
Board Policy 5.11 Tuition and Fees**Part 1. Policy objectives**

The tuition and fees policy of Minnesota State seeks to balance five values:

1. **Affordable access to higher education:** Minnesota State will champion a quality affordable higher education that all Minnesotans can access.
2. **Sustainability:** Minnesota State seeks to provide the resources needed for colleges and universities to support quality higher education and long term financial viability.
3. **Equity:** Minnesota State students taking similar academic programs are charged similar rates across Minnesota State colleges and universities.
4. **Transparency:** Minnesota State students will know what they are paying for and how their total tuition and fee charges are calculated.
5. **Flexibility for innovation and emerging markets:** Minnesota State seeks to support the flexibility to be innovative, respond to the marketplace, and address emerging program and course development requirements.

Part 2. Authority

Minnesota Statutes § 136F.06, Powers and Duties, and Minnesota Statutes § 136F.70, Tuition; Fees; Activities Funds provide that the board shall set tuition and fees and adopt suitable policies for the colleges and universities it governs. All colleges and universities shall charge tuition and fees consistent with Minnesota Statutes, board policies, and system procedures. The board shall approve the tuition and fee structure for all colleges and universities.

The chancellor may establish limits on tuition and fee rate increases that are presented to the board as part of the annual operating budget. The chancellor or designee is authorized to make any necessary technical adjustments to the tuition rates and fees. Technical adjustments are defined as changes in tuition and fee rates which are deemed a correction or the addition of a program rate for a new program established in the interim.

Part 3. Tuition

Tuition shall be charged by all colleges and universities. The tuition categories are:

1. Per credit
2. Banded
3. Differential course and program
4. Market driven

Each tuition category may include resident, reciprocity, and nonresident rates. All tuition must be identified separately on a tuition and fee statement.



Colleges and universities have the option to create guaranteed tuition rates for undergraduate programs.

Part 4. Authorization and notice

Subpart A. Authorization of required and campus discretionary fees.

The board authorizes the following four categories of fees to be charged to Minnesota State students. The amount of the fees and how they are charged are determined by a college or university, subject to Minnesota statutes and board policy.

1. Required fees are in statute or established by board policy and are required to be charged by all colleges and universities.
2. Campus discretionary fees are established by board policy and adopted at campus discretion.
3. Personal property charges, service charges, and assessments are established by board policy and adopted at campus discretion.
4. Revenue Fund fees are established in accordance with statutes, board policy, and bond indenture.

Subpart B. Notice required.

All fees must be identified separately on a tuition and fee statement. On an annual basis, colleges and universities shall publish all fees that are charged to their students.

Part 5. Fees

Subpart A. Required fees

There are five required fees:

1. Senior citizen fee in lieu of tuition
2. Parking fee, permits, or charges
3. Late fee
4. Payment plan fee
5. Statewide student association fee

All colleges and universities shall charge these fees consistent with Minnesota Statutes, board policies, and system procedures.

Subpart B. Campus discretionary fees

The board authorizes the campus discretionary fee categories and approves the fee maximums. The system office shall review, report, and make recommendations to the board regarding fee maximum levels every two years.

The authorized campus discretionary fees are:

1. Application fee
2. Credit for prior learning assessment fee
3. Student life/activity fee
4. Athletics fee
5. Health services fee

6. Special events fee
7. Residential learning community fee
8. Technology fee
9. New student orientation fee

Colleges and universities may establish policies to charge campus discretionary fees. These fees are not to exceed the maximum amount approved by the board and published as an attachment to board policy. If an institution has multiple campuses or sites, they may choose to assess the fees on a campus by campus or site by site basis.

Subpart C. Personal property charges, service charges, and assessments.

Colleges and universities may charge students the cost of property retained by the student and services received by the student. The allowable charge must be based on actual costs. Colleges and universities may also assess charges to discourage certain behaviors.

Subpart D. Revenue fund facility fees.

Adequate fees must be charged for the use of revenue fund facilities to meet the requirements of Minnesota Statutes §136F.93 and 136F.95 and the Master Indenture of Trust. The fees must be sufficient to cover debt, operating cost and all repair and replacement costs, and reserves.

There are two types of revenue fund fees:

1. Revenue fund fees. Colleges and universities shall charge revenue fund fees for facilities that were constructed, renovated or acquired using revenue bonds or facilities that the board designated as part of the revenue fund. Revenue fund fees include but are not limited to:
 - a. Room and board fees
 - b. Student union facilities fees
 - c. Wellness center and recreation facility fees
 - d. Parking ramp and surface lot facility fees
 - e. Other revenue fund fees for eligible projects as may be approved by the board
2. Revenue fund fees charged for use of facilities. Colleges and universities shall charge fees for the use of revenue fund facilities, which must be reported to the board as part of the annual operating budget. On an annual basis, colleges and universities shall publish all fee schedules or explanation of fees that are charged to their students for revenue fund facilities. Revenue fund fees include but are not limited to event or facility usage fees, service charges, and equipment charges. The president of the college or university shall have final approval on all fees and subsequent rates for the use of revenue fund facilities.



Procedure 5.11.1 Tuition and Fees

Part 1. Authority

Board Policy 1A.1 delegates authority to the chancellor to develop procedures on behalf of the board for purposes of implementing board policy.

All tuition and fee rate structures are authorized by the board. Tuition and fees collected shall be deposited and reported through the business office at each college or university.

Discretion is given to presidents to establish certain tuition and fee rates in accordance with board policy and system procedure. Before any new fee category is added or any increase is made in the fee maximums, the system office shall consult with the statewide student associations.

Part 2. Tuition

All colleges and universities shall charge tuition consistent with Minnesota statutes and policies. The tuition categories are per credit, banded, differential course and program, and market driven. Any tuition category may include international, resident, reciprocity, and nonresident rates. All tuition shall include the cost of consumable supplies used in the classroom or laboratory. Advance deposits are considered prepayment of tuition and are refundable in accordance with board policy 5.12.

Subpart A. Per credit tuition

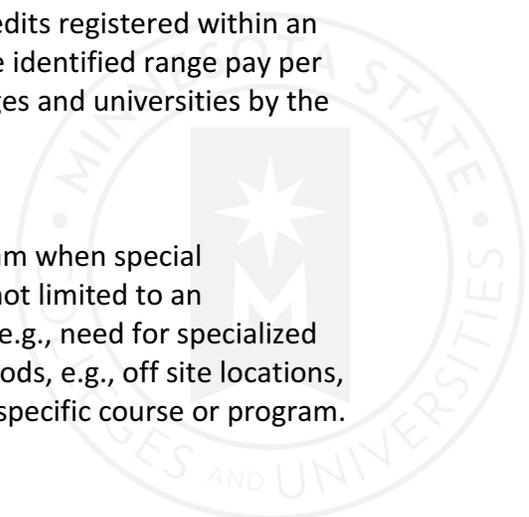
Colleges and universities may charge tuition on a per credit basis for undergraduate and graduate programs. Per credit tuition rates are approved for individual colleges and universities by the board as part of the annual operating budget process.

Subpart B. Banded tuition

Banded tuition is defined as charging a single-rate tuition for credits registered within an identified range of credits. Individuals falling above or below the identified range pay per credit tuition rates. Banded tuition rates are approved for colleges and universities by the Board as part of the operating budget process.

Subpart C. Differential course and program tuition

Colleges and universities may charge tuition by course or program when special circumstances exist. These circumstances may include but are not limited to an extraordinary cost of offering the course or academic program (e.g., need for specialized equipment and supplies; accreditation standards; delivery methods, e.g., off site locations, online, clinical experience) or a desire to incent enrollment in a specific course or program.



Setting tuition by program assigns a per credit price for all the core courses in an academic program, regardless of whether or not the student is degree-seeking within that program. Setting tuition by course assigns a per credit price for an individual course, based on the unique circumstances of that course. Differential course and program tuition rates are reviewed by system office personnel for compliance with procedure and approved by the board as part of the operating budget process. Colleges and universities must maintain documentation regarding differential rates including costs included in the differential charge.

Subpart D. Market driven tuition

Colleges and universities may set and charge market driven tuition for customized training, continuing education, graduate programs, fully online undergraduate programs, non-resident/non-reciprocity, international, non-credit instruction, and contract post-secondary enrollment options.

Part 3. Required Fees

Required fees are in statute or policy and are required to be charged at all colleges and universities. All required fees must be at or below board specified maximums.

Subpart A. Senior citizen fee in lieu of tuition

Each college and university shall charge an administrative fee in lieu of tuition to senior citizens pursuant to *Minnesota Statute § 135A.51* and *Minnesota Statute § 135A.52*. A senior citizen enrolled under this section must pay any materials, personal property, or service charges for the course.

Subpart B. Parking fees, permits, or charges

1. Colleges and universities shall develop a policy to charge parking fees to generate revenue for parking lot construction, improvements and maintenance, and parking enforcement, pursuant to *Minnesota Statute § 136F.67*.
2. The president shall determine the fees, permits or charges, and how they are assessed.
3. Students shall pay an amount that is equal to or less than that paid by the colleges' and universities' employees for the same type of parking (e.g. reserved, general, etc.).
4. Colleges and universities have the option to collect fines and towing fees for parking violations pursuant to *Minnesota Statute § 136F.53*.

Subpart C. Statewide student association fees

All colleges and universities shall collect a statewide student association fee as authorized by *Minnesota Statutes § 136F.22* and in accordance with board policy.

Subpart D. Fees associated with tuition and fee payments

1. Colleges and universities shall establish a policy to charge a fee for late payment of tuition and/or fees. A late fee may also be charged for late payment under an approved payment plan. Consistent with *Minnesota Statute § 197.775*, students

- who are eligible and have applied for but not yet received veterans benefits are exempt from being charged a late fee.
2. The policy may provide for specific situations wherein the president of the college or university may waive this fee. Documentation concerning waivers must be retained and made available upon request.
 3. Colleges and universities shall establish a policy to charge a fee for payment plans. This fee shall allow students to pay their tuition and fees over the course of the semester.

Part 4. Campus Discretionary Fees

Colleges and universities may choose among the fees detailed below in determining those that are appropriate to the college or university and may establish the appropriate level of the fees consistent with board policy and system procedure. All campus discretionary fees must be at or below board specified maximums. The president of the college or university shall have final approval on all campus discretionary fees and subsequent rates, subject to limits established at the discretion of the chancellor.

After consultation with the recognized campus student association, the president may exempt certain campuses, sites or specific groups of students (e.g., fully online students) from all or a percentage of any campus discretionary fees when deemed to be in the best interests of the college or university. Colleges and universities shall maintain and appropriately disseminate policies that define the terms under which students are not charged specific fees covered by this policy. Upon request, the specific group exemption and number of exempt students shall be published and disseminated to students, and the number of exempt students shall be reported to the appropriate campus student associations.

Subpart A. Student application fee

1. Colleges and universities may establish a policy to charge a fee for student applications, consistent with board policy 3.4 and system procedure 3.4.1. The local college or university policy shall list situations in which students are not charged this fee.
2. Undergraduate or graduate application fees may be assessed at each college or university to all credit-seeking applicants. Students denied enrollment to the college or university due to program size limitations or closure shall receive a refund of this fee.

Subpart B. Credit for prior learning assessment fee

1. Colleges and universities shall establish policies for credit for prior learning pursuant to board policy and system procedure. The policies may include fees for credit for prior learning as indicated below.
2. The fees charged shall reasonably reflect the cost of services provided in assessing the learning and awarding of credit, and are reviewed by system office personnel for consistency and compliance with procedure.

3. A fee shall not be charged for previously evaluated credit for prior learning students seeking transfer of credits from other regionally or nationally accredited higher education institutions.
4. A fee shall not be charged for transcribing credits for an award of credit for prior learning.
5. A fee shall not be charged for students seeking faculty consent for enrollment in a course or waiver of prerequisites that does not involve an award of credit for prior learning.
6. A fee shall not be charged for analysis and awarding of credit for military courses and military training pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §197.775.

Subpart C. Student life/activity fee

1. Colleges and universities may establish a policy to charge a fee for student life activities as defined by *Minnesota Statute § 136F.01, subd. 5* and Board Policy 2.8, Student Life.
2. College or university programming and budgeting processes for the use of these funds shall be governed by board policy 2.8, Student Life.
3. Colleges and universities must not increase student life activity fees by greater than two percent relative to the previous academic year unless the increase is approved by a majority of students voting in a campus referendum, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §135A.0434.

Subpart D. Athletics fee

1. Colleges and universities, by an affirmative vote of the campus student association, may establish a policy to charge a fee for athletics. This fee will support student athletics and replace annual requests for funding from the student life/activity fee.
2. College or university programming and budgeting processes for the use of these funds shall be similar to those processes used for student life activities.
3. For this fee, students will receive admission to regular athletic contests, pursuant to an agreement with the campus student association and based on ticket availability.
4. Colleges and universities must not increase student athletic fees by greater than two percent relative to the previous academic year unless the increase is approved by a majority of students voting in a campus referendum, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 135A.0434.

Subpart E. Health services fee

1. Colleges and universities may establish a policy to charge students a fee for health services as defined by *Minnesota Statute § 136F.20* including mental health services.
2. College or university programming and budgeting processes for the use of these funds shall be similar to those processes used for student life activities.
3. The decision to charge the fee as per credit (including the number of credits the fee is assessed on) or per term shall be made after consultation with the campus student association.

Subpart F. Fees for voluntary special events

1. Colleges and universities may establish a policy to charge students for special campus events in which participation is voluntary. Colleges and universities may only charge students who participate in the special campus event.
2. These voluntary events may include, but are not limited to, activities such as seminars, workshops, lectures, orientations, Welcome week activities, enrichment events, concerts, convocations, ceremonies such as graduation, and athletic events.

Subpart G. Residential learning community fee

1. Colleges and universities may establish a policy to charge a residential learning community fee.
2. The fee shall be charged only to students participating in this program.
3. Student program participants shall be included in the process for allocating this fee.

Subpart H. Technology fee.

1. Colleges and universities may establish a policy to charge a fee to students for the acquisition, upgrading and/or maintenance of technology for academic and student support activities that provide or enhance student access to technology. Academic and student support activities include but are not limited to technology infrastructure, computer labs, wireless networks, ongoing technology support, and software licensing.
2. A technology fee advisory committee shall exist for each college or university. A majority of the committee members shall be students. The campus student association(s) shall appoint the student members of the technology fee advisory committee. Prior to making recommendations to the college or university president, the technology fee advisory committee will present the recommendations to the campus student association(s) for advice and recommendation.

The campus student association(s) and the institution president or designee shall jointly determine a schedule for the technology fee advisory committee to ensure that the plan and budget for the technology fee will be completed for action prior to the end of the spring semester. The college or university shall provide the necessary background materials in advance to the technology fee advisory committee in accordance with System Procedure 2.3.1, part 2, subpart B.

3. The college or university president shall review any modifications to the recommendation with the campus student association(s) and the technology fee advisory committee prior to the implementation for that year.

Subpart I. New student orientation fee

1. Colleges and universities, by affirmative vote of the campus student association, may establish a policy to charge a new student orientation fee. This fee will be assessed to all new students enrolling for the first time at the college or university. Students who are permitted to enroll but are not candidates for diplomas,

certificates, or degrees at that college or university shall not be charged the new student orientation fee.

2. The new student orientation fee will support new student orientation activities and other strategies designed to assist new students in making a successful academic and social transition to the college or university. Examples of strategies include, but are not limited to, orientation and welcome week activities. The new student orientation fee should not fund course registration activities.
3. Initiatives funded by the new student orientation fee must be open and accessible for all new students to participate.
4. The budgeting process used for the allocation of these funds shall be similar to the processes used for student life activities.

Part 5. Personal Property Charges, Service Charges, and Assessments

Personal property charges, service charges, and assessments are authorized by the board and adopted at campus discretion. Students may not be charged for consumable supplies related to instruction.

Individual personal property charges, service charges, and assessments shall be approved by the president. The approximate range or rate shall be available to students at the time of registration. A list of these charges shall be available to students upon request at each campus. Documentation of charge calculations must be maintained for audit purposes.

Subpart A. Personal property charges

Personal property charges shall be for items that become the personal property of a student and have an educational or personal value beyond the classroom. These items may include, but are not limited to, tools, books, and materials retained by the student. It also includes official transcripts, identification cards, and replacement or additional diplomas.

Subpart B. Service charges

Service charges shall be for services for or on the behalf of the student and may include:

1. Equipment, including purchases, special leases, or rentals as required by an institution or program. Situations requiring students to purchase or lease college- or university-wide technology shall be reviewed by the technology fee advisory committee and the campus student association(s) shall be consulted.
2. Special testing, including but not limited to, testing for counseling (e.g. career interest inventories, type indicators, etc.); occupational certification, licensure, or assessment; retesting of entry level assessment; and optional testing requested by the student. Students shall not be charged for initial entry assessment or required outcome assessment.
3. Other instructional services, such as:
 - a. additional instructional costs not included in tuition but paid by the student to a vendor or auxiliary service (e.g. theater tickets, bowling lane rentals, green fees, ski lift tickets, etc.) may be a service charge if identified at the time of registration.

- b. costs of private lessons or services associated with a credit-bearing course (e.g. flight training, voice or instrument, art, etc.) may be charged in addition to tuition.
 - c. electronic course materials, including online subscriptions but not including open educational resources (OER) materials.
4. Other non-instructional services provided to students such as legal services, health services, background checks, drug and alcohol screening, and insurance.
 5. Actual course-related travel costs required for transportation, room, board and other expense.

Subpart C. Assessments

Colleges and universities may assess charges to discourage certain behaviors, such as a library overdue charge, a non-sufficient funds bank charge, restitution charge to pay for damage incurred, or violations of campus health and safety policies.

Part 6. Revenue Fund Fees

Revenue fund fees must be charged to generate sufficient revenue to pay the debt service, equip, operate, maintain and repair revenue fund facilities. Fees shall be sufficient to provide adequate operating reserves. Revenue fund fees are charged for room and board, student union facilities, wellness center and outdoor recreation, parking, and for any other revenue generating facility that is designated as part of the revenue fund by the Board. Optional fees may be charged and include other usage, service and equipment fees.

Subpart A. Room and board fees

The room fee is the amount an enrolled student pays for occupying a residence hall room while attending a college or university. The board fee is the amount an enrolled student pays for their selected meal plan offerings.

Subpart B. Student union facilities fees

The amount an enrolled student pays to support the debt operations and maintenance of a student union facility while attending a college or university.

Subpart C. Wellness center and recreation facility fees

The amount an enrolled student pays to support the debt, operations and maintenance of a student wellness center or recreation facility or area while attending a college or university.

Subpart D. Parking ramp and surface lot fees

The amounts that students, faculty, staff and visitors pay for parking in or on parking facilities in the revenue fund.

Subpart E. Other facilities fees

The board may from time to time approve fees for revenue fund facilities that are not otherwise contemplated above. Those facilities fees shall be charged to an enrolled student to support such a revenue generating facility, which shall be designated by the board as part of the revenue fund.

Subpart F. Revenue fund fees charged for use of facilities

Colleges and universities shall charge revenue fund fees for the use of revenue fund facilities. Revenue fund fees charged for use of facilities are items such as event or facility usage fees, service charges, and equipment charges. The president of the college or university shall have final approval on all such useage fees and subsequent rates. The president may exempt specific groups from all or a percentage of room or facility usage or rental fees provided the revenue fund program remains financially viable and such exemption is deemed to be in the best interests of the college or university and consistent with the waiver process established by the campus. The three major categories of optional revenue fund usage fees are listed below:

1. Room or facility usage or rental fees, such as for use of rooms in the student union, athletic facilities, fields, residence hall common rooms. Fees may also be charged for facility usage outside a typical academic year, such as for summer or conference activities, storage, and early or between semester occupancy of residence halls. It is usual and customary that recognized campus student organizations (as defined under Student Life Procedure 2.8.1) are exempt from ordinary room or facility usage or rental fees.
2. Service charges, such as for lost or damaged items or modification of contractual terms. A sampling of such fees may include, but are not limited to, a fee for early release from a residence hall contract, residence hall cancellation fee, late charges, installment payment charges, lost key charge, loaner key charge, room changes charge, damages to residence hall room or common areas.
3. Equipment and personal property fees for use in Revenue fund facilities, such as fees for rental of athletic equipment, installation of equipment (i.e. air conditioning in residence halls), technology, or other items or services otherwise available for use by students who use the facility.

Date of Adoption: 06/21/00
Date of Implementation: 08/06/08
Date of Last Review: 08/02/18

Date and Subject of Revision:

11/30/18 – Part 4, Subpart I, was amended to directly define a special student status.
08/02/18 - Procedure 5.11.1 went through a periodic review, substantive changes were made throughout the procedure. Part 4, Subpart I, New student orientation fee was added. Part 5, Subpart C, Assessments was added. The language and formatting were updated with the new writing and formatting styles.

Additional HISTORY.

Attachment to Procedure 5.11.1 - Fee Amounts

Required Fees

	Amount
Senior Citizen in Lieu of Tuition	Maximum of \$20 per credit
Parking	No maximum
Statewide Student Association	Students United: \$.61 per credit Lead Minnesota: \$.35 per credit
Payment Plan	Maximum \$30 per term
Late	Maximum \$50 per term

Campus Discretionary Fees

	Amount
Application	\$20 per undergraduate application; Maximum \$40 masters application Maximum \$55 doctoral application
Credit for prior learning assessment	Reflects Cost
Student life/activity	Maximum of \$112.50 per term
Athletics	Maximum \$55 per term
Health services	Maximum of \$75 per term
Special event	No maximum
Residential learning community	Lourdes Hall (Winona) - \$150 per term Engineering program (Itasca Community College) - \$50 per term Residential learning community (MSU Moorhead) - \$150 per term
Technology	Maximum \$12 per credit

Personal property charges and service charges

Reflects cost

Revenue Fund Fees

No maximums

Date of Implementation: 08/15/07

Date of Adoption: 05/20/98

Date of Last Review: 06/20/18

Date and Subject of Amendments:

- 11/14/18 – Changed Mandatory Fees to Required Fees and Optional Fees to Campus Discretionary Fees. Increased Health services maximum to \$75 per term and Technology maximum to \$12 per credit.
- 6/20/18 – increased Students United fee from \$.47 to \$.61 per credit hour beginning fall semester 2018.
- 6/21/17 - amended MSUSA Statewide Student Association fee from \$.43 to \$.47 per credit. Also amended the MSUSA name to Students United, and MSCSA to Lead Minnesota.
- 8/6/15 - amended MSCSA Statewide Student Association fee from \$.31 to \$.35 per credit.
- 6/20/12 - amended to add an optional Residential learning community fee for MSU Moorhead.
- 5/19/11 - Amended language to permit fee assessments by term rather than semester. Added Revenue Fund Fees as per Procedure 5.11.108/15/07 - Late and Payment Plan fees are added to the mandatory fee category and are removed from the optional fees category.
- 6/20/07 - amended application fee from graduate to masters and added doctoral application fee.
- 6/21/06 - amended to increase health services maximum to \$60 per semester and increase the Technology maximum to \$10 per semester credit.
- 05/17/06 - amended to increase MSCSA fee to \$.31 per semester credit hour and increase MSUSA fee to \$.43 per semester credit beginning fall semester, academic year 2006-2007.
- 12/20/05 - Removes Drop fee and Career Services fee as optional fees (note: Career Services costs are recoverable as a personal property and services charge per Procedure 5.11.1 Tuition and fees.)
- 05/18/05 - Increased MSCSA Fee from \$.28 from \$30
- 06/16/04 - Adds Residential Learning Community at Itasca Community College - Engineering program - \$50 per semester
- 07/16/03 - Maximum of \$40 was applied to the graduate application fee; late fee maximum went up from \$30 per semester to \$50 per semester; a payment plan fee of maximum \$30 per semester was added; Credit for Prior Learning Assessment fee maximum language was changed to "Reflects Cost"; Health Services fee maximum went up from \$45 per semester to \$51 per semester; Personal Property and Service Charge fee maximum language was changed to "Reflects Cost"
- 05/21/03 - MSCSA Fee went down from \$.30 from \$.28
- 06/19/02 - MSCSA Fee went up to \$.30 from \$.25
- 06/21/00 - Moved language formerly in system procedure 5.2.1.
- 7/21/99 - MSCSA Fee went up to \$.25 from \$.23 and the Technology Fee went up to \$8 from \$5