

Funding CSU Student Health Services per CSU Policy

In accordance with the policy (Executive Order 943) of the Board of Trustees of the California State University System (CSU) all regularly enrolled students in the California State University System, including those at San Francisco State University, are required to pay each semester a Mandatory Student Health Fee. This mandatory fee funds the existence and availability of basic medical services at the Student Health Center, mental health services at Counseling and Psychological Services (SSB 208), and health education programming from Health Promotion & Wellness. This fee funds each of these service's cost of health care staffing, facilities, equipment, supplies, medical consultation and public health expertise. Mandatory Health Fee charges are determined by amortizing the cost of developing and maintaining Student Health, Counseling & Psychological Services, and Health Promotion & Wellness' programs and services throughout the regularly enrolled student population and they are approved after extensive, consultative administrative review and student referendum. The SFSU Fee Advisory Committee approves the mandatory health and facilities fees according to Executive Order 1034 (EO 1034). EO 1034 defines the Health Fee as a Category II fee, further defined as a fee required for attendance at the university.

The SFSU fee does not include an assessment for health insurance. Thus, the mandatory health fee cannot be waived for individuals with private health insurance. In fact, Student Health Service strongly recommends that students purchase their own supplemental health insurance policy to cover any off campus healthcare costs including emergency or specialty medical care.

All enrolled students (including those with health insurance or those who think they will not need to make a medical or mental health visit to the Student Health Center or Counseling) benefit from an array of health services and programs that go well beyond the provision of anticipated direct medical care. Students who consider themselves healthy or who anticipate using an off-campus health care provider, often end up using the Student Health Center for reasons such as convenience, timely access, confidentiality, cost savings, loss of or limitations on the scope of insurance coverage, to avoid insurance co-pays and deductibles, or because they unexpectedly need urgent care or stabilization for medical emergencies, acute illnesses, injuries, or other medical circumstances that they did not foresee.

Each student receives direct and indirect public health benefits from the Student Health Center. Both Student Health and Health and Wellness services promote health and coordinate public health efforts including preventing, detecting, and controlling the spread of communicable diseases in the campus population (e.g., TB, meningitis, influenza, measles, mumps). In addition, students receive the public safety benefits that result from accident and injury prevention efforts as well as the availability of on-campus psychiatrist to provide mental health services and psychiatric intervention.

In addition, all students benefit from the Student Health Center's and Health & Wellness Promotion's provision of health education, health issue advocacy, and strategic planning at the campus-wide level including disaster planning and preparedness as well as the provision of medical services and/or mass public health prophylaxis during a physically, chemically, or biologically hazardous campus or regional event.