

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

PROPOSED INCREASE TO THE STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES FEE

Shall the current SDSU mandatory health services fee be increased by \$65 per semester and \$50 for the summer term – from the current amount of \$85 per semester and \$60 for the summer term – to a total of \$150 per semester and \$110 per summer term effective in spring 2011? The proposed fee levels per semester, if this fee is approved, will apply to all students at San Diego State University, except those exclusively attending Imperial Valley Campus.

I. Proposed Increase to Mandatory Student Health Program Fees

All students at San Diego State University currently pay \$85 per semester (\$60 for the summer term) in support of programs in Student Health Services. This support (1) enables students to access basic health services at no per visit charge and (2) subsidizes low cost prescriptions, laboratory tests and other services. This fee has been constant for eight years. This alternative consultation process seeks student input regarding a proposed increase, effective spring 2011 of \$65 per semester (\$50 for the summer semester) to support Student Health Services programs.

OPEN FORUMS TO BE HELD:

Times and Locations: TBD

SUMMARY OF ISSUE

A Recommendation in favor of the proposed fee increase means:

1. The Student Health Services fee will be increased by \$65 per semester and \$50 for the summer term for all students at SDSU except those exclusively attending Imperial Valley Campus. The increase will be effective Spring 2011.
2. Student Health Services will be able to maintain and modestly expand the level of existing and basic augmented medical and mental health services such as:
 - **General Office visits** (e.g. visits for bronchitis, flu, bladder infections, sexually transmitted diseases, skin problems, chronic illness such as diabetes and asthma, pre-employment examinations, travel immunizations.
 - **Urgent Care:** acute illness and injuries (e.g., pneumonia, lacerations, fractures, burns.)
 - **Mental Health Care and Screenings**
 - **Minor Surgery:** Mole or cyst removal, biopsies
 - **X-Ray Services**
 - **Laboratory Services:** Blood and urine tests, cultures, pregnancy tests, HIV tests.
 - **Pharmacy:** Discounts on prescriptions and over-the-counter drug items.
 - **Health Promotion:** Health Promotion counseling (weight control and nutrition, tobacco and alcohol use), medical social work, pregnancy counseling, peer- education.
 - **Optometry and Preventive Dentistry services.**

A Recommendation in opposition to the proposed fee increase means:

1. The Student Health Services fee will remain at its current level of \$85 per semester and \$60 for the summer term.
2. Student Health Services will not be able to sustain the current level of basic health care and medical services. Immediate reduction in services may include, but may not be limited to:
 - **Reduction of non–urgent care services** (e.g., elective physical exams, allergy injections).
 - **Reduced ability for students to make appointments for general office visits** – students will be seen on a first-come, first served basis for general medical care.
 - **Reduction and eventual elimination of specialty clinics and ancillary services** (e.g. lab, x-ray, gynecology, orthopedics, sports medicine, etc).
 - **Restriction of Health Promotion services** (e.g. Nutrition, and other health related counseling).
 - **Increased wait times for physical, mental health care and other services.**
 - **Reduction in Health Service hours.**
 - **Increased cost to patients of elective Immunizations Programs** (e.g., measles, travel immunizations, flu shots for patients not at risk).
 - **Increased costs of pharmaceuticals and other services.**

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS: Student Health Services programs are currently supported by a \$85 per semester fee. The level of this fee, approved in 2002 was projected to sustain operations only through mid- year 2005. Due to increases in medical and mental health care expenses and reductions in enrollment, the projected cost of sustaining services is \$150.00 per student, per semester.

The proposed increase in the current health services fee of \$65 per semester (\$50 for the summer semester), except those exclusively attending Imperial Valley Campus, will raise the fee from the current amount of \$85 per semester (\$60 for the summer semester) to \$150 per semester (\$110 per summer semester). The increase will be effective Spring 2011. The proposed \$65 per semester fee increase will generate approximately \$4 million annually. Of this amount, \$2.5 million will be used to overcome anticipated annual losses. The balance will be used to address emerging mental health care expansion in services.

Prepared by the Campus Fee Advisory Committee