Fall 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.
- Fall 2021 fee assessment:
  - Returns to standard assessment which is based on number of hours enrolled for students in campus-based programs and independent non-degree courses. This is based on anticipation of a Fall 2021 semester that is closer to normal with a resumption as much as possible of in-person instruction and services.

FAQs

Q. Why do I have to pay more in fees this semester?
A. After reduced rates for most students in Fall 2020 and all students in Spring 2021, starting Fall 2021, fees are returning to pre-pandemic assessment rates.

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 has been and remains unchanged.

Q. I’m off-campus, why do I have to pay the Transportation fee?
A. If you are in a campus-based program but taking all of your courses online and not residing in the campus area, your fee assessment is driven based on your campus-based program, not on your schedule’s delivery mode nor your place of residence. The Transportation 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 in campus-based programs, 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. See response to the Health Service fee question regarding Counseling Center services