



## **STUDENT EXCELLENCE FEE ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT**

September 2020

California State University, Long Beach

## Student Excellence Funding

The Student Excellence Fee (SEF) at CSULB was initially proposed under The California State University Fee Policy, Executive Order 1054 and approved in February 2011 for implementation in the academic year 2011-12. The initial fee approved was \$94 per semester. In October 2013, an additional Student Excellence Fee was approved for implementation effective spring 2014. The revised fee increased from \$94 per student per semester (fall/spring) to \$173.

SEF was implemented in two parts: Part I in 2011 and Part II in 2013.

- SEF Part I supports:
  - Student success, student health and welfare, student centers, student transportation (U-Pass), athletics, and a small amount for academic department chairs.
  - Student success dollars replaced a funding source for improving outcomes for students that was lost to budget cuts and protected academic advisors from layoffs.
  - Athletics dollars helped cover the rising cost of athletic scholarships as tuition fees increased.
- SEF Part II supports:
  - “Technology that touches students” – This has been an effort to modernize the campus with respect to digital technology for teaching and learning.
  - Modernizing instruction in digital technology is very costly to implement and maintain, and there are very large costs to train faculty to effectively utilize the technology.
  - The technological changes, however, are very welcome by students. The new high-tech classrooms are among our most popular venues for teaching and learning.

SEF dollars have therefore been a mixture of funds that offset budget reductions and funds that provide critical modernization.

CSULB budgets are by no means fully restored in inflation-adjusted dollar terms and remain well short of funding needed to modernize instruction with digital technology, which is costly to implement and maintain.

## Academic Affairs Student Excellence Funding

In Academic Affairs, SEF funds are distributed in three categories: Highly Valued Degree Initiative, Academic Chairs Educational Services Fund, and Student Technology Services & Academic Equipment & Lab Facilities.

### Highly Valued Degree Initiative

SEF funds support CSULB’s student success projects that meet our academic purpose to “graduate students with highly valued degrees.” Successful proposals for SEF-HVDI include a variety of effective programs and initiatives:

- Academic advisors
- Tutors in low-completion rate courses
- Peer advisors/mentors and graduate assistants in college and university advising centers serving undergraduate and graduate students
- Peer learning and student teaching student programs

- Programs for engineering honors students and education scholars
- Preparation for CalTPA assessment required for teacher candidates
- Writing coach and targeted workshops on writing skills and strategies for students
- First Year Experience programming and Transfer Learning Communities
- Summer Orientation and support for Freshman
- Tutors for students in gateway courses including math education, math and science, business, engineering, statistics, and arts disciplines
- Inclusive Environment Activities
- Career Readiness and Internship Programs
- Supplemental Instruction

Since the implementation of SEF-HVDI, the university has made significant progress on student success initiatives.

**We have increased degrees** awarded over the past four years. In 2015, CSULB awarded 7,880 bachelor's degrees. In 2019, we awarded a new high of 8,900. This 13% enhancement (increase of 1106 degrees awarded) is a CSULB record. Currently for 2020 we are on track for even more, with 8,906 degrees being conferred in just the Fall and Spring semesters, and not including Summer semester. There are currently 699 summer degree candidates being evaluated.

**We have increased access** in ways we thought were impossible. In 2018, CSULB enrolled a total of 10,900 undergraduate students; in 2019, 11,600. In 2020, CSULB plans to maintain this historic enrollment at around 11,400 students. This enrollment is a 24% increase (~2,200 students) over the enrollment in just 2017. This increase in access is a direct result of Graduation Initiative 2025.

We are making these significant gains while **we retain our commitment to local access**. CSULB receives over 106,000 applications for our undergraduate programs (highest in CSU). About 6,000 of these are local applicants who meet CSU admission criteria. CSULB continues to provide admission to ALL qualified local applicants as part of the Long Beach Promise commitment. Hence, close to 50% (2,500 out of ~5,200) of our enrolled class each Fall are from local area.

Our **4-year graduation rate this year is projected to be 37%**. This rate has doubled over the past four years. Our **6-year graduation rate is projected to be 73%**. This is an all-time high for the campus with 9% gain in the last four years.

## Consultation Process

All seven colleges submit proposals under the leadership of the deans. The proposals are developed by faculty and staff in various units in consultation with the respective student organizations. Proposals are reviewed by the HVDI Steering Committee and assessed based on evidence of prior success at CSULB or support in national literature and the extent to which they directly supported the goals of HVDI. These recommendations are presented to the Associate Student Inc. (ASI) leadership for their input and recommendations. The provost reviews the recommendations and submits them to the president for final approval.

## Academic Chairs Educational Services Fund

The Academic Chairs Educational Services fund provides department chairs with professional development opportunities for their faculty. This enables faculty to attend professional conferences and provide students with timely instructional materials.

Consultation process: Funding is provided to each department based on the number of full-time equivalent faculty with a minimum of \$1000. Department chairs review faculty requests and allocate the funding to benefit faculty development and student success.

## Student Technology Services & Academic Equipment & Lab Facilities

The SEF-TECH fund enhances “technology that touches students.” The main criterion for awards is that the technology use directly benefits student learning. Highest priorities include student computer labs, high-tech classrooms, and other instructional equipment such as for science and engineering. Second priority is assigned to maintenance, support, and training for instructional technology. Other requests may be supported, if funds are available, so long as uses involve “technology that touches students.”

Funded requests include:

- Improve classroom instructional delivery, and simplify information sharing;
- Provide technology to integrate, enhance, and promote collaborative learning environments that allow students to learn in groups, one-to-many, distance education;
- Implement new software to support student success, update and upgrade student computer labs, and add technology collaboration spaces;
- Implement software to enhance accessibility technology for students in the Dream Success Center computer labs, Maxient software, outreach virtual tours, financial literacy 101 classes;
- Enable students to use academic-licensed software on personal devices (smartphone, home computer, etc.) for classroom assignments;
- Enhance wireless access, improve bandwidth, and add more coverage and allow multiple student device connectivity;
- Provide active learning classrooms with smart technology for instructional spaces;
- Maintain and refresh smart rooms;
- Upgrade old classroom with new smart room technology;
- Refresh computers every three to four years in student open access labs, teaching labs, computer labs, and computer classrooms;
- Maintain software (site licenses) warranties and contracts;
- Provide additional streaming videos, eBooks and online databases for students;
- Provide students with state-of-the-art technology and expand the 3D printing lab for the campus housed in the Library;
- Offer first-year freshman and transfer students an online financial literacy platform;
- Renew software for online scholarship management system that creates a simple, effective, student-friendly process for students to locate and apply for scholarships;
- Address miscellaneous technology needs, e.g. servers, and partially offset miscellaneous course fees for general services courses; and

- Replace, maintain, and upgrade instructional lab equipment and facilities to meet and enhance student learning experiences.
- Expand the campus' student virtual computer lab

Consultation process: Deans, vice presidents, and directors are requested to develop proposals with appropriate student and faculty consultation. Student consultation should include one or both of the two ASI elected senators from the respective college. The provost reviews the baseline plans and proposals with the ASI and academic leadership and submits the recommended allocations to the president for final approval.

## **Student Services – Student Success, Health and Welfare**

The funding allows the Division of Student Services to continue providing and enhancing services to students and student groups. Student success, health and welfare programs include

- Women of Color Initiative
- Hire temporary counselor to provide mental health services to students
- Student Development Fellows Program
- Beach Pathways to support students outside CSULB's local admissions areas
- UndocuALLY training program
- Summer Bridge Program
- Guardian Scholars for peer mentors
- Men's Success Initiative Programming
- College Promise Support
- Latina Connection Conference
- On-campus Career Readiness and Internship Academy
- Career Development Center Student Ambassadors
- EOP 100 course, Tutors and Peer Advisors
- Student Life & Development Club and Organization Insurance
- Assistants with comprehensive programming of cultural resource centers and advocacy for ethnically and culturally diverse students.
- Support of Assistant Program Directors and faculty in comprehensive programming and engagement efforts across campus to promote an inclusive, diverse student population and develop plans to celebrate and honor diversity.

## **Administration and Finance – U-Pass Program and Campus Shuttles**

The university provides two important transportation-related services to the campus community:

- The U-Pass program is a contractual agreement between Long Beach Transit and CSULB that allows qualifying students, faculty, and staff unlimited boarding on all Long Beach Transit buses. The U-Pass program is an important form of alternate transportation that provides a valuable service to our campus community while reducing our parking demands and greenhouse emissions.
- The campus provides shuttle services on campus and around the surrounding community to assist with ingress and egress and reduces on-campus traffic. Due to the size of the campus

and the many students who live nearby, this has proven to be a very valuable and popular service.

Between the U-Pass program and the campus shuttle services, the university spends approximately \$1.6 million annually. The allocation of Student Excellence Fees helps defray the ongoing cost of providing these valuable services to the campus community.

## **Athletics Department - Student-Athlete Scholarships**

The CSULB Athletics Department supports over 350 student-athletes on 19 different men's and women's teams.

- The majority of these student-athletes receive some form of financial assistance (scholarship) from the Athletics Department. Athletic Scholarships play an integral role in a successful NCAA D1 program. SEF helps support over 260 student-athletes currently receiving athletic scholarships, \$1.16M.
- Supports team operating budgets consist of team travel, meals, and equipment and apparel, and game expenses such as officials.
- Contributes to the nutrition and mental health support for student-athletes and provides resources such as athletic trainers and sport performance.
- Recruits and employs over 200 CSULB students and alumni over a range of positions.
- Beach Vision provides an opportunity for students to gain valuable and real-world experience as production and camera technicians, enhances the fan experience at events.
- Marketing and Fan Experience to continue to enhance the "Beach" brand.

## **Consultation with Associate Student Inc. (ASI) Leadership**

In spring 2020, the review committee consisting of the vice presidents, associate vice presidents, executive director for Athletics, and ASI Leadership members, both in-coming and out-going elected president, vice president and treasurer, met to discuss the proposals submitted for Student Excellence Fee, Parts I and II funding. Each area eligible for SEF funding was invited to present their proposals. The presentation included proposals that were developed with consultation with students, faculty, and staff at the college-division levels.

Proposals requesting funding from SEF Part I, Student Success, adhered to the framework outlined in EO 1055 for highly valued degree initiatives and first-year academic support programs, student success, health and welfare funds, academic chair funds, sustainability/U-Pass/Shuttle, Multicultural/Student Center, and Intercollegiate Athletics.

Proposals requesting funding from SEF Part II, technology that touches students, were evaluated based on how the items benefitted the greatest number of students and priority was given to currently enrolled students over future students.

The provost reviews the recommendations and submits them to the president for final approval.

## California State University, Long Beach STUDENT EXCELLENCE FEE ALLOCATIONS

### Fall and Spring Terms

#### Academic Affairs

	Semester Cost Per Student	2018-19* Actuals	2019-20 Actuals	2020-21 Estimates
- Highly Valued Degree Initiative	\$33.00	\$2,387,437	\$2,404,597	\$2,489,671
- Academic Chairs Services Fund	\$2.00	\$144,693	\$145,733	\$150,889
- Student Tech/Equip/Facilities	\$79.00	\$5,715,378	\$5,756,458	\$5,960,120
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$8,247,508</b>	<b>\$8,306,788</b>	<b>\$8,600,680</b>

#### Student Services

- Student Success, Health & Welfare	\$6.00	\$434,079	\$437,199	\$452,667
- Multicultural/Student Centers	\$3.00	\$217,040	\$218,600	\$226,334
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$651,119</b>	<b>\$655,799</b>	<b>\$679,001</b>

#### Administration & Finance

Partial funding of UPass Program and campus shuttles	\$2.00	\$144,693	\$145,733	\$150,889
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#### Athletics

Partial funding of student-athlete scholarships Athletics	\$34.00	\$2,459,783	\$2,477,463	\$2,565,115
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#### Instructionally Related Activities

<b>Reliance Relief</b> (from Intercollegiate Athletics)	\$7.00	\$506,426	\$510,066	\$528,112
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#### ASI Reliance Relief

(from Intercollegiate Athletics)	\$7.00	\$506,426	\$510,066	\$528,112
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#### Total Allocation

<b>\$173</b>	<b>\$12,515,955</b>	<b>\$12,605,915</b>	<b>\$13,051,909</b>
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**Note:** \* 2018-19 allocation consists of \$12,202,103 as original and \$313,852 additional funding following spring census