



Counseling, Health & Wellness Services (CHW) Proposal to Increase the 2017-2018 Health Services Fee

- Proposed Motion:** Approve a \$10/qtr increase to the Health Services Fee that will increase the 2017-2018 fee from \$96/qtr to \$106/qtr
- Sponsor:** Stephanie Cheng, Associated Students President
- Contact:** Janet McLeod, Counseling, Health & Wellness Business Manager
- Guest Speakers:** Dr. Kunle Ojikutu, Asst. VP for Enrollment & Student Services
Kevin Gorham, CHW Services Committee Student Representative
- Date:** May 25, 2017

Attached Document

Attached is the Counseling, Health & Wellness Services proposal to increase the mandatory Health Services Fee. This document includes the purpose and history of the fee, a summary of services, budget details and the current distribution of the Health Services Fee.

Background & Context

The current FY17 CHW Self-Sustaining budget is \$4,325,000. Counseling, Health & Wellness Services depts. with the exception of the Counseling Center, are self-sustaining. The Health Services Fee is the primary financial resource for the Student Health Center, Prevention & Wellness Services and CHW Administrative Services. The Counseling Center budget receives 61% in state support (\$835,430) and 39% from the Health Services Fee (\$540,240).

Summary of Proposal

The Counseling, Health and Wellness Services Committee voted and approved the proposal to increase the Health Services Fee by \$10 per quarter (\$30/academic year) to provide ongoing funding for current services. The fee for the academic year would increase from \$288 to \$318.

As in the two previous years, proposed increases to salaries and benefits determined by the legislature will have a significant impact on a budget that primarily consists of personnel expenses (81%). Goods & services (12.5%) and the Administrative Services Assessment (6.5%) make up the rest of the current budget.

The proposed **\$10.00/qtr** fee increase would be used to fund increased expenses:

\$5.00/qtr for legislative across the board salary increases for professional staff (4%) and classified staff (2%), additional hourly fill-in staffing for peak times/illness coverage, and an increase to the minimum wage that would impact student wages. (**\$213,090** - 50% of quarterly fee increase)

\$2.10/qtr would be used to cover benefits associated with the salary increases as well as an increase to the employer cost of health care which is increasing from \$888/mo to \$970/mo or \$984/staff/year. (**\$86,935** - 21% of quarterly fee increase)

\$1.30/qtr for overall increase to Goods & Services for all departments.
(**\$52,340** - 13% of quarterly fee increase)

\$1.60/qtr due to an increase to the Administrative Services Assessment that is calculated as a % of gross revenue. The assessment is being increased from 6.5% to 7.35%. The assessment for the FY18 budgeted base revenue would require an additional .85%. The proposed FY18 request for an additional \$420,000 in fee revenue would be assessed at 7.35%.
(**\$36,765 + 30,870 = \$67,635 Total** - 16% of quarterly fee increase)

Fiscal Impacts

Students would pay an additional \$10/qtr. which would generate \$420,000 in revenue. See attached document for more details by department and by type of expense requiring additional funding.

Rationale

Demand for all CHW services continues to increase each year. If approved, the proposed increase to the Health Services Fee would allow the Student Health Center, the Counseling Center and Prevention & Wellness Services to maintain current staffing resulting in no reduction to current programs or services.

Increasing the Health Services fee to maintain access to services would continue the practice of having no charge for general medical office visits at the Health Center and no charge for counseling sessions. The alternative would be to significantly increase all existing services fees and charge a copay or some other additional charge for appointments at the Health Center and the Counseling Center. This fee proposal would maintain a service model that has no financial impediment to accessing the services.

It is often difficult and cost prohibitive for students to find and obtain services from providers in the community. The mandatory Health Services Fee is a cost for students but maintaining campus based access to counseling, health and wellness services, when compared to the cost of obtaining the services in the community, is the most affordable option for students.