

**GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
MANDATORY FEES REQUESTED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020**

Mandatory Fee: Health Services

Current Fee Level FY19: \$168 Fall/Spring; \$112 Summer

Proposed Fee Level FY20: \$172 Fall and spring; \$115 Summer

FY 2018 Revenue: \$11,419,735

Fee Review Organization: Student Health Advisory Committee

Current Use of Revenue

Health Services is a multi-specialty, ambulatory center that provides healthcare and health education to students and their spouses/domestic partners. The state-of-the-art, 40,000-square-foot facility within the Joseph Brown Whitehead Building, provides primary care, women's health, psychiatry, travel, immunization and allergy care. There is on-site pharmacy, laboratory and radiology as well as nutrition services. Staff consists of board-certified physicians, certified nurse practitioner, and physician assistants. Professional staff also includes registered nurses, medical assistants, pharmacists, health educators, and laboratory and radiology technologists. Appointments are required for most services.

General Services Covered by the Health Fee

- Unlimited visits to a clinician in Primary Care and Women's Health.
- Limited visits to Psychiatry (see changes described in the following pages).
- Other services include:
 - X-ray/interpretation by radiologist
 - Consultations with a pharmacist
 - EKG
 - Travel Clinic consultations
 - Urgent care & first aid
 - Flu shots
 - Some lab tests
 - Pregnancy testing
 - Health Promotion services
 - Blood pressure screening

The health fee allows the following services to be offered at a low cost:

- Psychiatry Clinic
- Laboratory testing
- Allergy Clinic
- Prescriptions

- HIV testing
- Gynecological testing
- Medical/orthopedic supplies
- Nutrition consultations
- Travel medications

Students may receive services based on enrollment at Georgia Tech and payment of the Student Health Fee or on a fee-for-service basis. Students taking four hours or more are automatically assessed this fee and are eligible for care upon registration. Students taking less than four hours, taking a semester off from class or participating in a cooperative program, also may receive services by paying the health fee or on a fee-for-service basis. Students' spouses and domestic partners are also eligible, with payment of the health fee or on a fee-for-service basis.

Explanation of Fiscal 2020 Fee Request

Problem Statement: The proposal to increase the Student Health Fee is aimed to accomplish the following:

To provide more affordability, accessibility, and availability of mental health-care to Georgia Tech students.

The graphic in *Attachment A* summarizes the issues and solutions outlined in this proposal. The focus is on the four objectives outlined below, which are to be addressed by both *internal funding reallocations and the proposed \$4 increase in the Student Health Fee*. *Attachment B* summarizes the steps taken to redirect and reduce Stamps Student Health Center costs to the end of improving services to students. The steps outlined in this document address the efforts described in the President's [Student Mental Health Action Team report](#) issued in 2017.

Coordinated Approach: The approach in addressing this problem is to continue to improve the coordination between:

- Counseling services provided by the Office of Student Life, which is funded through Resident Instruction/General Operations;
- Psychiatric services delivered by the Stamps Student Health Center, which is funded through the mandatory Student Health Fee.

Objectives and Strategies:

Objective 1: Expand the availability of counseling and psychiatry appointments.

Strategies Funded Internally:

- The Institute authorized three additional counselor positions in Student Life's Counseling Center, funded through Resident Instruction/General Operations sources.

- The Division of Campus Services reallocated funding from other units to add one psychiatrist position to the Stamps Center.
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Objective 2: Minimize the loss of psychiatrists due to competitive salary challenges.

Strategy Funded Internally:

- The Division of Campus Services reallocated funding from other units to address salary gaps for psychiatrists and help prevent turnover.
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Objective 3: Establish a single intake process for students with mental health issues.

Strategies Funded Internally:

- The Institute funded renovations through existing resources to create an Intake Center, to serve as a single point of contact for students seeking mental health services. The Center will provide the bridge between counseling and psychiatry. The Intake Center will be in operation during the spring 2019 semester.
- The Division of Student Life and the Division of Campus Services eliminated vacant management positions to fund the new Intake Center's four staff – an administrator and three care providers. The requested Student Health Fee increase will provide adequate resources to complete the staffing of this center.

Strategy Funded through Fee Increase:

- The proposal is to ***increase the Student Health Fee by \$3 to add two case managers to the Intake Center*** to better support students with their care plans. This will generate approximately \$140,000 the Stamps Health Center budget. The funding will cover salaries, fringe benefits, and supporting operating expenses.

NOTE: See the graphic in *Attachment 2* that describes the service delivery process.

Objective 4: Increase the affordability and accessibility of psychiatry for students

Strategy Funded Internally:

- Currently students are provided two hours of psychiatric service funded through the Student Health Fee per academic year. Beyond that students or the insurance must pay for services provided through the psychiatric clinic. The new Intake Center will add one additional free hour of service to students.

NOTE: Currently there is a \$25 per half-hour fee charged for visits in excess of two hours per academic year. Approximately 45% of visits in FY2018 had a fee associated

with them, and approximately half of that was billed to the Student Health Insurance Plan. No student is turned away due to inability to pay.

Strategy Funded through Fee Increase:

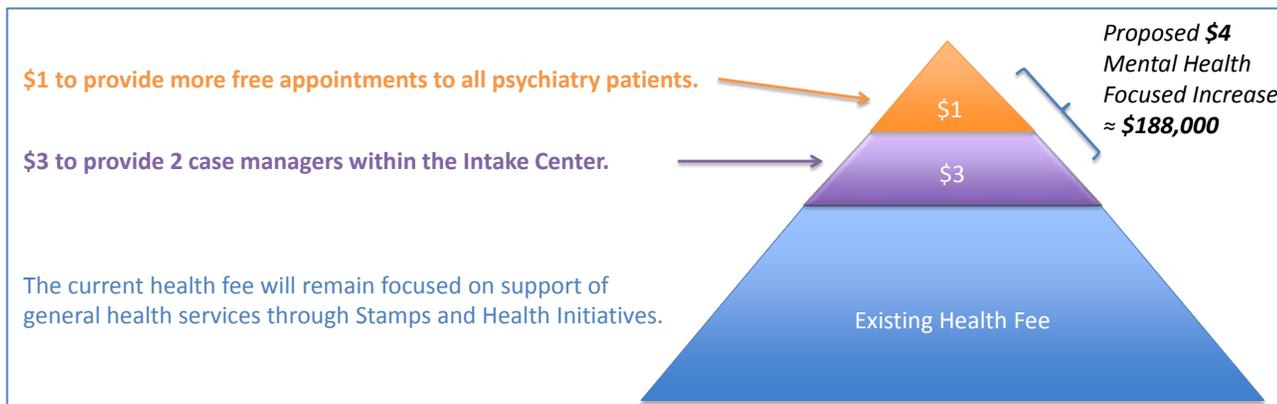
- The proposal is to ***increase the Student Health Fee by an additional \$1 to add one additional free hour of psychiatric services to students and to reduce the rate per visit.*** Students would receive the initial psychiatry visit in the Intake Center free of charge. This additional \$50,000 in funding generated by the \$1 mandatory fee increase would replace lost revenue to the Student Health Center from Psychiatric Clinic charges, while making available to students who are psychiatry patients six free, ½-hour visits during the academic year.

Issues and Solutions

What problem are we trying to address?

Providing more affordability, accessibility and availability of mental health-care.

Issue	Strategy / Solution
Availability of appointments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Institute utilized existing resources to fund 3 additional counselor positions in Counseling Center. The Division of Campus Services re-allocated funding from other units to add one additional psychiatrist position.
Loss of psychiatrists due to salary levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Division of Campus Services re-allocated funding from other units to address salary gaps for psychiatrists.
Two separate care tracks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Institute funded and renovated space to establish the Intake Center. The Divisions of Student Life and Campus Services eliminated vacant management positions to fund a new Intake Center with three care providers and an administrator as a bridge between Counseling and Psychiatry – a single point of entry for students. <i>A fee increase of \$3 per semester is proposed to add 2 case managers to the Intake Center to better support students with their care plans.</i>
Affordability of psychiatry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 hours per academic year are currently provided through health fee. The Intake Center will add 1 additional free hour. <i>A fee increase of \$1 per semester will fund one additional hour free hour of psychiatric service and reduce the per visit rate.</i>



**Actions to Redirect and Reduce Stamps Student Health Center Costs
Fiscal Year 2019**

- Eliminated 2 custodial FTE's and replaced with contracted custodial services-Net savings \$56,912/year
- Eliminated Facility Manager Sr. position-Net savings \$87,051/year
- Converted LPN position to MA position-Net savings \$8,146/year
- Sanofi Vax (vaccinations) contract – decrease costs by \$10,000/year
- Radiology interface-negotiated reduced rate saving \$1,564/year
- Applied salary savings from a change in Sports Medicine position to hire a mid-level position for additional hours of coverage in Primary Care, without increasing budget
- Identified roughly \$250,000 in savings through reduction in a separate unit, reallocating the funding toward Health Services and mental health care for students

Recap of Intake Center Service Flow

