

**STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES**  
**Annual Survey of Fees FY 2021-22**

**Background Information:** 1E SBCCC 700.1(e) of the State Board Codes states “*The college shall report all required local fees established by the board of trustees to the System Office on an annual basis as directed by the System Office.*” Local fees are defined as instructional technology; student activity; college access, parking, and security (CAPS); and required specific fees. State Board policy regarding all four types of local fees permits the retention and expenditure of receipts collected locally. Because receipts are held in colleges’ institutional accounts, the System Office cannot obtain this information without surveying the colleges. Local boards of trustees and their presidents have the authority to levy fees not inconsistent with the parameters established by the State Board.

**Survey Results:**

**Fee Types**

As noted, there are four types of fees that local boards may charge under current State Board policy. They include:

1. Instructional Technology Fee
  - a. Curriculum (\$48 per academic term maximum)
  - b. Continuing Education (\$5 per course maximum)
2. Student Activity Fee (\$35 per academic term maximum)
3. College Access, Parking and Security Fee (CAPS) (no maximum)
4. Required Specific Fees (no maximum)

**Executive Summary**

Note: Many of the year-to-year changes are noted in parentheses ().

1. Instructional Technology Fee
  - a. Curriculum:
    - Fifty-five colleges charged this fee to students (same as 2020-21).
    - Of the 55 colleges that charged a fee, 13 (+1) charged up to the \$48 per academic term maximum permitted, and the remaining 42 (-1) charged less than the \$48 maximum. Three of those 55 colleges waived the fee for the summer term. No college charged more than the \$48 per academic term maximum.
    - For the fiscal year, colleges expended \$11.17 million (+\$4.68 million) and had on-hand a cash balance of \$35.9 million (+\$511,000).

- The cash balance may be used for the procurement, maintenance, operating and repair of computers and other instructional technology (hardware and software), including supplies and materials for operations.
- Colleges are authorized to use instructional technology fee receipts to hire support positions to operate, maintain, and repair this technology.

b. Continuing Education:

- Thirty-six colleges charged a fee (same as 2020-21).
- Of the 36 that charged a fee, 32 charged the \$5 per course maximum permitted (same as 2020-21), and four charged up to \$3 (same as 2020-21). No college charged more than the \$5 per course maximum.
- For the fiscal year, colleges expended \$24,176 (-\$18,588) and ended with a cash balance of \$1.29 million (+\$107,235).
- The cash balance may be used for the same purposes noted for curriculum.

2. Student Activity Fees

- Fifty-seven of the colleges charged a student activity fee during the fall and spring semesters (same as 2020-21). Twenty-three colleges (+1) charged up to the \$35 maximum permitted in fiscal year 2021-22. Twenty-one colleges (+1) waived the fee for the summer term. No college charged more than the \$35 per academic term maximum.
- For the fiscal year, colleges expended \$11.21 million (+\$2.8 million) and had on-hand a cash balance of \$10.89 million (+\$710,000).
- The receipts that are collected from the fee may be used to support student activities.
- Student activities include the Student Government Association (SGA), scholarships, student functions and events, athletics, clubs, graduation expenses, IDs, and student publications.
- Of the funds expended in fiscal year 2021-22, 25% were for student functions and events, 14% for the SGA, 26% for staff salaries, 28% for athletics, and 7% among other student purposes.

3. College Access, Parking and Security (CAPS) Fees

- Forty-nine (-2 from fiscal year 2020-21) colleges charged a parking fee. Of the 49 colleges, one waived this fee during the summer term.
- While there is no maximum that can be charged, as State Board policy leaves this up to the local Board of Trustees, the range charged was from \$2 to \$75 per semester. The most common charges were between \$5 and \$25 per semester.
- For the fiscal year, colleges expended \$10.50 million (+\$1.2 million) and had a fund balance of \$28.31 million (+\$3.3 million).

- Of the funds expended in fiscal year 2021-22, 4% were for paving/resurfacing, 70% for security, 8% for student transportation, and 18% for parking enforcement.

4. Required Specific Fees

- Specific fees are used for the purposes for which they are charged and collected, including consumables expended in the instructional process, including tools, uniforms, lab supplies, insurance, certification/licensure fees, etc.
- In the survey, colleges were asked to provide a list of the fees charged, rate, course type, and amounts collected. We did not ask for the fund balances because fund balance is rarely built on these fees, as they are spent for the immediate classes or activities offered.