513.80	\$1,596.90	\$1,658.10	\$1,728.00	\$1,795.50	\$1,868.40
Total Tuition and Fees for 30 Credit Hours	\$4,372.80	\$5,043.90	\$5,656.50	\$6,326.40	\$7,096.50	\$7,969.20	\$8,967.90
\$ Change		\$671.10	\$612.60	\$669.90	\$770.10	\$872.70	\$998.70
% Change		15.3%	12.1%	11.8%	12.2%	12.3%	12.5%
Out-of-State Fees							
Out-of-State Undergraduate Fee	\$614.97	\$707.21	\$707.21	\$707.21	\$707.21	\$707.21	\$707.21
Out-of-State Undergraduate Student Financial Aid ³	\$30.74	\$35.36	\$35.36	\$35.36	\$35.36	\$35.36	\$35.36
Total per credit hour	\$645.71	\$742.57	\$742.57	\$742.57	\$742.57	\$742.57	\$742.57
% Change		15.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total Tuition for 30 Credit Hours	\$3,069.90	\$3,530.10	\$4,059.60	\$4,668.30	\$5,368.50	\$6,173.70	\$7,099.50
Total Fees for 30 Credit Hours	\$20,674.20	\$23,790.90	\$23,874.00	\$23,935.20	\$24,005.10	\$24,072.60	\$24,145.50
Total Tuition and Fees for 30 Credit Hours	\$23,744.10	\$27,321.00	\$27,933.60	\$28,603.50	\$29,373.60	\$30,246.30	\$31,245.00
\$ Change		\$3,576.90	\$612.60	\$669.90	\$770.10	\$872.70	\$998.70
% Change		15.1%	2.2%	2.4%	2.7%	3.0%	3.3%
Housing/Dining	\$7,810.00	\$7,966.00	\$8,448.00	\$8,828.00	\$9,402.00	\$9,966.00	\$10,414.00
\$ Change		\$156.00	\$482.00	\$380.00	\$574.00	\$564.00	\$448.00
% Change		2.0%	6.1%	4.5%	6.5%	6.0%	4.5%

¹ can be no more than 5% of tuition.

³ can be no more than 5% of tuition and the out-of-state fee.

² capped in statute.

⁴ insert other Board approved fees such as; Green Fee, Student Life Fee