



Mandatory Student Activity Fee

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1 What is the UB Student Association Mandatory Student Activity Fee?

The Student Association is fully funded by the undergraduate Mandatory Student Activity Fee (MSAF). This is the only fee on campus that is voted on, approved, managed, and spent by students, for students. The SA receives no money from tuition or broad-based fees. 100% of the Mandatory Student Activity Fee goes to the SA budget, which funds events, clubs, services, advocacy, and student government.

2 What are the benefits of the Mandatory Student Activity Fee?

This inclusive, semesterly fee allows every undergraduate student to join SA clubs, take advantage of SA services, and attend many SA events for no additional or out-of-pocket costs.



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3 What does the fee actually provide students?

Many campus favorites are funded, planned, and hosted by SA! Over the decades, thousands of students have attended Fest. Students have also had the opportunity to see speakers and comedians like Josh Allen, Martin Luther King III, Jimmy Fallon, and Hasan Minhaj. Other major events include Homecoming Carnival and International Fiesta.

Undergraduates can kayak on Lake Lasalle, get free AMC movie tickets, and participate in hundreds of other activities including psychic fairs, petting zoos, giveaways, club events like Mock Shaadi and Black Explosion, and so much more, all because of the Mandatory Student Activity Fee.

It also grants students access to otherwise expensive events and activities at a discounted rate, from Bills and Sabres games to Wilderness First Aid trainings.

The Mandatory Student Activity Fee allows students to access tutoring, legal consultations, and a food pantry. It also supplies free menstrual products throughout the Student Union.



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What is the Referendum?

The Referendum is a vote that determines whether or not the students choose maintain the Mandatory Student Activity Fee and continue funding all that SA provides.

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What are my choices for the Referendum?

Students can vote for a MANDATORY fee or a VOLUNTARY fee. However, the wording of the question, which is required by SUNY, presents a confusing choice because there is no mechanism to collect voluntary fees with tuition bills. The real choice is to either FUND SA and SA clubs (mandatory) or DEFUND SA and SA clubs (voluntary).

5

What would happen if the students chose the Voluntary Fee?

If the students vote for a Voluntary Fee:

- There is no funding for SA clubs.
- There is no funding for SA events, activities, services, or advocacy.



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When is the next Referendum?

The next one will take place in the Fall Semester of 2026.