

What are mandatory fees?

Mandatory fees are necessary to provide a complete range of student services that support the academic environment. UWG has the following mandatory fees: Activity, Athletic, Health, Technology, Transportation, Campus Center, International Scholarship, Athletic Complex, and Special Institutional fees. A complete university education is about more than just attending classes – it is about engaging in the rich co-curricular environment that complements and supplements the knowledge gained in the classroom.

Does HOPE cover mandatory fees?

HOPE does not cover any mandatory fees since the state of Georgia made changes to the HOPE funds in 2011. HOPE covers approximately 90% of tuition cost only. To learn more about HOPE, visit www.westga.edu/~finaid.

Do all public universities in Georgia have the same mandatory fees?

Within the University System of Georgia (USG), mandatory fees for full-time students range from \$492.00 at University of North Georgia – Blue Ridge, Gainesville, Cumming, & Oconee to \$1,212.00 at Georgia Institute of Technology. Some USG institutions pro-rate fees for part-time students, while others do not. For 2019 - 2020, UWG's mandatory fees for full-time students are the sixth-highest of the state's 19 public universities (below Valdosta, the University of Georgia, Georgia Southern, Georgia Tech, and Georgia State). To view fees at other USG institutions, go to www.usg.edu/fiscal_affairs/budget/tf/. Unlike UWG, most institutions also charge additional "optional" parking fees which students who wish to park on campus must pay.

Why should I have to pay fees for services I do not use?

UWG's fees and fee policies have been carefully set to provide the best possible services to the widest possible range of students at a reasonable cost. We have attempted to establish a policy that spreads the costs out as equitably as possible. It may help for you to think about these fees in the same way as you think about school taxes. Many people without children pay taxes that support their local schools, even though they will never personally "use" that service - but they certainly benefit from that expense because quality schools are necessary for a quality community environment. In that same way, university fees ensure the quality of the UWG community. When you examine the fees further, you will probably find that you actually "use" some of them more than you realize, that you benefit from some without realizing it, and that you could benefit from others if you choose to.

How does UWG decide how much to charge for mandatory fees? Each fee is reviewed annually by separate committees. By University System of Georgia policy, the membership of these committees must be made up of at least half students. The committees make recommendations to the President, who in turn makes recommendations to the Board of Regents.

Why are some mandatory fees based on the hours a student takes, while others cost the same for full and part-time students?

All students, regardless of the number of hours they take, are required to pay the full Technology fee because full-time and part-time students generally benefit equally from that fee. The Technology fee supports a variety of technological services that enhance the academic experience. All students taking an on-campus class, or living on campus, are required to pay the full Transportation fee, which assures safe and efficient traffic flow on the campus.

For students taking 1 – 4 hours the Health fee is prorated. Students taking 5 or more course hours will pay the full Health fee. All students pay the Health Fee because the Health Fee makes the campus safer and healthier for all students (for example, by ensuring that students are immunized, providing treatment for infectious diseases, and educating the campus community on ways to be healthier and safer).

The Athletic, Activity, Campus Center, and Athletic Center fees, Health fee are pro-rated, so part-time students pay less than full-time students. The pro-ration formulas were all recommended by committees with student members. Because of UWG's decision to pro-rate mandatory fees, part-time students at UWG pay less in fees than at most other institutions in Georgia

Do I have to pay all mandatory fees if I live on campus and take 100% online course(s)?

Yes, any student living on campus is required to pay all mandatory fees. A student living on campus has full access to all services associated with the mandatory fees provided by the University of West Georgia.