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December 1, 2021

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RE: California State University Student Success Fees

The following is a report which summarizes student success fees adopted or rescinded in the prior academic year, and the uses of proposed and currently implemented student success fees by the California State University (CSU).

This report fulfills the requirements of Section 89712 of the Education Code, which identifies the information to be contained in the report submission, and is prepared by December 1 of each year for the Legislature and Department of Finance.

Should you have any questions about this report, please contact Nichole Muñoz-Murillo, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Advocacy and State Relations at (916) 445-5983.

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Channel Islands
Chico
Dominguez Hills
East Bay

Fresno
Fullerton
Humboldt
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Maritime Academy

Monterey Bay
Northridge
Pomona
Sacramento
San Bernardino
San Diego

San Francisco
San José
San Luis Obispo
San Marcos
Sonoma
Stanislaus

CSU Report: Student Success Fees

December 1, 2021

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Sincerely,



Steve Relyea
Executive Vice Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

SR:dr

Full report posted to <https://www.calstate.edu/legislativereports/>

- c: Members, California State Legislature
- Members, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
- Lisa Qing, Senior Fiscal & Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst Office
- Joseph I. Castro, Chancellor, California State University
- Sylvia A. Alva, Executive Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs
- Larry Salinas, Interim Vice Chancellor, University Relations and Advancement
- Nichole Muñoz-Murillo, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Advocacy and State Relations
- Ryan Storm, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Budget
- Jeni Kitchell, Executive Budget Director

**Report to the Legislature
and Department of Finance
December 1, 2021**

California State University Student Success Fees

as reported for the 2020-21 Academic Year

Background

As required by Section 89712 of the Education Code, the California State University (CSU) is required to report a summary of the student success fees adopted or rescinded in the prior academic year and the uses of proposed and currently implemented fees. This statute is consistent with adopted CSU policy that requires annual reporting to the public.

A “student success fee” is a type of category II campus-based mandatory fee that is required to be paid by a student before that student may enroll or attend a specific CSU campus, as determined by that campus or the chancellor of the CSU. When the governor signed Senate Bill 860 in June 2014, it added Education Code Section 89712 addressing category II campus-based mandatory student success fees. The role, process, and enactment of student success fees were further codified when the governor signed Assembly Bill 1000 in 2015, incorporating provisions adopted by the CSU Board of Trustees for CSU student fee policy related to student success fees.

Additional information regarding the CSU’s student success fees can be found at calstate.edu/attend/paying-for-college/csu-costs/student-success-fees. The website provides additional background, fee amounts and revenue by campus, and the process to establish, revise, or repeal the fees. It also has links to each campus’ student success fee website for more detailed information by campus.

Changes to Student Success Fees in 2020-21

No new fees have been proposed or adopted since 2014, including during the 2020-21 academic year. Additionally, no student success fees were rescinded. The only changes to student success fees in 2020-21 were small increases to reflect inflation adjustments.

Twelve campuses had student success fees that ranged from \$199 to \$903 in 2020-21. The average student success fee at the 12 campuses was \$436 in 2020-21, an increase of \$7 from the previous year. If all 23 campuses are considered, including those without student success fees, the average per campus was \$228 in 2020-21.

Use of Student Success Fees

A student success fee is a type of campus-based, campus-driven, campus-managed fee designed to enhance the quality of the campus environment and academic programs to improve the experience of students on a specific campus. Because each fee was uniquely created to serve specific campus purposes, no student success fee is identical to any other. Each reflects the priorities of the campus where it was adopted.

The table below shows how revenue from student success fees was expended in 2020-21:

Campus Identified SSF Activity Area:	Actual Expenditures:	Percentage:
Increased Courses	34,846,000	26.2%
Student Support Activities	28,970,000	21.8%
Technology Improvements	16,740,000	12.6%
Student Success and Retention	15,794,000	11.9%
Student Academic Programs	14,283,000	10.8%
Facility Renovations	7,197,000	5.4%
Student Development	5,468,000	4.1%
Student Academic Support	4,557,000	3.4%
Fee Consolidation and Elimination	3,342,000	2.5%
Student Engagement	1,778,000	1.3%
TOTAL	132,975,000	100.0%

Implementation and use of these fees began in 2008 to augment state funding which was reduced during the Great Recession, beginning at one campus and currently required for students at 12 of the 23 CSU campuses. The campus community determines the need for a student success fee and how the fee revenue is to be used to improve the quality of academic programs or the campus experience for students. Student success fees have been used in a number of ways, depending on each campus' needs. Some campuses have dedicated significant portions of the student success fee revenues for enhancements to technology infrastructure, library resources and hours, laboratory space, career programs, services for disabled students and veterans, athletics, and additional services and benefits for students that would otherwise be unfunded. Other campuses have used student success fee revenues to hire additional faculty, advisors, counselors and tutors, add course sections, help fund capital improvements, and fund other educational needs traditionally supported in part by tuition and state appropriation.