

May 25-26, 2017

**ITEM 175-2011-R0517**

**Request authorization to increase the Student Health Services Fee; Montana State University Bozeman**

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**THAT**

Consistent with BOR Policy 940.12.1 (Tuition and Fee Approval) and BOR Policy 506.1 (Student Participation in Fee Decisions), the Board of Regents of the Montana University System approves a fee increase to the Montana State University Bozeman Health Services Fee in each of the next two academic years.

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**EXPLANATION**

1. At the September 2016 Board of Regents' meeting, the Commissioner of Higher Education's Suicide Prevention and Student Mental Health Task Force presented an information item to the Academic, Research & Student Affairs Committee of the Board. Several recommendations were presented, including "The MUS should explore funding/resource availability and determine funding sources to increase mental health services to students." The campuses were charged with quickly moving forward to implement the recommendations.
2. This increase will provide funding for two additional mental health counselors to shorten wait times that students currently experience and move the University forward in implementing the task force's recommendations. Student government endorsed a modest fee increase to ensure that these costs would be funded. The Student Health Services Advisory Committee also endorsed this increase.
3. Student Health Services offers primary care, preventive annual examinations, basic lab tests, educational programs, counseling, and other services, most of which are covered by the Health Fee so our students can utilize these services., Since there is no state or tuition funding for the majority of the personnel or operations of the Student Health Center, a modest fee increase is also being requested to pay for unavoidable cost increases, such as the Board approved pay plan costs that MUS employees have, or will, receive. This will prevent a reduction in services provided to our students.
4. Students enrolled in 7 (seven) or more credits are assessed the Health Services Fee; those who are enrolled in fewer credits may choose to add the fee to have full access to services. Through this fee structure, affordability is maintained for part-time students who are not as likely to avail themselves of these services.

Increases in the per-semester fee are proposed as follows:

	<b>FY17 Fee</b>	<b>FY18 Proposed</b>	<b>FY19 Proposed</b>
Amount	\$213.50	\$220.25	\$227.00
Dollar Increase	-	\$ 6.75	\$6.75
Percent Increase	-	3.2%	3.1%

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**ATTACHMENTS**

- Attachment 1: Proposed Mandatory Fee Schedule – Bozeman
- Attachment 2: Student Resolution