

FACT SHEET 1



HISTORY OF STUDENT FEE INCREASES IN CALIFORNIA

When the University of California was founded in 1868, the UC Board of Regents prohibited the collection of tuition and established a principle of tuition-free higher education for California residents. By 1960 however, the collection of student “fees” was approved, differentiated from tuition as charges for services not directly related to the costs of instruction. Over the years fees have increased dramatically, serving in all practical manner as tuition costs and making California colleges less affordable each year.

Statistics

- UC Fees are 4.5 times higher and CSU fees are 4.9 times higher than they were forty years ago.
- Between the fall of 2002 and the fall of 2003, fee increases for UC schools rose by approximately 40%. That same year, CSU schools saw a 36% increase.
- In the past five years, UC fees were raised by \$3,072, an 86% increase and CSU fees were raised by \$1,265, an 84% increase.
- Under the Governor’s current plan for 2007-2008, UC students will face a 7% increase in fees and CSU fees will rise 10%.
- Many deans from various professional schools are asking the Regents for increases that could allow fees to skyrocket by 65%. Dean Edley, Dean of UC Berkeley’s School of Law, wants fees to soar by 64% to a startling \$43, 932 a year.

Why the Hikes?

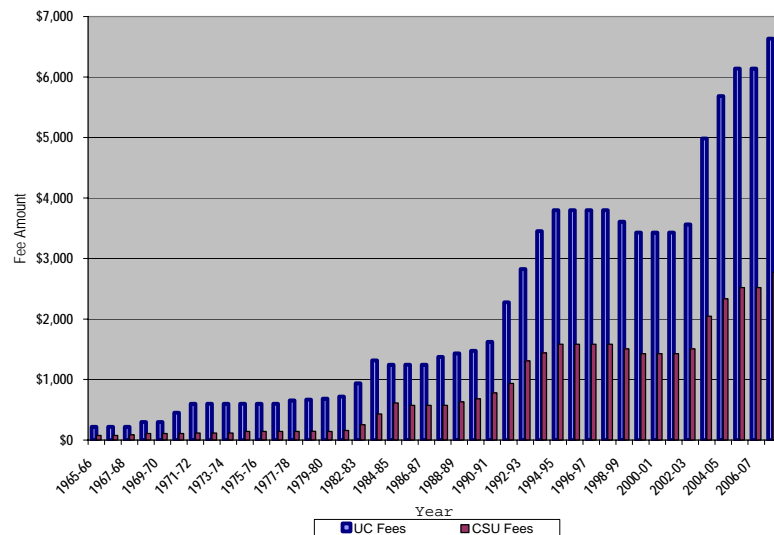
- In the fall of 2007, the UC administration stated that the fee hikes are necessary to maintain “academic quality and to pay for the salaries of the most talented faculty.” CSU carried the same sentiment.
- Faculty salaries at the UC and CSU schools however, are still lower than comparable institutions across the nation. This leads us to

question where the money from fee hikes is really going.

What You Can Expect: Impact of High Fees on Students

- 52% of UC students graduate with approximately \$13, 699 worth of loan debt.
- 48% of CSU students graduate with an average loan debt of \$13,554.

UC and CSU Fee Increases



- Debt makes buying a house, car, or pursuing a public service career after college very difficult.

A Prosperous Future: Impact of Higher Fees on the Economy

- By 2025, the demand for workers with a high school education will decrease while the demand for a college education will increase.
- Only 33% of the state's working-age adults were projected to have a college degree in 2025, but 39% of jobs in the state's economy were projected to need a college graduate worker.
- For every new dollar California invests to get more students in and through college, it will receive a net return of three dollars, translating into approximately \$3 billion to the state in addition next tax revenue.¹
- Three industries will require the largest number of highly educated workers: technical services, education and healthcare, with an approximate need of 3.2 million newly educated workers in those fields.²
- If attaining a college education remains financially difficult, California should expect a dent in their economy in the near future.

Resources

College Campaign. <http://www.collegecampaign.org/>

California Community Colleges: Making Them Stronger and More Affordable. <http://www.highereducation.org/reports/calcc/calcc.pdf>

California Post Secondary Education <http://www.cpec.ca.gov/>

Return on Investment. http://ucdata.berkeley.edu:7101/new_web/pubs/Return_On_Investment_Final_Report.pdf

The Closing Gateway: Californians Consider Their Higher Education System. http://www.eric.ed.gov/ERICDocs/data/ericdocs2sql/content_storage_01/0000019b/80/13/34/52.pdf

University of California Systemwide Resident Undergraduate Student Fees <http://www.cpec.ca.gov/Accountability/FeesGraph.ASP>

California State University Systemwide Resident Undergraduate Student Fees <http://www.cpec.ca.gov/Accountability/FeesGraph.ASP>

The Nexus Between Postsecondary Education and Workforce Development: A Workforce and Employer Perspective, A CPEC Report. <http://www.cpec.ca.gov/completereports/2006reports/06-19.pdf>

California 2025: Can California Import Enough College Graduates to Meet Workforce Needs? http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/cacounts/CC_507HJCC.pdf

Endnotes

¹UC Berkeley Report, Return on Investment

² <http://www.collegecampaign.org/facts/the-problem-ahead/index2.html>