

GSGA44-R05

A Resolution to Abolish the \$125 International Student Fee at the University of Maryland, College Park

Summary: This resolution calls on the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) to remove the inequitable \$125 international student fee.

WHEREAS, Full-time international students requiring an I-20 or DS-2019 document are required to pay an extra fee of \$125 every semester. This fee was imposed on students¹ in 2017 without oversight and remains unpopular; and,

WHEREAS, UMD states that the international student fee revenue “enhances support for UMD international students”², but \$3,088,000 of the over \$3,100,000 raised (>99%) from these fees across 2020-2024 went towards supporting the base-level functionality of the Office of International Affairs, Office of the University Registrar, and Graduate School³. The covered expenses include purchasing government-mandated equipment, processing visas, ensuring compliance with specialized requirements for international students’ academic records, and international institution credential evaluation, rather than any supplementary services or enhanced support for international students. Requiring international students to fund the basic infrastructure required for their attendance demonstrates a failure of the University to adequately support *all* its students; and,

WHEREAS, This fee is an additional burden to a group that is already financially stressed due to visa-related costs, restrictions on secondary employment, and lack of access to major federal grants, in addition to other immigration-related vulnerabilities; and,

WHEREAS, Many peer institutions, such as the University of Washington, University of Michigan, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, University of Oregon, and University of California, Los Angeles either do not charge an international student fee or cover the fee for graduate assistants;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Graduate Student Government supports the removal of the \$125/semester international student fee.

¹ <https://dbknews.com/0999/12/31/arc-daadyzjfinfdpl5hhtgmazbboa/>

² [International Student Fee | Maryland Global](#)

³ [International Student Fee Revenue/Expenditures 2020-2024](#)

Author(s): Rose Ying (NACS), Akanksha Singh (AOSC)

Sponsor(s): Nora-(Shayne) E Jameson (EPID)

Date and Time of Submission: February 14, 2025

Date of Presentation: February 28, 2025

Action(s) Taken: Approved by Assembly vote without amendment and presented to relevant University of Maryland, College Park parties, including the Office of the President, the Office of the Provost, the Graduate School, and the International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS) office.

Decision of GSG President

Varaa
Varaa (Mar 19, 2025 02:00 EDT)
Signature of GSG President

03/19/2025
Date

Signature: Varaa
Varaa (Mar 19, 2025 02:00 EDT)
Email: gsg-president@umd.edu

[Vote Passed_Pending] GSG Resolution GSGA44-R05 International Student Fee Abolishment

Final Audit Report


2025-03-19

Created:	2025-03-12
By:	Keegan Clements-Housser (keeganc@umd.edu)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAm_7wsxqjl1xYBuB96lhV2bD6NgeVmwmR

"[Vote Passed_Pending] GSG Resolution GSGA44-R05 International Student Fee Abolishment" History

 Document created by Keegan Clements-Housser (keeganc@umd.edu)

2025-03-12 - 6:23:09 AM GMT- IP address: 73.172.123.197

 Document emailed to gsg-president@umd.edu for signature

2025-03-12 - 6:23:46 AM GMT

 Email viewed by gsg-president@umd.edu

2025-03-19 - 6:00:13 AM GMT- IP address: 66.102.8.174

 Signer gsg-president@umd.edu entered name at signing as Varaa

2025-03-19 - 6:00:38 AM GMT- IP address: 129.2.89.34

 Document e-signed by Varaa (gsg-president@umd.edu)

Signature Date: 2025-03-19 - 6:00:40 AM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 129.2.89.34

 Agreement completed.

2025-03-19 - 6:00:40 AM GMT