

May 17-18, 2023

ITEM 206-2013-R0523

**Request for Authorization to Increase Student Health/Dental Fee in Support of Wellness Operations;
Montana State University**

THAT

The Board of Regents of the Montana University System authorizes Montana State University, in accordance with Board of Regents Policy 940.12.1, to increase the student health and dental services fee by \$27.00 in FY24 and \$29.75 in FY25 as supported by the student government (ASMSU).

EXPLANATION

MSU Student Health Partners supports a holistic approach to student health and wellbeing by providing acute and primary health care, counseling and psychological services, prevention education resources, and health education outreach. Three factors are increasing the cost of business within Student Health Partners that are driving this extraordinary request to increase the Health/Dental fee.

1. Increased cost of health and wellness care overall, driven by increased clinical staff salaries and inflation of healthcare related goods.
 2. Transfer of costs of four HEERF funded clinical counselor positions given the expiration of COVID 19 HEERF funding, June 30, 2023. This student health fee increase will allow the university to continue critically needed services to students.
 3. Increased demand is expected, especially with the opening of the new Student Wellness Center, creating a need for 1.5 additional positions.
 4. This fee increase request is supported by, and submitted in coordination with, ASMSU to maintain current levels of mental health counseling and serve the increased demand of health and wellness services in the Student Wellness Center, opening Spring 2024.
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ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment #1: ASMSU Resolution in Support of Student Health Fee Increase
- Attachment #2: ASMSU Resolution in Support of Counseling & Psychological Services
- Attachment #3: Student Health Fee Request Summary