

**The Associated Students of the University of Montana
Resolution Regarding an Increase of the ASUM Fee
4/1/2026
SB19-25/26**

Authored by: Buddy Wilson, ASUM President;

Sponsored by: Liam Edwards, ASUM Business Manager; Maya Anderson, ASUM Vice President; Charles Nance, Sports Club Union Manager; Lane Allen, ASUM Senator;

Whereas, The Associated Students of the University of Montana (“ASUM”) is responsible for representing and advocating for University of Montana (“UM”) students;¹

Whereas, The ASUM Student Activity Fee supports core activities and services for students, including over 130 student organizations, legal services, childcare services, basic needs support, and a food pantry;

Whereas, The ASUM Student Activity Fee has not increased since 2023, while operating costs have increased consistently;²

Whereas, ASUM’s total annual fee revenue declined by 2.76% from FY25 to FY26 due to enrollment changes;³

Whereas, ASUM has already taken steps to ensure fiscal accountability and transparency, which include publishing its first Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and passing a balanced budget for the first time since FY22;

Whereas, ASUM has reduced expenses in FY26 by eliminating multiple student employee positions, pausing nonessential travel, and lowering program spending;

Whereas, Student organizations have been disproportionately impacted by budgetary constraints;

Whereas, The Sports Club Union (“SCU”) has increased in Member Organizations from 12 teams to 22 teams in FY26, with strong university and student demand for more robust club sports offerings;

Whereas, SCU Member Organizations have a combined active membership of over 430 students and total annual operating expenses exceeding \$800,000;⁴

¹ ASUM Constitution (2025), Article II, Section 1.1. <https://tinyurl.com/425aw66p>

² ASUM FY25 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (2025). <https://www.umt.edu/asum/senateinfo/acfr/asum-acfr-fy261.pdf>

³ Axiom Mandatory Fee Report (Accessed 03/22/2026).

⁴ Sports Club Union Budget Request (2026).

38 Whereas, The Student Music Union (“SMU”) has 17 active Member Organizations, which
39 uniquely serve students interested in music and musical performance;

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41 Whereas, SMU Member Organizations have a combined active membership of over 200 students
42 and total annual operating expenses exceeding \$44,000;⁵

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44 Whereas, Union Member Organizations rely on ASUM funding, in addition to member dues and
45 fundraising, to support extensive operations and travel;

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47 Whereas, Unions will benefit from the reliability of fee-based revenue relative to the current
48 ASUM allocation system, which varies year-to-year;⁶

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50 Whereas, A new \$4.00 per semester Club Sports fee designation will generate approximately
51 \$30,000 per semester for the SCU;

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53 Whereas, A new \$1.00 per semester Student Music fee designation will generate approximately
54 \$7,500 per semester for the SMU;

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56 Whereas, A \$5.00 per semester increase to the ASUM Student Activity Fee will generate
57 approximately \$37,500 per semester in additional fee revenue for ASUM services and student
58 organizations;

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60 Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, That the following ballot language be added to an ASUM student
61 referendum during the spring election cycle:

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63 “The Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) is proposing a \$10.00
64 increase to the ASUM Fee. The \$10.00 increase includes \$5.00 to meet increasing student
65 demand and rising costs, \$4.00 for ASUM Sports Clubs, and \$1.00 for ASUM Music
66 Clubs. The fee increase for part-time students will be \$5.00 per semester.

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68 ___ Yes, I support increasing the ASUM Fee by \$10.00, from \$79.00 to \$89.00 per
69 semester for full-time students, and by \$5.00, from \$44.00 to \$49.00 per semester for
70 part-time students.

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72 ___ No, I do not support increasing the ASUM Fee by \$10.00, from \$79.00 to \$89.00 per
73 semester for full-time students, and by \$5.00, from \$44.00 to \$49.00 per semester for
74 part-time students.”

⁵ Student Music Union Budget Request (2026).

⁶ ASUM FY25 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (2025). <https://www.umt.edu/asum/senateinfo/acfr/asum-acfr-fy261.pdf>

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76 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That this Resolution be sent to: Paul Lasiter, Vice
77 President of Operations and Finance; Kelly Webster, Chief of Staff and Associate Vice President
78 for Strategic Planning and Implementation; Carter Jasper, Student Regent; Loren Bough, Regent;
79 Todd Buchanan, Regent; Jeff Southworth, Regent; Dean Folkvord, Regent; Heather Hoyer,
80 Regent; Daniel Spoon, Regent; Clayton Christian, Commissioner of Higher Education.

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83 Passed by Committee: 3/30, 2026

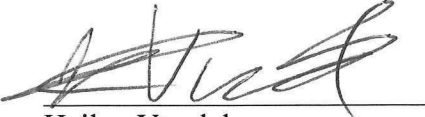
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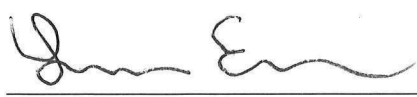
85 Passed by ASUM Senate: 4/1, 2026

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89 Hailey Vondal,
90 Chair of Rules


Liam Edwards,
Chair of Budget and Finance

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94 Maya Anderson,
95 Chair of the Senate

