



CPEC

Fees at California's Public Colleges and Universities

California Postsecondary Education Commission
www.cpec.ca.gov

Report 10-01 • March 2010 • by Ryan Fuller

Fees at California's public colleges and universities have increased considerably with the current state budget crisis, but are still lower than fees at comparable institutions in other states. At California State University, fees for full-time undergraduate students are \$4,893 for the 2009–10 school year. Fees at the University of California are \$9,311. Fees are likely to increase further next year. The UC Board of Regents has approved an additional 15% increase for 2010–11 and the Governor's budget assumes an increase of 10% at CSU.

California Community Colleges

Fees in 2009–10 are \$26 per unit for California residents. Students taking a full-time load of 15 units in each semester pay \$780 for the academic year. Financially needy students may qualify for a Board of Governors fee waiver.

California's community college fees are the lowest in the nation and are significantly lower than fees in other large states (see page 3). Nationally, community college fees for full-time students averaged \$3,000 in 2009–10.

California State University

CSU's 2009–10 fees are \$4,893 for full-time students who are California residents. This consists of \$4,026 in systemwide fees plus campus fees that average \$867. Campus fees help pay for counseling, student union activities, student government, and other support services.

Fees are considerably less than the average for the 15 public universities that CSU compares itself to for setting faculty salaries. Of these, only the University of Nevada, Reno has lower fees than CSU.

University of California

UC's fees are lower than fees at three of the four public universities that UC compares itself to for setting faculty salaries. Undergraduate fees for California residents average \$9,311 in 2009–10. This consists of \$8,373 in systemwide fees and mandatory campus fees that average \$938.

Undergraduate Fees 2009–10

Fees for full-time students who are state residents

CSU and comparable universities

Rutgers University, Newark, N.J.	11,886
Illinois State University, Normal	10,531
University of Connecticut, Storrs	9,886
Wayne State University, Detroit	9,272
University of Maryland, Baltimore	8,872
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee	8,522
University of Texas, Arlington	8,186
George Mason University	8,024
Cleveland State University	7,920
Georgia State University, Atlanta	7,298
Arizona State University	6,846
University at Albany, New York	6,698
University of Colorado, Denver	6,542
North Carolina State University	5,474
California State University	4,893
University of Nevada, Reno	4,856

UC and comparable universities

University of Illinois	12,508
University of Michigan	12,400
University of Virginia	9,872
University of California	9,311
University at Buffalo, New York	7,013

Fee data compiled by CSU Office of the Chancellor and UC Office of the President.

UC requires students to have health insurance. Students whose parents' health plan does not provide adequate coverage may have to enroll in campus plans that averaged \$960 in 2009–10.

Graduate Fees at CSU and UC

Fees for graduate students at CSU and UC have also risen over the last several years, but are still lower than comparable universities in other states. Fees for full-time graduate students at CSU were \$5,829 in 2009–10. This amount consists of \$4,962 in systemwide fees plus mandatory campus fees for student services that average \$867. Teacher credential programs have annual systemwide fees of \$4,674 plus campus fees of \$867. Fees are lower than fees at the 15 public universities that CSU compares itself to for setting faculty salaries.

Graduate student fees at UC average \$9,415 in 2009–10, consisting of \$8,847 in systemwide fees and campus fees averaging \$568. Health insurance plans for graduate students average \$1,940 per year. UC's fees are lower than all of the public universities that UC compares itself to for faculty salary purposes.

Professional Schools

UC's professional schools charge fees in addition to the normal graduate student fees. For example, total fees at UC medical schools range from \$26,200 to \$30,500. Business school fees range from \$29,000 to \$36,500. Other programs, such as pharmacy, nursing, and public health, also charge professional school fees.

Fees at UC Professional Schools, 2009–10

School	Campuses	Fees
Business	6	\$29,000–36,500
Dentistry	2	\$31,100–31,200
Int'l Relations & Pacific Studies	1	\$16,500
Law	4	\$34,500–36,500
Medicine	7	\$26,200–30,500
Nursing	3	\$14,300–15,500
Optometry	1	\$22,800
Pharmacy	2	\$25,900–26,600
Preventive Veterinary Medicine	1	\$18,200
Public Health	4	\$16,200–18,500
Public Policy	2	\$16,200–16,900
Theater, Film & Television	1	\$17,500
Veterinary Medicine	1	\$27,000

Total fees for California residents. Fees vary by campus. Out-of-state students pay higher fees that include nonresident tuition. More information is available at www.ucop.edu/budget/fees.html.

Graduate Fees, 2009–10

Fees for full-time students who are state residents

CSU and comparable universities

University of Maryland, Baltimore	16,470
Rutgers University, Newark, N.J.	15,429
Wayne State University, Detroit	15,078
George Mason University	13,440
Cleveland State University	11,420
University of Connecticut, Storrs	11,226
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee	10,818
University at Albany, New York	9,542
University of Colorado, Denver	9,491
Georgia State University, Atlanta	9,340
University of Texas, Arlington	9,200
Illinois State University, Normal	8,851
Arizona State University	7,976
University of Nevada, Reno	7,165
North Carolina State University	5,940
California State University	5,829

UC and comparable universities

University of Michigan	17,475
University of Virginia	12,635
University of Illinois	12,514
University at Buffalo, New York	9,883
University of California	9,415

Fee data compiled by CSU, Office of the Chancellor and UC Office of the President.

The Outlook for 2010–11

For CSU, the Governor's budget assumes a 10% increase in fees for 2010–11, which the Board of Trustees will consider at a meeting later this year. The UC Regents approved a further 15% increase for fall 2010. With this increase, annual undergraduate fees will be \$10,302 in systemwide fees, plus campus fees. Professional school fees will be raised by up to 22% in 2010–11.

Community College Fees Six Largest States

Community college fees in California have been relatively flat since 2005. Fees in California have remained the lowest among the six largest states.



Who is a resident student?

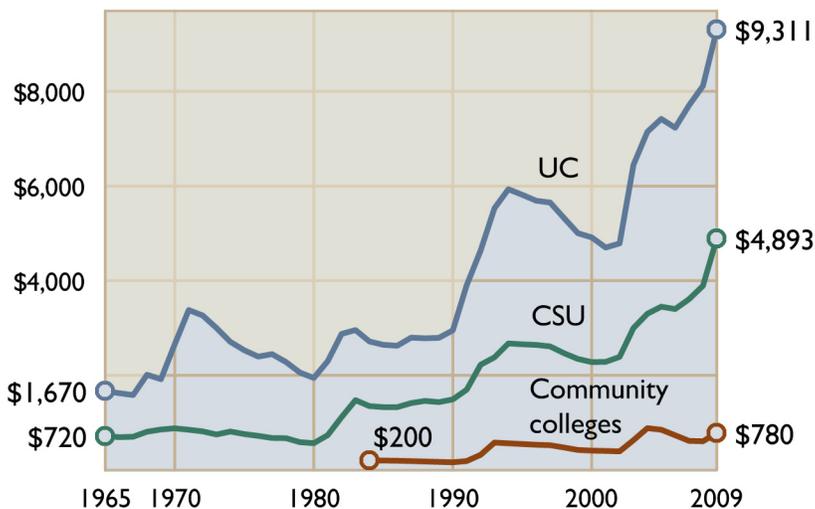
Fees are higher for students who are not California residents. For example, fees for full-time out-of-state undergraduate students are \$16,053 at CSU and \$32,028 at UC.

CSU and the community colleges determine residency according to state law. Resident students are defined as those who have lived in California for over a year before enrolling and have documented intent to make California their home.

UC students are generally considered residents if they are financially dependent on their parents, and their parents live in California.

Students who have been financially independent of their parents for two years may qualify as residents if they have lived in California for more than a year and have demonstrated intent to make California their permanent home. Graduate students can qualify as residents if they are employed by UC half-time or more.

Fees at UC, CSU, and the Community Colleges — Constant 2009 Dollars



At all three systems, fees increased sharply in the early 1990s. Fees remained stable in the late 1990s and fell in inflation-adjusted terms.

In the early 2000s, fees increased sharply as state funding for higher education did not keep pace with growing enrollments.

Community colleges did not charge state enrollment fees until 1984, when they introduced a fee of \$50 per semester. For a full-time student, this is equivalent to \$200 per year in today's dollars.

Fees deflated to 2009 dollars with the U.S. Consumer Price Index.

Fees at UC, CSU, and the Community Colleges

	Actual fees			Adjusted for inflation to 2009 dollars		
	UC	CSU	Community colleges	UC	CSU	Community colleges
1965–66	\$245	\$105	—	\$1,667	\$714	—
1970–71	487	161	—	2,662	880	—
1975–76	647	194	—	2,530	759	—
1980–81	776	226	—	1,945	566	—
1985–86	1,326	666	\$100	2,645	1,329	\$199
1990–91	1,820	920	100	2,950	1,491	162
1995–96	4,139	1,891	390	5,814	2,656	548
2000–01	3,964	1,839	330	4,914	2,280	409
2001–02	3,859	1,876	330	4,700	2,285	402
2002–03	4,017	2,005	330	4,787	2,390	393
2003–04	5,530	2,572	540	6,450	3,000	630
2004–05	6,312	2,916	780	7,146	3,340	890
2005–06	6,802	3,164	780	7,419	3,302	883
2006–07	6,852	3,199	690	7,285	3,401	734
2007–08	7,517	3,521	600	7,706	3,610	615
2008–09	8,027	3,849	600	8,116	3,892	607
2009–10	9,311	4,893	780	9,311	4,893	780

More details of current and historical fees are in the CPEC publication *Fiscal Profiles*, available at www.cpec.ca.gov/complereports/2008reports/FiscalProfiles2008.asp.

More resources on fees and affordability

CPEC reports

Community Colleges: Still an Affordable Route to a Degree?

September 2008. 6 pages. www.cpec.ca.gov/complereports/2008reports/08-14.pdf

Who Can Afford It? How Rising Costs are Making College Unaffordable for Working Families

June 2008. 8 pages. www.cpec.ca.gov/complereports/2008reports/08-10.pdf

Online information

www.cpec.ca.gov/fiscaldata/feesoptions.asp

Design and Editing *Kendyce Manguchei* | Additional Analysis *Kevin Woolfork*

CSU Data *Kara Perkins, CSU Budget Office* | UC Data *Anne Geiger, UC Budget and Capital Resources*

Community College Data *Evelyn Hawkins, Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board*