

Below are some common questions you may have about the ATHENA Student Account System. We hope you find this helpful information.

What is the Special Institutional Fee?

This is a general purpose fee charged system-wide by the University System Board of Regents at all “teaching” institutions. This fee was established in 2009 (BOR Minutes, June 2009) to ensure continued academic excellence during times of reductions in State funding.

Institutional fees at each University System institution differ depending on the institution’s classification and every University System institution is required to charge the institutional fee. To be more specific, the four research institutions (UGA, Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia State University, and Georgia Regents University) all assess an institutional fee of at least \$450. Students enrolled less than 1/2 time are assessed one-half of the institutional fee.

The institutional fee was introduced during a time of serious economic downturn accompanied by state budget cuts. This fee was designed to create revenues to offset the state budget reductions and was determined to be absolutely essential by the University System Board of Regents. While this fee was implemented for these reasons, no timetable has been announced as to when this fee will conclude. The revenues from this fee are still essential to offset significantly reduced state funding and to maintain academic excellence for students.

What is the Authorized Use of the Special Institutional Fee?

Institutional fees are available to support any level of operations that would be appropriate for any educational and general fund source. The University of Georgia has dedicated funds we receive from this fee to maintain excellence of our instruction standards and to enhance the academic experience of our students. Funds generated by the fee allow the University to avoid increased class sizes, proactively address availability in high-demand courses, and enhance academic advising and research opportunities for our students.

What services are provided by the Student Activity/Athletic/Health/Facilities/Recreation and the Technology and Transportation fees?

Services provided are:

- **Activity:** Provides free or reduced price admission to programs provided by the Department of Student Activities such as concerts, lectures, movies and other academically related student clubs and organizations. For more information, contact the Department of Student Activities at 706.542.7774
- **Athletic Fee:** Provides free or reduced price admission to UGA athletic events. For more information contact the Athletic Office at 706.542.1231.
- **Facilities fee:** Currently this fee covers basic user fees and financial obligations of the Ramsey Student Center and the financial obligation of the Tate Center expansion. For

questions regarding the Ramsey Student Center call 706.542.5060. For questions regarding the Tate Center expansion call 706.542.7444.

- **Green Fee:** Helps to fund UGA's Office of Sustainability and its role in both coordinating existing programs that reduce the University's environmental impact on each of its campuses as well as establishing new or more comprehensive programs with the same objective. The Green Fee also will support student internships in the Office of Sustainability, student research/service grants, and environmental education initiatives. For more information, contact the Office of Sustainability at 706.542.1301.
- **Health Fee:** Entitles access to a wide range of health care services and programs provided by the University Health Service. The fee supports the health care facility and staff.
- **Recreation Fee:** This fee provides revenue to assist in the operations of the Recreational Sports Department, including intramural sports activities. For more information, contact the Department of Recreation Sports at 706.542.5060.
- **Technology Fee:** Helps to fund new computer labs, replacement of machines in existing labs, classroom upgrades and classroom AV equipment, advanced hardware and software for instruction, technology-based course development, student technical support and training, extended hours for computer labs, special technology services for students, and other technological advances of direct benefit to students. For a complete listing of the technology fee allocations at UGA, visit <http://eits.uga.edu/techfee>
- **Transportation Fee:** Supports the Campus Transit System and entitles students to ride Athens Transit System buses at no charge.

Why can't I waive my fees?

Please see the University of Georgia Fee Policy

http://www.busfin.uga.edu/bursar/tuition_mandatory_fee_policy.pdf

Why can't I see my charges and payments?

Please make sure you are using the correct log in links. Go to bursar.uga.edu and on the left hand side of the page you will see 2 boxes. The top box has ATHENA STUDENT ACCOUNT – Fall 2014 and beyond. If you are trying to see fall 2014 charges and payments you MUST use this link. If you are trying to look at summer 2014 or prior you will want to use the second box labeled STUDENT ACCOUNTS. This is due to our transition from our old legacy system to the new ATHENA student system.

How do I allow my parents to see my ATHENA Student Accounts? We have put together some detailed instructions that we hope you find helpful.

http://www.busfin.uga.edu/bursar/athena_authorized_user_screenshots.pdf