

## **Course Fees for the University of Wyoming College of Health Sciences**

### **I. Case for Course Fees at UW**

Health Care education is expensive and to meet the ever increasing demands of providing a quality education, the University of Wyoming College of Health Sciences must provide education and training utilizing modern equipment and curriculum. Students expect to work with modern equipment and progressive curriculums that model today's practice environments. They seek programs that can provide these resources when choosing an educational program. Additionally, the public expects our graduates upon graduation to be competent to practice today's health care. There are some programs and equipment that are very necessary for good student support that cannot be provided by the college's current budget and that is the reason college-wide course fees are being proposed. These fees are also necessary to address professional accreditation requirements such as quality education, interprofessional education, and assuring strong student outcomes that will focus on being well prepared for licensure and practice. There are well defined expectations required by accreditation providers to assure a quality education and the proposed fees will provide for them. The UW School of Pharmacy has operated under a differential tuition structure since 1997 and specific programmatic fees will be proposed for most of the college's other divisions/schools. The college's proposal is to provide resources that cross the professional programs of study and that will be available to all CHS students.

### **II. Comparison to Tuition and Fees at Comparator Universities**

It is very difficult to make a comparison between peer universities for Health Sciences. Each university will have a unique composition of programs that are included in health sciences. For example, nursing may be included within some health sciences colleges but may be free-standing at other universities. Additionally, course fees are often utilized as opposed to programmatic fees. The table below is provided for general comparisons. Some of the information below may be primarily nursing while other universities may include various other health profession programs.

Institution Name	City	State	Base Resident Tuition (30 cr hrs)	Effective cost/credit hr.	Mandatory Fees	Total Base	Health Science / Nursing
<a href="#">University of Wyoming</a>	Laramie	WY	\$3,720.00	\$124.00	\$668.00	\$4,388.00	\$0.00
<a href="#">Utah State University</a>	Logan	UT	\$5,813.88	\$193.80	\$1,052.00	\$6,865.88	\$25.00
<a href="#">University of Nevada-Reno</a>	Reno	NV	\$6,217.50	\$207.25	\$974.00	\$7,191.50	\$156.75
<a href="#">New Mexico State University-Main Campus</a>	Las Cruces	NM	\$5,307.00	\$176.90	\$1,422.00	\$6,729.00	*
<a href="#">Oklahoma State University-Main Campus</a>	Stillwater	OK	\$8,320.50	\$277.35	\$3,378.00	\$11,698.50	\$43.60
<a href="#">University of Rhode Island</a>	Kingston	RI	\$11,128.00	\$370.93	\$1,756.00	\$12,884.00	\$1,600.00
<a href="#">University of Maine</a>	Orono	ME	\$8,370.00	\$279.00	\$2,258.00	\$10,628.00	\$50.00
<a href="#">University of Idaho</a>	Moscow	ID	\$7,232.00	\$241.07	\$3,300.00	\$10,532.00	\$0.00
<a href="#">Montana State University</a>	Bozeman	MT	\$5,330.40	\$177.68	\$1,576.50	\$6,906.90	.
<a href="#">South Dakota State University</a>	Brookings	SD	\$7,155.00	\$238.50	\$1,017.00	\$8,172.00	\$97.70
<a href="#">North Dakota State University-Main Campus</a>	Fargo	ND	\$6,924.00	\$230.80	\$1,283.00	\$8,207.00	\$1,088.00
<a href="#">The University of Montana</a>	Missoula	MT	\$4,833.60	\$161.12	\$1,865.46	\$6,699.06	\$0.00
<a href="#">Kansas State University</a>	Manhattan	KS	\$9,012.00	\$300.40	\$861.00	\$9,873.00	.
<a href="#">West Virginia University</a>	Morgantown	WV	\$6,720.00	\$224.00	\$1,272.00	\$7,992.00	\$103.00
<a href="#">Clemson University</a>	Clemson	SC	\$13,418.00	\$447.27	\$900.00	\$14,318.00	.
<a href="#">Colorado State University-Fort Collins</a>	Fort Collins	CO	\$10,966.00	\$365.53	\$1,663.78	\$12,629.78	\$68.00
<a href="#">Washington State University</a>	Pullman	WA	\$10,916.00	\$363.87	\$1,050.00	\$11,966.00	\$264
<a href="#">University of Nebraska-Lincoln</a>	Lincoln	NE	\$6,757.50	\$225.25	\$2,849.50	\$9,607.00	.
<a href="#">Texas Tech University</a>	Lubbock	TX	\$7,500.00	\$250.00	\$2,730.00	\$10,230.00	.
<a href="#">University of New Mexico-Main Campus</a>	Albuquerque	NM	\$5,157.00	\$171.90	\$1,507.20	\$6,664.20	\$185.00
<a href="#">University of Utah</a>	Salt Lake City	UT	\$7,407.70	\$246.92	\$1,109.98	\$8,517.68	\$400.00
	peer average		\$6,966.53	\$232.22	\$1,807.45	\$8,773.99	340.1167
	UW % difference		-46.6%	-46.6%	-63.0%	-50.0%	
	Peer % diff		87.3%	87.3%	170.6%	100.0%	
	Peer multiple of UW cost		187.3%	187.3%	270.6%	200.0%	
	Aspir. average		\$8,650.47	\$288.35	\$1,549.27	\$10,199.74	
	UW % difference		-57.0%	-57.0%	-56.9%	-57.0%	
	Aspir. % diff		132.5%	132.5%	131.9%	132.4%	
	Aspir multiple of UW cost		232.5%	232.5%	231.9%	232.4%	
						peer average (cr hr fee)	\$62.18
						peer average (sem fee)	\$896.00
						Aspir. average (cr hr fee only)	\$118.67
						Aspir. average (sem fee)	\$400.00
* Charges course fees							

### III. Credit Hours in Health Sciences

From all Divisions/Schools the average of the total number of credit hours generated over the last five years is 36,912 (2011 to 2015 data. range 36,014 to 38,094, UW OIA). This number includes all on-campus and off-campus programs. As can be seen from the table, most of the UW proposed peers and aspirational peers charge some type of additional fee for health sciences.

This is understandable since, as mentioned above, programs in the health sciences are expensive. With the University of Wyoming's relatively low cost per credit hour, even a modest increase in a per credit hour fee for the College of Health Sciences will still maintain a good cost advantage and allow for specific program fees or differential tuition for each of the college's divisions/schools.

#### IV. Proposed Course fee for College of Health Sciences Courses at UW

- a. The proposed College of Health Sciences-wide fee will apply to all course taught by the college. These include courses with the following course codes: HLED, HLSC, KIN, NURS, PHCY, SOWK, SPPA.
- b. *Pre-Professional Advising*: Goal: \$85,000/year. Justification: Pre-professional advising is very important for students planning on entering health sciences programs at the University of Wyoming, planning on studying in one of the health professions through the Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education (WICHE) and planning on graduate or professional health profession programs elsewhere. Admission into any of these programs is very competitive and the student must be well prepared both academically and logistically. Each area of professional study has specific prerequisites and admission criteria the student must meet to produce a competitive application. Additionally, there are important timelines and non-academic preparations that must be considered. Without proper advising the student may not be aware of some of these important criteria and may not be prepared to submit an application on time or may not have as strong an application as possible. A well prepared pipeline of students interested in and prepared to enter the health professions has been problematic and the pre-professional advisor's role is critical in maintaining this pipeline through working with high school counselors and community college advisors. This is of major importance in recruitment. Employers have the expectation that they will be hiring a graduate well educated ready to provide modern services and this starts with developing a pipeline starting early, possibly grade school. The College of Health Sciences now has only one pre-professional advisor and, given that he has many other responsibilities and is entitled to vacations, that is not enough to meet student demand and a second person is needed.
- c. *Equipment*: Goal: \$75,000/year. Equipment used in teaching health sciences is expensive and outdates rapidly. The modest goal of \$75,000 will address equipment replacement over time. It is not unusual for equipment for one simulation mannequin or a virtual anatomy table to exceed this amount. This funding will provide a start in addressing the need for replacing existing equipment and purchasing equipment that is utilized by many health sciences programs but is not available at UW. The college will work with the divisions/schools to prioritize new and replacement shared equipment and a timeline to address these needs.

- d. **Technology Fee:** Goal \$50,000. There is currently a CHS Computing Fee where full-time students pay \$34.00 per semester. It is requested this fee be eliminated and a new technology fee charged to all students replace it. It is also requested the use of the funds be broadened from those allowable for the computer fee to supporting teaching related and student support technology more broadly. Some examples are computerized teaching models and access to web based reference materials.
- e. **Interprofessional Experience:** Goal: \$150,000. The college's commitment to interprofessional education has grown substantially over the last 7 years and continues to grow and this growth is outpacing resources. The Institute of Medicine, most of the professional organizations and other health care organizations have called for interprofessional education (IPE) to be incorporated in college of health curriculum. They see interprofessional teamwork and collaborative practice emerging as key elements of efficient and productive work in promoting health and treating patients. Health professional accreditation providers have taken note and incorporating IPE in health professional program curriculums has become either strongly recommended if not required. At the UW College of Health Sciences, there is insufficient funding for this relatively new and growing mandate. The amount requested will provide funding for a 0.5 faculty FTE to coordinate IPE activities, for support staff dedicated to IPE, for instructional design for IPE learning activities and for IPE related activities and travel.
- f. **International Experience:** Goal: \$45,000. The College of Health Sciences is committed to providing an international experience to any student interested. CHS students frequently report that an international experience focused in health care is a life-change experience. The college's primary international focus is the University of Wyoming Clinic in Agua Salada, Honduras. For many years, the college has sent health care brigades consisting of students, faculty and practitioners to provide services at this clinic. It is estimated that \$26,300 base funding (supplies, faculty cost and clinic support fees) is needed yearly for two brigades, fall and spring. This does not include any student travel. The remaining funds generated from this fee will support international student travel on a competitive basis to either Honduras or other sites.
- g. **Student Professional Liability Insurance:** Goal: \$25,000/ year. All CHS students must carry professional liability insurance and arrangements are made for this through UW Risk Management. Student Professional Liability Insurance is currently being charged for the year a rate of \$13. Given that all students must carry this insurance; it is requested that this be rolled into the program fee. (\$13/year X 1850 students = \$24,050)
- h. **Total Goal:** \$430,000 (\$430,000/36,912 credit hours = \$11.65/credit hour)

## V. Promise to Students

- a. High Quality Education in the health professions with defined curriculums, qualified faculty and on-time graduation
- b. Expanded High Quality Advising
- c. Experiences using equipment and technology that mirrors that available in the practice setting and education in an environment that promotes interprofessional education.

VI. Measures of Success and Accountability

- a. Student retention
- b. Graduation rates and credits completed to graduation
- c. Placement in graduate and professional health care programs
- d. Employer feedback.

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