

**SENATE RESOLUTION #2761**

**TITLE:** ASUW Recommendation on Proposed Mandatory Fees for FY23

**DATE INTRODUCED:** November 16, 2021

**AUTHOR:** Senator Titus and Vice President Anderson

**SPONSORS:** The Tuition Allocation and Student Fee Review Committee and President Swilling




1. WHEREAS, the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
2. (ASUW) Student Government is to serve our fellow students in the best manner
3. possible; and,
4. WHEREAS, Senate Bill #2713 established ASUW's Tuition Allocation and Student Fee
5. Review Committee; and,
6. WHEREAS, this Committee held hearings for all University of Wyoming (UW)
7. offices and departments which assess a fee to students to understand each
8. program's use of their fee and give recommendations on proposed
9. increases or other changes for the Fiscal Year 2023 UW Fee book; and,
10. WHEREAS, Addendums A and B cite the Committee's recommendations for these
11. proposed increases and other changes as well as the Committee's rationale for these
12. recommendations.
13. THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
14. (ASUW) Student Government that this resolution and Addendums A and B shall serve
15. as the official recommendation of the ASUW Student Government for the Fiscal Year
16. 2023 mandatory student fees.

PASSED 22-1

**Referred to:** Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy; Tuition Allocation and Student Fee Review

**Date of Passage:** November 30, 2021 **Signed:**   
(ASUW Chairperson)

“Being enacted on November 30, 2021, I do hereby sign my name hereto and  
approve this Senate action.”   
ASUW President

## Addendum A

<b>Mandatory Fee Table</b>	<b>FY22 Actual Fee</b>	<b>FY23 Proposed Fee Increase Per Semester</b>	<b>Proposed Percent Increase Per Semester</b>	<b>ASUW FY23 Total Fee Recommendation</b>
<b>ASUW</b>	\$48.69	\$6.31	13%	\$55.00 +Begin charging to distance students
<b>Consolidated Student Services/Student Affairs</b>	\$440.77	\$17.63	4%	\$458.40 +Begin charging to distance students
<b>Food Security Fee</b>	\$0.00	\$6.25	N/A	\$6.25
<b>Intercollegiate Athletics</b>	\$125.00	\$0.00	0.00%	\$125 +Begin charging the ICA Fee to part time students taking 6 or more credit hours
<b>International Students and Scholars*</b>	\$100 fall/spring \$75 summer	\$0.00	0.00%	\$100 fall/spring \$75 summer
<b>Interpersonal Violence Fee</b>	\$0.00	\$4.50	N/A	\$4.50
<b>Matriculation (one-time fee) *</b>	\$40.00	(\$40.00)	N/A	\$0.00
<b>Onboarding Fee (one-time fee) *</b>	\$0.00	\$400.00	N/A	\$150.00
<b>Orientation Fee (one-time fee) *</b>	\$60.00	(\$60.00)	N/A	\$0.00
<b>Music/Theatre</b>	\$6.05	\$0.0	0.00%	\$6.05
<b>Recycling</b>	\$10.12	\$0.00	0.00%	\$10.12
<b>Student Media</b>	\$21.19	\$0.00	0.00%	\$21.19
<b>Student Success</b>	\$30.50	\$31.50	103%	\$33.55
<b>Transit</b>	\$56.33	\$3.42	6%	\$59.75
<b>Union Fee</b>	0.00	\$30.00	N/A	\$15.00
<b>Total Mandatory Fees</b>	\$738.65	\$99.61	13.5%	\$794.81

PASSED 22-1

\*Indicates a fee which, while mandatory, is only charged once over the course of a student's time at the University of Wyoming or is not charged to all students. The totals for international and first-year students will differ from the totals reported in the table.

### **Addendum B**

**The ASUW Tuition Allocation and Student Fee Review Committee voted to approve the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming's proposed \$6.31 increase to and expansion of their mandatory student fee to distance students. The Committee cited that:**

- ASUW's Business Office has suffered due to chronic vacancies in its professional staff positions, and this fee increase would significantly increase their salaries.
- ASUW's Business Office staff positions have not seen pay increases since 2011.
- ASUW seeks to pay senators more money in the coming years, ideally allowing them to better represent their constituents and expand representation by allowing students who could not afford to do 4-8 hours of work per week for free to participate.

**The ASUW Tuition Allocation and Student Fee Review Committee voted to approve the proposed 4% increase to and expansion of the Consolidated Student Services Fee to distance students. The Committee cited that:**

- Generates approximately \$279,888.95 in annual revenue (estimate).
- As with many campus offices and departments, the Division of Student Affairs is struggling to retain existing employees and fill vacant positions.
- This increase would allow for pay increases to staff who manage and administer the services paid for by the Consolidated Student Services fee, allowing these services to continue to be offered to students at an extremely high level with a great deal of value added.
- The Consolidated Student Services fee provides the most value added to all students at the University of Wyoming of any fee.

**The ASUW Tuition Allocation and Student Fee Review Committee voted to approve the creation of a \$6.25 Food Security Fee. The Committee cited that:**

- The Division of Student Affairs and the UW Food Security Task Force have conducted numerous studies which have revealed a prominent level (around 30% or more of students) of food insecurity at the University of Wyoming.
- Food Security has been identified as a major Student Success Priority by previous ASUW administrations as well as the current administration.
- The UW Food Security Task Force has made enormous strides in ending food insecurity at the University of Wyoming with funding sourced primarily from donors, and they have identified and outlined numerous initiatives they would like to pursue, all of which would serve to increase the level of food security in students, faculty, and staff at the University of Wyoming.

**The ASUW Tuition Allocation and Student Fee Review Committee voted to approve the expansion of the \$125.00 Intercollegiate Athletics Fee to part time students enrolled in 6 or more credit hours. The Committee cited that:**

- Many part time students are members of the Laramie community and would serve to benefit from paying this fee, as this fee makes it far less expensive for students to come to Intercollegiate Athletics events than by purchasing season tickets or purchasing tickets individually.

- This would bring the Intercollegiate Athletics fee in line with other mandatory fees which are also assessed to part time students.

**The ASUW Tuition Allocation and Student Fee Review Committee voted to approve the creation of the \$4.50 per semester Interpersonal Violence Fee. The Committee cited that:**

- Forms of interpersonal violence such as sexual assault and domestic violence are a prevalent issue at the University of Wyoming.
- The Green Dot Program administered through the Dean of Student's office has shown promising results in its adoptions elsewhere. While the Committee felt that it was too early to assess its efficacy at the University of Wyoming, it will keep a close eye on the program's progress to further evaluate the necessity of this fee in coming years. In the interim, we recommend that this program be supported.

**The ASUW Tuition Allocation and Student Fee Review Committee voted to approve the reduction in the current Matriculation and Orientation Fees, and deny the original request of a new \$400.00 Onboarding Fee, instead voting to implement a \$150.00 Onboarding Fee. These justifications have been combined as these changes are all related. The committee cited that:**

- Based on the information provided to the committee, the tuition charged for the credits offered through the Saddle Up program (which is meant to be paid for by the Orientation fee) would cover the total costs of the Saddle Up program. If this program were to be implemented, we see no reason it could not be primarily funded through the tuition generated from the program.
- Including a \$400 fee and additional tuition, the total cost of this single-credit program would be \$554 for resident students, \$1,039 for non-resident students, and \$731 for the children of alumni. This is a significant additional cost for students at a time of rising inflation, and one that disproportionately affects socio-economically vulnerable students.
- Many students leave the University due to financial concerns as opposed to the cited reasoning of poor academic performance. Adding additional costs to the initial portion of the semester may cause students with financial disadvantages to leave at a higher rate than they currently do.
- The Committee would like to see a robust statistical analysis of the outcomes of this program at our peer institutes. Specifically, we need this analysis to control for all outside and external factors, and to indicate strong long-term positive effects derived explicitly and solely from this program.
- While it is claimed that the Saddle Up program would serve to close achievement gaps between various demographics at the University of Wyoming, the Committee has seen little evidence of these gaps being impacted at all by this program.
- The Committee feels that student input has not been considered as extensively as it should have been in the creation of this program, and that student buy-in and participation may be worse than expected. A representative on the Committee from the ASUW First-Year Senate noted that participation during Cowboy Connect was low, and that many students were unenthusiastic regarding the programming during this week.
- Survey data has shown prominent levels of success with in-person orientations in the past. The Committee expressed concerns that while this would cost students far more,

online orientation will continue, which has seen lower levels of engagement than prior in-person orientations.

- The Committee expressed concerns over the amount of programming that would take place in the week before classes begin. Many students view this week as an opportunity to settle into their new living situation, explore the University of Wyoming campus and greater Laramie community, and relax before classes begin.
- The math and science courses which are planned to be used as templates for the Saddle Up program are not courses which every student needs or is interested in. As well, many students arrive at the University of Wyoming with these credits already completed.
- The Committee was confused as to why First Year Seminar courses would be retained alongside the Saddle Up program, as these two programs were perceived to offer similar, if not the same, benefits to students.

**The ASUW Tuition Allocation and Student Fee Review Committee voted to deny the \$31.50 increase to the Student Success Fee, and instead voted to approve a \$3.05 increase in this fee. The committee cited that:**

- The Committee's representative from the First-Year Senate noted that they had limited, if any, interaction with their Cowboy Coach, and that many of their peers reported similar experiences.
- The data provided to the Committee showed that, on average, current Cowboy Coaches have only met one-on-one with their mentees 5 times throughout this semester. This does not justify the addition of 25 Cowboy Coach positions in the view of the Committee.
- A sizable portion of the Student Success fee is shown to be allocated to the Advising, Career, and Exploratory Studies Center, yet the Committee heard little about how this allocation would serve to improve advising at the University of Wyoming.
- The Committee expressed concerns over the Navigate platform being paid for by student fees in its entirety, as ASUW has seen little success with mobile software in the past. Furthermore, we believe that paying for this software should not fall solely on students in the form of fees, and that other methods of payment should be sought out.
- We believe that paying for AdmitHub with student fee dollars is wholly inappropriate, as this is a service primarily meant for parents or prospective students, and offers fewer services for current students.

**The ASUW Tuition Allocation and Student Fee Review Committee voted to approve the increase of \$3.42 in the Transit Fee. The Committee cited that:**

- COVID-19, rising maintenance prices, and difficulty retaining employees (specifically drivers) has increased Transit and Parking Service's bottom line.
- The University of Wyoming's Transit and Parking Services offers unique services to students such as SafeRide and Laramie Link, which require periodic increases in the Transit Fee to maintain.

**The ASUW Tuition Allocation and Student Fee Review Committee voted to deny the request to create a Union Fee of \$30 per semester, and instead voted to recommend the implementation of a \$15 dollar per semester fee. The Committee cited that:**

PASSED 22-1

- Student input is an important part of major changes and adaptations to the Wyoming Union, and is carefully considered by those responsible for updates to and maintenance in the building.
- The Union is one of the most trafficked and more heavily utilized spaces on campus, and thus requires extensive maintenance and upkeep.
- Regardless, a \$30/semester fee is sizable, and the committee would like to begin with a more conservative fee before seeking further increases.