Spring 2021 fee assessment overview

- Fall 2020 fee assessment
  - involved three different fee schedules and was extremely confusing to students.
  - was based upon historical practice and not relevant for COVID. Some students were assessed fees at a rate that did not reflect costs or utilization of resources.
  - also incentivized students to drop in-person classes.
- Spring 2021 fee assessment:
  - Is the same for all students. This is easier to understand and also removes the incentive to enroll in all online classes.
  - Every student receives a 30% fee reduction ($467) compared to a normal semester. This acknowledges the unique nature of COVID and the Spring term.

FAQs

Q. Why do I have to pay more in fees this semester?
A. Based upon historical practice, students who had a fully online schedule in the fall semester were assessed fees at lower rate. This rate did not accurately reflect the costs of services and was also very confusing. The revised structure for the spring is more fair to all students and easier to understand.

Q. I’m in an online program (examples: Human Resource Development, iMBA, iCAN in Computer Science) do my fees change?
A. No. Fee assessment for students in online programs are unchanged.

Q. I’m off-campus, why do I have to pay the Transportation fee?
A. All students receive a 63% reduction in the Transportation fee. The fee is necessary to help cover our contract with Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit for this year and future years. Without this fee, students would lose access to the city bus system in future years.

Q. I’m off-campus, why do I have to pay the Health Service fee?
A. All students receive a 10% reduction in the Health Service fee. All students, regardless of location, have access to McKinley Health Center and Counseling Center services. Due to professional licensure constraints, there are some restrictions on providing clinical services. Specifically, the Counseling Center Staff can offer individual and group therapy services to students residing in the state of Illinois. However, all students, regardless of location can access all outreach and prevention services which include our psychoeducation workshops, alcohol and other drug skill building workshops, daily meditations, and other skill building workshops. Virtual consultations are also available for all students regardless of where they reside, including with our embedded counselors and other outreach team staff.

Q. The Library is closed, why do I have to pay the Library/IT fee?
A. The Library is open. In addition, our library features an incredible array of online resources, including the majority all holdings available online. The Library/IT fee also funds network infrastructure, which is more heavily utilized with our increase in online courses.

Q. Why can’t I only pay for the services I use?
A. We do not have a “pay as you go” system. In addition to things that are available to all students regardless of location (McKinley, Counseling Center, Campus Recreation, Library, Leadership Center, Career Center, Dean of Students) fees also pay for campus infrastructure. Even if a student is away from campus, they are benefitting from campus infrastructure (IT, instructional facilities) and will do so in future semesters when they return.