

# The Student Activity Fee (SAF)

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# Overview of the SAF

# What is the SAF?

- The SAF is a mandatory student fee that is allocated from Georgia Tech to SGA
- Currently, students pay \$52 each semester
- For Fiscal Year 2025, the SAF Budget amounts to \$2,600,000 this Budget is Currently Split between RSO and Department Funding.
- At the Beginning of FY25, the SAF Starting Balance was \$1,576,454
- The SAF Funding is split up into the four accounts listed below:
  - Allocatable Accounts – Includes funds allocated to Registered Student Orgs (RSOs)
  - Fund Accounts – Includes funds for SGA initiatives
  - Legislative Accounts – Includes funds for SGA's Legislative branch to function
  - Reserve Accounts – Includes funds used to safeguard the budget

# What is the SAF used for?

- SGA uses the SAF Revenue to complete initiatives and serve the student body and RSOs
- Mental Health Initiatives JAC - **\$285,861**
- Campus Maintenance JAC - **\$75,000** for campus-wide projects/initiatives
- Career Development Fund - **\$20,000** for career development opportunities
- Grad Conference Fund - **\$100,000** for conference travel
- UHR/GSS - **\$30,000** for the Legislative Branch to operate and support initiatives
- Reserves - **\$360,000** for Institute and IRA reserves
- RSO Funding - **\$1,831,769** for the RSOs on campus
  - Fall Allocation (70%) - \$1,282,238.30
  - Spring Allocation (30%) - \$549,530.70

# Supporting RSOs

- For Fiscal Year 2025, SGA's RSO Funding Reserved for Bills is **\$1,831,769**
- There are various types of RSOs, ranging from Competitive Engineering and Sports, to Social and Cultural based organizations.
- There are currently over **600** RSOs on campus, and **309** of them have accessed SGA funding so far this year.
- RSOs come to SGA to receive funding for events, competitions, supplies, food, and various other things to help operate their respective organization.
- Without SGA funding, many RSOs will cease to exist as many college students cannot afford to cover the costs of running an organization.

# Some RSOs that SGA Provides Funding for



# Current State of the SAF

# Issues Currently Being Faced

- During COVID, SGA saw a decrease in the amount allocated to RSOs due to the fact they could not operate or function.
- Post-COVID, SGA saw a resurgence in the amount of RSOs seeking funding. This, paired with a policy which did not impose many limits on spending, led to unprecedented levels of spending.
- This culminated in FY24, where SGA had to shut down its funding process midway through the Academic Year due to having insufficient funds.
- Since then, changes to the policy, along with last year's \$12 increase to the Student Activity Fee, have brought spending back to a sustainable level.

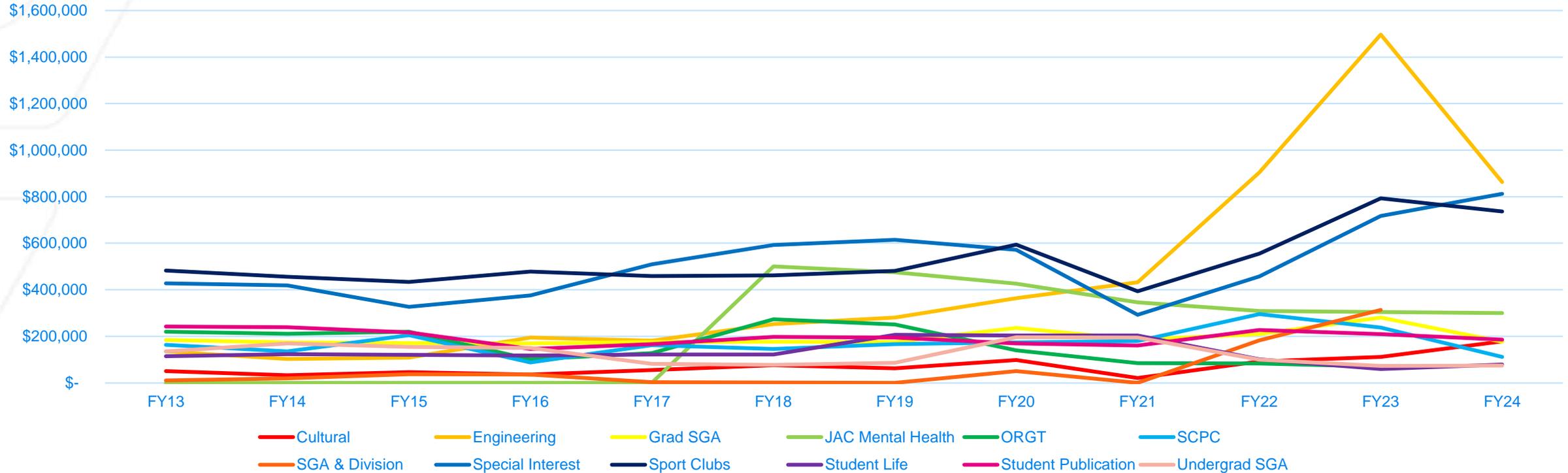
# Projections with & without FY25 Fee Increase

	FY 2021 Actuals	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Projection	FY 2024 Projection	FY 2025 Projection	FY 2026 Projection	FY 2027 Projection
Beginning Net Assets and Reserves (July 1)	2,439,456	2,862,571	2,992,722	2,251,791	1,576,017	832,454	17,471
Surplus/(Deficit) from above schedule	423,115	129,695	(740,931)	(675,775)	(743,562)	(814,983)	(890,201)
Transfer to or from other sources		456					
Final Net Assets and Reserves (June 30)	\$2,862,571	\$2,992,722	\$2,251,791	\$1,576,017	\$832,454	\$17,471	(\$872,731)
Reserved for Renewal & Replacement							
Capital Liability Reserve Fund	210,955	210,955	210,955	210,955	210,955	210,955	210,955
Other Unrestricted Net Assets (including encumbrance reserve)	2,651,616	2,781,767	2,040,836	1,365,062	621,499		
Total Net Assets and Reserves	\$2,862,571	\$2,992,722	\$2,251,791	\$1,576,017	\$832,454	\$210,955	\$210,955

	FY 2021 Actuals	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Projection	FY 2026 Projection	FY 2027 Projection	FY 2028 Projection
Beginning Net Assets and Reserves (July 1)	2,439,456	2,862,571	2,992,266	2,086,985	1,576,454	1,543,336	1,509,556	1,475,101
Surplus/(Deficit) from above schedule	423,115	129,695	(625,501)	(509,138)	(33,119)	(33,780)	(34,455)	(36,752)
Transfer to or from other sources			(279,780)	(1,393)				
Final Net Assets and Reserves (June 30)	\$2,862,571	\$2,992,266	\$2,086,985	\$1,576,454	\$1,543,336	\$1,509,556	\$1,475,101	\$1,438,349
Reserved for Renewal & Replacement								
Student Reserves	210,232	210,232	210,232	210,232	210,232	210,232	210,232	210,232
Capital Liability Reserve Fund	210,955	210,955						
Other Unrestricted Net Assets (including encumbrance reserve)	2,441,384	2,571,079	1,876,753	1,366,222	1,333,104	1,299,324	1,264,869	1,228,117
Total Net Assets and Reserves	\$2,862,571	\$2,992,266	\$2,086,985	\$1,576,454	\$1,543,336	\$1,509,556	\$1,475,101	\$1,438,349

# 10 Year RSO Funding Chart

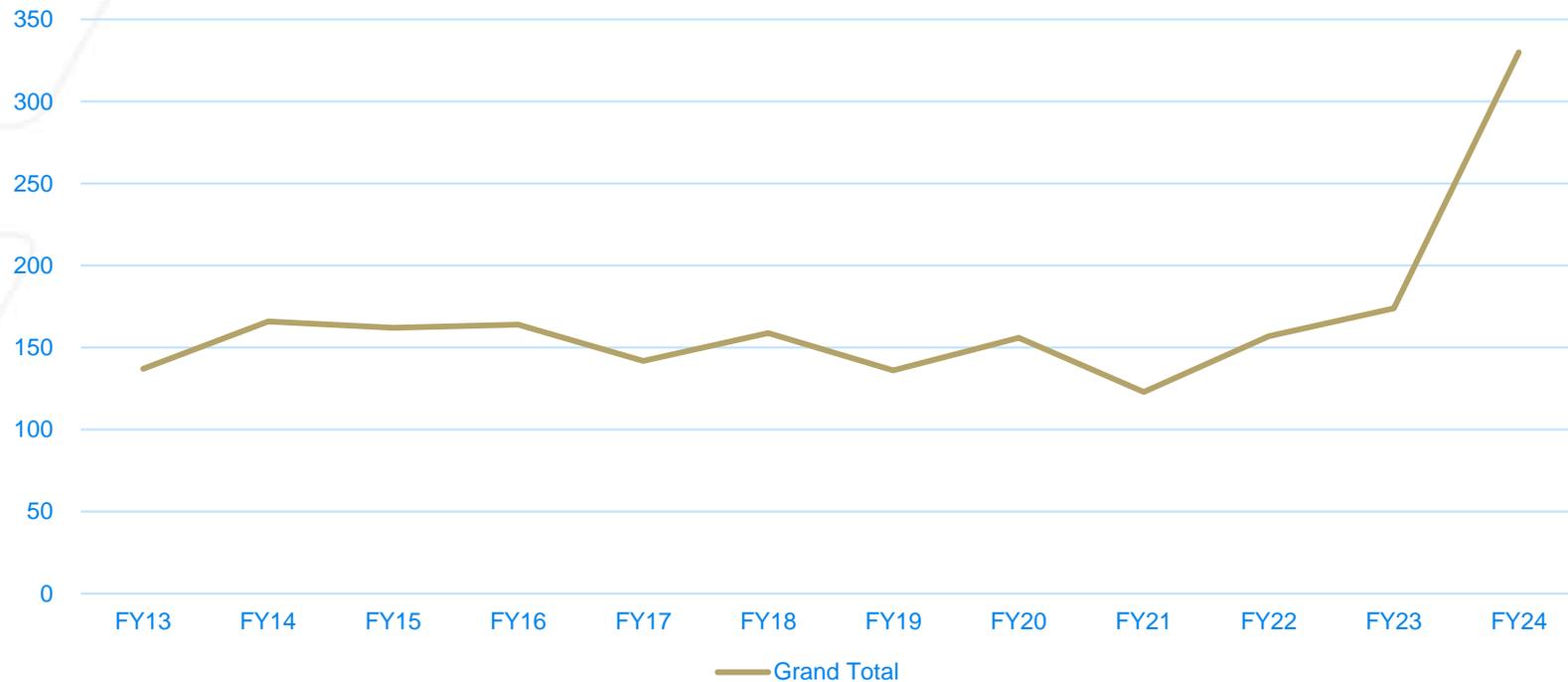
Total Funding From FY13 to FY24 by Category



- Following the Settlement in FY20, you can see that all RSO Categories started to receive more funding due to the relaxed new policy
- The sharp decrease in funding for Engineering RSOs and other categories in FY24 was due to SGA's funding process being shut down.

# 10 Year Breakdown of RSO Funding by Category

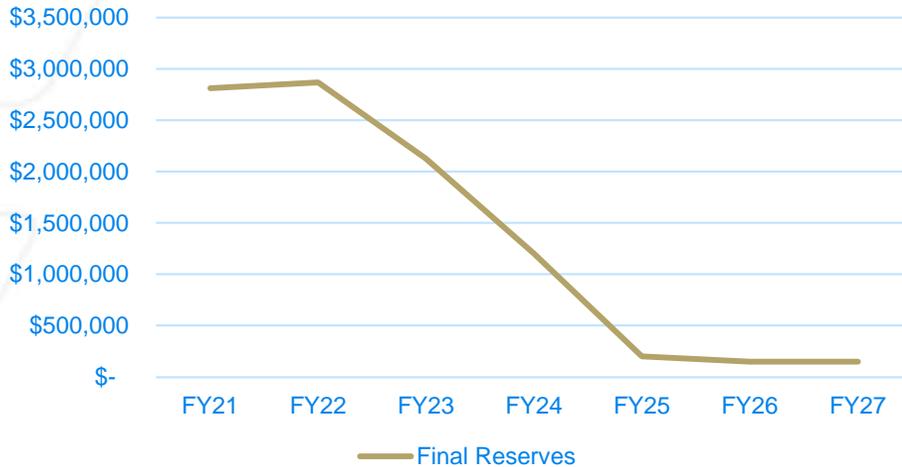
Number of RSOs Using Funding



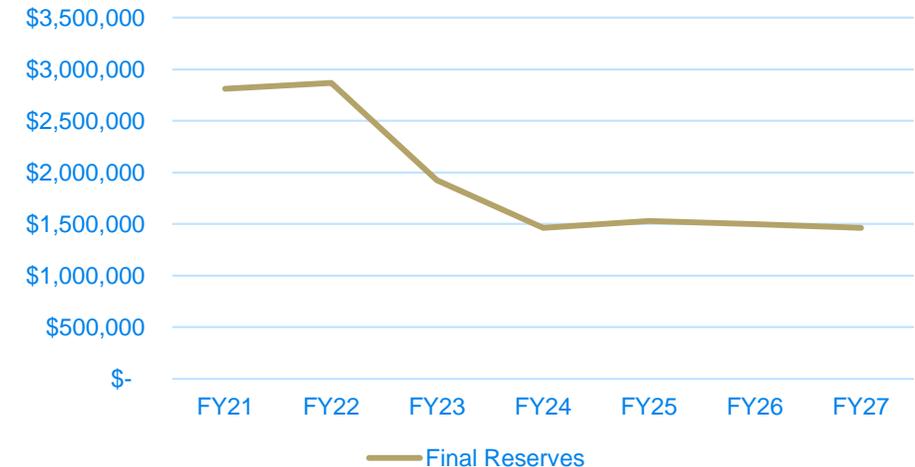
- Over time, more and more RSOs are coming to SGA for funding.
- As the student population grows, RSOs will be requiring more funds to operate and serve everyone.

# SAF Reserves Trends

Final Reserves Prior to Increase



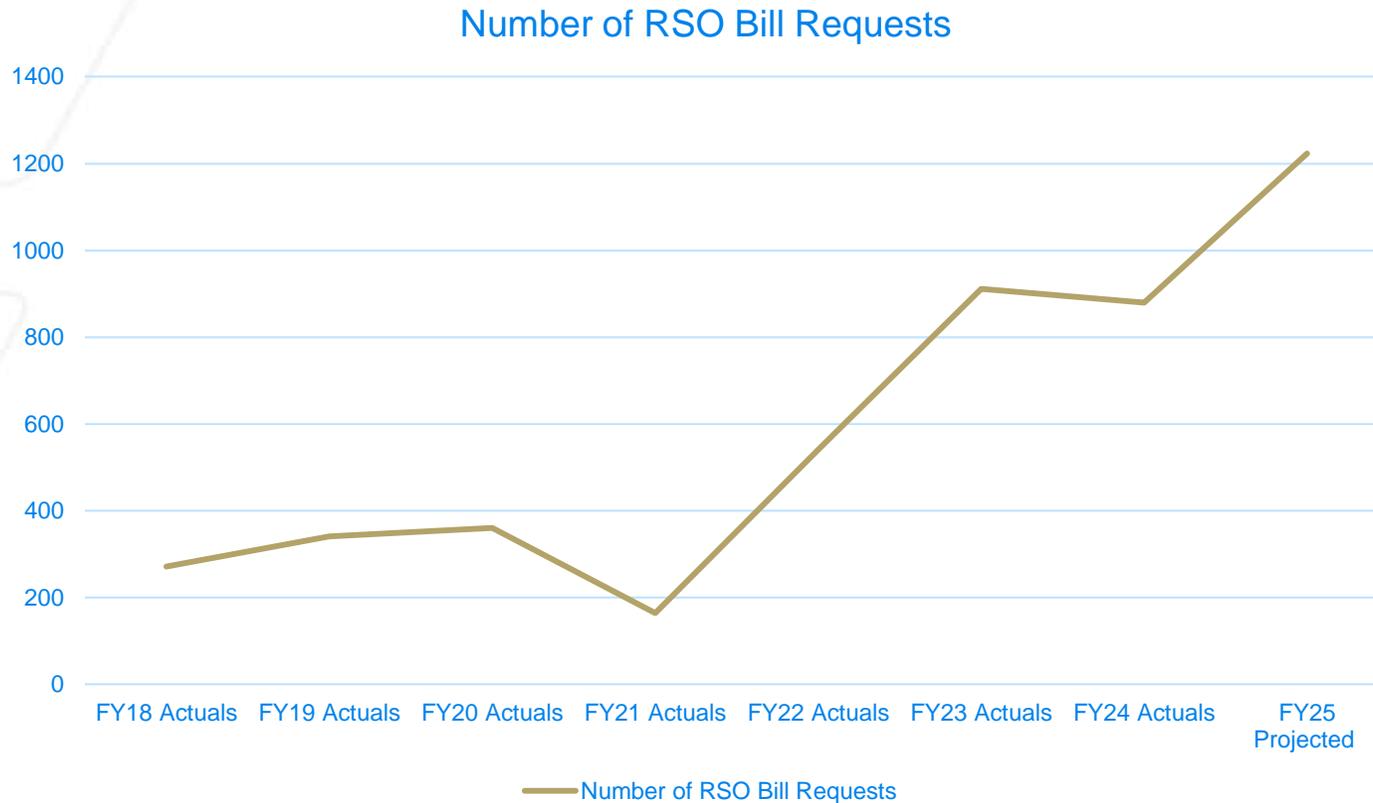
Final Reserves Post Increase



- Without receiving an increase, SGA's Reserves would have been vastly depleted in a few years.

- With the increase in the SAF, SGA's Reserves are much stronger and more sustainable.

# Number of RSO Funding Requests



- The FY21 dip was due to COVID.
- The FY24 dip was due to the Funding process closing early.

# Uses with the SAF Increase + Conclusion

- With the increase in revenue generated from the approved \$12 fee increase, SGA has managed to restabilize its reserves.
- SGA has also been able to look into expanding its fund accounts to better service all students.
  - SGA chartered this year the Campus Maintenance and Development JAC, which is a fund set to assist in campus-wide projects that would directly benefit students.
  - Some planned initiatives include updating and adding to the current inventory of hammocks around Tech Green and getting more storage lockers for RSOs to utilize on campus.
- SGA also has been working to double the amount allocated to the Conference Fund (\$100k --> \$200k) and Career Development Fund (\$20k --> \$40k).
  - SGA is also looking at increasing the student caps, which will make attending conferences more affordable.
  - By doubling these funds, SGA hopes to serve more students on campus with their academic endeavors.

A vintage car with a white top and two flags on the front is parked on a lawn in front of a large, multi-story brick building. The scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter. The word "Questions?" is written in a bold, dark blue font across the center of the image.

**Questions?**