

March 28, 2024

Dear College of the Siskiyou Foundation Board Members,

College of the Siskiyou provides education by means of Dual and Concurrent Enrollment to hundreds of Siskiyou and Modoc Counties K-12 students each semester. These students enrich our campus and provide opportunities for us to work with our K-12 partners to offer courses that students need. Some years ago, the California Community College Chancellor's Office waived the registration fees for all K-12 students. In addition, they also provided Districts the ability to waive most fees such as the health fee. Not all fees can be waived by College of the Siskiyou though as they are under the purview of the Associated Student Body. These fees include the Student Center, Student Activity, and Student Representation fees. These fees, depending on the number of units taken can be anywhere from \$5 to \$15 dollars.

These fees might not seem like much but for many of our K-12 students but many struggle to pay these amounts. In addition, other schools from Oregon or other California Community Colleges have found ways to provide their education entirely free for all K-12 students. This puts COS at a competitive disadvantage and also asks some of our most economically disadvantaged students to pay for fees that they cannot afford. Some of our local schools have mentioned on more than one occasion the challenge it is for many of their students and also expressed the desire to take their students to other schools who will cover the costs. This would not be in the interest of COS or our K-12 students when we can provide a quality education in their own "backyard."

I am respectfully requesting the College of the Siskiyou Foundation to cover the fees that College of the Siskiyou cannot waive for K-12 students for the 24-25 academic year. The legislature is looking at ways to waive all fees for K-12 students but until that occurs these fees must be collected. I have included a table below that shows what the total amount was for 22-23 and 23-24 academic years and how many K-12 students were served each semester. We have been boosting our K-12 enrollment and will continue to do so but I do not anticipate it to go beyond \$,5000 for the request from the Foundation for the 24-25 academic year.

TERM		Fees	#Students
202250		\$162.00	85
202270		\$1,616.00	170
202310		\$56.00	28
202330		\$1,643.00	202
Total for	22-23	\$3,477.00	485
202350		\$200.00	100
202370		\$1,998.00	237
202410		\$48.00	48
202430		\$1,427.00	148
Total for	23-24	\$3,673.00	533

Thank you for your consideration of this important request. I am happy to answer any questions that the Board may have.

Respectfully,

Patrick Walton

Vice President of Student Services