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**CSU Legislative Reports Website**  
<https://www.calstate.edu/legislativereports/>

**Steve Relyea**  
Executive Vice Chancellor  
and Chief Financial Officer

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November 23, 2020

Honorable Holly Mitchell, Chair  
Joint Legislative Budget Committee  
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Sacramento, CA 95814

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Sacramento, CA 95814

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Sacramento, CA 95814

Sue Parker  
Chief Clerk of the Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 3196  
Sacramento, CA 95814

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The following is a report which summarizes student success fees adopted or rescinded in the prior academic year, and the uses of proposed and currently implemented student success fees by the California State University (CSU).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

November 23, 2020

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Sincerely,

  
Steven Relyea (Nov 20, 2020 16:23 PST)

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  
Timothy P. White, Chancellor, California State University  
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Garrett Ashley, Vice Chancellor, University Relations and Advancement  
Nichole Muñoz-Murillo, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Advocacy and State Relations  
Ryan Storm, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Budget

**Report to the Legislature  
and Department of Finance  
December 1, 2020**

## California State University Student Success Fees

as reported for the 2019-20 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 and placed a moratorium on approval of new CSU student success fees until January 1, 2016. The role, process, and enactment of category II campus-based mandatory 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 <http://www.calstate.edu/studentsuccessfees/>. 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 2019-20

While the moratorium on new student success fees ended on January 1, 2016, no new fees have been proposed or adopted since that moratorium, including during the 2019-20 academic year. Additionally, no student success fees were rescinded. The only changes to student success fees in 2019-20 were previously-programmed increases approved prior to the effective date of the moratorium, or small increases to reflect inflation adjustments.

Twelve campuses had student success fees that ranged from \$185 to \$878 in 2019-20. The average student success fee at the 12 campuses was \$429 in 2019-20, 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 \$290 in 2019-20.

## 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 2019-20:

<b>Campus Identified SSF Activity Area:</b>	<b>Actual Expenditures:</b>	<b>Percentage:</b>
Increased Courses	35,705,000	26.1%
Student Support Activities	30,524,000	22.4%
Student Success and Retention	17,308,000	12.7%
Technology Improvements	15,703,000	11.5%
Student Academic Programs	14,694,000	10.8%
Facility Renovations	7,227,000	5.3%
Student Development	5,385,000	3.9%
Student Academic Support	5,038,000	3.7%
Fee Consolidation and Elimination	3,412,000	2.5%
Student Engagement	1,571,000	1.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>136,567,000</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Implementation and use of these fees began in 2008 at one campus and currently are 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 experience on campus for students. Student success fees have been used in a number of ways, depending on each campus' decision. 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, and fund other educational needs traditionally supported in part by tuition and state appropriation. Some student success fees also help fund capital improvements including library expansion projects.