



BOARD OF REGENTS OF
THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

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Presidents of the
University System of Georgia
270 Washington Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Presidents,

Student fees support a wide range of services and activities at our institutions and as such, constitute a substantial part of the cost of attending college. Each year, we review these fees, continually seeking opportunities to enhance both affordability for students and transparency regarding these charges.

Last year, the Board of Regents approved a new Online Learning Fee and made a number of adjustments to individual fees, which leaves institutions better positioned to continue to offer quality programs and activities for students. We ask that you and your team thoughtfully analyze your fees while giving consideration to the changes to your financial circumstances brought about by last year's fee revisions.

This letter outlines the expectations for any Fiscal Year 2026 fee requests:

1. **New Fee Requests or Increases:** New fee proposals or increases to existing fees will only be considered if the institution demonstrates a compelling need for additional funds and presents a solid business case, including an analysis of available reserves. To minimize student cost increases, consider reducing one mandatory fee to offset any proposed increases in another fee where feasible.
2. **New Fees:** The introduction of new fees is strongly discouraged unless there is a critical institutional need, clear evidence of substantial student support, and a direct benefit to student success.
3. **Fee Increases for PPV Projects:** Increases to fees supporting PPV (Public-Private Venture) projects will be considered if revenue is insufficient to sustain these projects. A detailed business case and analysis must be provided.

As you prepare your fee requests, prioritize keeping attendance costs affordable. Review all projected expenses, identify potential efficiencies, explore alternative revenue sources, and assess available reserves. Your justification for any fee increases should include a detailed explanation of these efforts.

Engage your student fee committees for guidance while planning the Fiscal Year 2026 budget and services for all fees, even those without requested rate changes. Ensure that these committees include student representation, including full-time, part-time, and graduate students, with input from institution leadership and the Student Government Association. For reference, Board Policy section 7.3.2.1 and the Business Procedures Manual section 24.1 outline the expectations for the composition of the student fee committee, and the role the committee should play in shaping your fee proposals.

In addition to Mandatory Fees, elective fees and special charges will continue to warrant scrutiny. Your leadership team should seek ways to reduce course-specific fees or explore alternative funding sources. Increases to and new elective fees should only be proposed if there is a critical business need.

We will be requesting that your fee proposals be submitted in January 2025, to allow time to fully engage your student fee committees in planning and budgeting. Detailed instructions and templates will be distributed to Chief Business Officers under separate cover. All templates and supporting documentation must be submitted by the due date specified in those instructions.

Thank you for your ongoing leadership in providing excellent services to students with an eye on affordability.

Sincerely,



Dr. Sonny Perdue
Chancellor

cc: Chief Business Officers
Chief Academic Officers
Vice Presidents for Student Affairs
Tracey Cook
Teresa McCartney
Costas Spirou
Ashley Jones
Jeff Davis
Allen Huff