

International Student Fee Frequently Asked Questions

What is the International Student Fee?

The International Student Fee (\$45 per quarter) is used to pay for specialized services used by and for international students, such as visa processing, academic integrity outreach services, career counseling, International Teaching Assistant (ITA) training, and compliance reporting required by the Federal government. All enrolled international undergraduate students are required to pay the fee. The fee is also paid by all enrolled international graduate students who do not hold an Academic Student Employee (ASE) appointment in a given quarter. International online students who are enrolled 100% in an online program and, therefore, do not attend classes on campus, do not pay the fee. <http://f2.washington.edu/fm/sfs/tuition/components>

Why was this fee implemented?

The fee is a result of more than 2 years of work and research by a large committee that included many departments and students, and it was approved by the Board of Regents in July 2013. It is a response to the 114% increase in international students at the UW since 2007. UW student services offices across campus noticed an increased uptake in their services due to the growth in the international student population, and the fee was implemented to respond to this growth.

What is the amount of the fee?

\$45 per enrolled quarter.

Under what authority was the fee implemented?

The fee was approved by the Board of Regents and was implemented by the Office of the Provost.

Who pays the fee?

Any student who is paying the non-resident tuition rate who is not a US citizen or permanent resident pays the fee. This includes degree-seeking and exchange students. The exceptions are for those students enrolled in online classes who are not physically present on campus or graduate students with an RA or TA appointment.

Can the fee be waived?

If a student's account was incorrectly charged with the fee, then that fee can be removed by contacting the ISS. However, if the student is in a fee-paying category, the fee can not be waived.

Does this replace any existing fee?

In previous years international students were charged a \$70 orientation fee. That fee is no longer charged, and students pay only the \$45 fee.

What if the student didn't go to the International Student Orientation?

The fee was implemented to respond to growth in student service needs that has already occurred. Much like the IMA fee is charged whether or not the student visits the IMA, the

international student fee is charged whether or not a student uses a particular service. The hope is that the fee will provide value to every international student, whether it's through the FIUTS orientation, ISS, the Career Center, the Counseling Center, or any other office that received funds from the fee.

What if the student has a visa type that doesn't require ISS services?

The fee is not just for ISS, but provides funding across campus. Students in other visa types like H4 or E2, for example, are able to use the other student services offices that receive funding by the fee, such as Counseling or the Career Center. In addition, students in other visa types frequently will request a change of status to F1 to receive benefits, and therefore will be advised by ISS at some point in their educational program.

Do other universities have an international student fee?

Here is some information about international student fees at other institutions (not a comprehensive list):

- Purdue: \$2,000/year
- Penn State University: \$300/semester
- Mississippi State University: \$100/semester
- University of Texas-Austin: \$100/semester
- University of Georgia: \$50/semester
- University of Iowa: \$140/semester plus one time \$120 orientation fee
- Indiana University: \$82/semester
- SUNY Buffalo: \$100/semester
- Texas A&M: \$45/semester plus one-time \$35 fee