2001-02 student fees

The 2001-02 academic year is the seventh consecutive year that mandatory systemwide student fees have not increased at the University of California. The support of the governor, Legislature and taxpayers of California has helped UC continue to provide students with affordable access to a world-class education.

Resident undergraduate fees

Mandatory systemwide fees for resident undergraduates at UC remain unchanged in 2001-02, thanks to funding provided in the state budget to avoid a student fee increase. By contrast, college fees and tuition increased by an average of 7.7 percent at public four-year universities nationally this year, according to a College Board survey. State funding allowed UC’s mandatory systemwide fees for resident undergraduates to actually decline by a total of 10 percent during the 1998-99 and 1999-2000 years. In 2001-02, these fees total $3,429 per year.

Individual campuses also charge fees for a variety of local programs, services and facilities. The total varies by campus; many of these fees are approved by the students themselves in campus referenda. UC also has a new policy this year requiring undergraduate students to either have their own health insurance or enroll in the UC plan, and the charge for enrolling in the UC plan is included in the campus miscellaneous fees. The average fee total, including both systemwide and campus miscellaneous fees, for resident undergraduates purchasing health insurance in 2001-02 is $4,346. For those not purchasing insurance, the average is $3,859. This figure is more than $1,700 below the average of fees charged at the four public universities around the nation (Illinois, Michigan, SUNY Buffalo and Virginia) that UC uses for fee-comparison purposes.

Resident graduate fees

The 1999-2000 state budget provided funds to reduce fees for resident graduate academic students by 5 percent. Mandatory systemwide student fees for these students have remained unchanged since then at $3,609 per year. Total fees, including campus miscellaneous fees, average $4,914 in 2001-02. This figure is about $2,400 below the average of the comparison group.

Nonresident tuition

Nonresident tuition has increased 4.5 percent ($460) for the 2001-02 academic year. UC sets nonresident tuition consistent with a state policy adopted by the Legislature in 1990 that ties tuition levels for out-of-state students to the actual cost of instruction and to the nonresident charges imposed by the comparison institutions. The policy also calls for gradual, moderate and predictable increases in nonresident tuition. The increase in 2001-02 raises nonresident tuition to $10,704 per year. In addition, out-of-state students pay regular systemwide and campus-based fees. The total averages $14,933, excluding health insurance, for undergraduates, or $1,098 less than the average at the four comparison institutions; and $15,808 for graduate students, or $483 less than the comparison group average.

Financial aid

Financial aid plays a major role in making UC accessible. UC students receive more than $1 billion in financial aid each year, more than half of it in the form of gift aid. A major new expansion of the state’s Cal Grant program also now guarantees financial aid awards to graduating high school students who meet the program eligibility requirements. For details, visit www.csac.ca.gov.