

Tuition and Fee Accountability Policy *Students' Legislative Council (66.27)*

Passed: February 3, 2009 (66.52)

Amended: April 1, 2014 (71.68),
February 13, 2018 (75.29)



**STUDENTS'
UNION**

University of Calgary

Background

Section 3 of the Alberta *Public Post-Secondary Institutions' Tuition Fees Regulation* establishes consultation requirements for university boards regarding anticipated tuition fee changes.

Definitions

Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees refer to compulsory fees levied on students for additional services and expenses that are unrelated to the provision of instruction and a safe and productive academic environment. Mandatory non-instructional fees may include, but are not limited to, recreation, athletics, and student services fees.

Meal Plan Rates refers to Meal Plan Money and Food Funds packages purchased by students attending the University of Calgary. Meal Plan purchases are required for students living in some University of Calgary residence facilities¹.

Tuition refers to mandatory fees payable to the University of Calgary by students for materials and services that facilitate instruction in courses, as defined in the Alberta *Public Post-Secondary Institutions' Tuition Fees Regulation*.

Residence Rates refer to the fees charged to students living in University of Calgary residence facilities which include the cost of housing, student programming, furniture, utilities, and internet services. Residence rates do not refer to Meal Plan rates, Fridge Fees, or Activity Fees².

Authority

- 1 (1) Section 93(3) of the *Post-Secondary Learning Act* legislates that the students' association of a public post-secondary institution shall provide for the administration of student affairs at the public post-secondary institution, including the promotion of the general welfare of the students consistent with the purposes of the public post-secondary institution.
- (2) Section 95(4) of the *Post-Secondary Learning Act* legislates that the Students' Legislative Council (SLC) is the official channel of communication between students at the University of Calgary and the University of Calgary Board of Governors.
- 2 (1) Article VI, Section B of the Constitution establishes SLC as the policy making body of the Students' Union.

¹ <http://www.ucalgary.ca/residence/livinghere/mealplans>

² <http://www.ucalgary.ca/residence/apply/rates2018>

- (2) The SU's Policy Development and Review Policy establishes Advocacy Policy as a means for the SU to represent the interests of Active Members to university administration.

Purpose

- 3 (1) The purpose of this advocacy policy shall be to establish a process in which undergraduate student representatives:
 - (a) Provide input throughout the tuition consultation process;
 - (b) Determine if proposed tuition and fee changes add value to the student experience at the University of Calgary; and
 - (c) Direct the SU President's vote on specific matters at the University of Calgary Board of Governors.

Policy Statement

- 4 (1) In determining the value of tuition and fee changes, SLC shall consider the following principles:
 - (a) The quality of education;
 - (b) The quality of student life; and
 - (c) Affordability and accessibility.

Accountability

- 5 (1) SU Executives participating in the university's tuition consultation process shall report to SLC on an ongoing basis, engaging in discussion and information sessions with SLC after each consultation meeting with university administration, or as required.
- 6 (1) The SU President shall consult with the Residence Students' Association (RSA) regarding residence rates and meal plan proposals prior to voting on proposed changes at the Board of Governors.
- 7 (1) University and Government Relations Committee shall recommend to SLC a position on university proposals related to tuition and mandatory non-instructional fees.
- 8 (1) SLC shall approve the SU's official position on university proposals related to tuition and mandatory non-instructional fees. The SU President shall vote in accordance with these approved positions at the University of Calgary Board Of Governors.