

SPECIAL INSTITUTIONAL FEE FACT SHEET

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.