

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
Guarantee Tuition and Fee Plans
Frequently Asked Questions
August 18, 2015

These FAQ's were prepared based on the best information available at the time of posting, all information is subject to change without notice or obligation.

Why did we implement a guaranteed tuition plan?

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (TAMUCC) believes that students and their families should know the costs of obtaining a degree up front and should be able to rely on those costs not increasing if the student commits to graduating on time. With the introduction of a fixed tuition and fee rate, students can count on a consistent rate while enrolled. Our guaranteed tuition plan includes both tuition and fees and complies with House Bill 29 passed by the Texas Legislature in 2013 requiring a guaranteed rate for tuition at a minimum for students at public universities.

What are the benefits of having a guaranteed tuition plan?

The guaranteed tuition plan provides predictability for students and their families regarding tuition and fee charges, and locks in their expected charges for the expected length of their program if a student graduates on time. The plan further incentivizes students to graduate on time and simplifies the overall tuition and fee structure at TAMUCC.

Does the guaranteed tuition plan apply to graduate students?

No, the guaranteed tuition plan only applies to undergraduate students.

Does the guaranteed tuition plan apply to non-resident students?

No, the guaranteed tuition plan only applies to resident students.

What tuition and fees are included in the guaranteed tuition plan?

Tuition and mandatory fees (State mandated tuition, designated tuition, differential tuition, Student Services Fee, Athletic Fee, Student Center Complex Fee, Health Services Fee, Rec Sports Fee, and University Services Fee) are included in the guaranteed tuition plan.

What fees are excluded in the guaranteed tuition plan?

Distance education fees, field trip fees, study abroad fees, lab fees, e-line fees, three peat fees, excess credit hour fees, parking fees, other non-mandatory fees, and other non-academic costs (e.g. room and board, books, supplies, etc.) are not included in the guaranteed tuition plan.

Will each college have a different guaranteed tuition rate?

Yes, due to differential tuition amounts, colleges will have different guaranteed tuition rates.

How long does a student receive the guaranteed tuition plan?

All undergraduate resident students beginning in Fall 2015 will automatically be placed in a 4 year (12 consecutive semesters) guaranteed tuition plan. Undergraduate resident students who were enrolled in Fall 2014, Spring 2015 or Summer 2015 may be assigned to a plan that is less than 4 years.

**See stop outs below for more information on continuous enrollment

Please note the time period of a guaranteed plan is a continuous clock regardless of whether the student maintains continuous enrollment.

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Will students at TAMUCC opt into the guaranteed tuition plan?

No, undergraduate resident students will be automatically placed on a guaranteed tuition plan cohort.

Do students need to be full time to have a guaranteed tuition plan?

No, the rates are guaranteed even for part-time students, but the length of the guarantee remains the same. Students can be full-time in one semester and part-time in another semester, but the rates charged are those that were set for the cohort the student entered with.

Will a student taking less than 12 hours be charged the same rate as a full-time student?

No, students are charged only for the hours they register for in any given semester as there is a separate rate for each hour that is charged.

How is the guaranteed tuition plan assigned to a student?

Any undergraduate resident student beginning in Fall 2015 or later will be assigned a 4 year (12 semesters) guaranteed plan cohort, including post-baccalaureate students. High School Dual Credit and Transient students will pay the current year's tuition and fee rates associated with the term that they are enrolled in.

Is there still differential tuition being charged to students?

Yes, students will still be charged differential tuition based upon the college of their major, but differential tuition is included in the guaranteed tuition plan.

How will transfer students be assigned into a cohort?

Transfer students who begin in Fall 2015 or later will be assigned to a 4 year (12 consecutive semesters) plan cohort. Students who were enrolled in Fall 2014, Spring 2015 or Summer 2015 may be assigned to a plan that is shorter than 4 years depending on the number of hours that were transferred to TAMUCC.

What happens if a student changes their major?

Their guaranteed tuition rate will change based on the new major, but will be the rate charged to other students in that major from the same cohort.

What happens if a student stops out (Leaves and returns to the university)?

Students who leave the university for regular semester (fall/spring) would retain their original rate and time period. Please note the time period is a continuous clock regardless of whether the student maintains continuous enrollment.

What happens if a student does not graduate within the allotted time frame of the cohort assigned to them?

Students, who do not graduate within the allowed number of semesters of their guaranteed tuition cohort, will be placed into the new cohort rates for that year.

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Can a student appeal for extenuating circumstances?

Yes, students can do this through an Appeals Panel.

What are the circumstances in which a student may appeal for extenuating circumstances?

Some circumstances that are considered extenuating include military activation, significant medical issues that prevent enrollment for one or more semesters, disabilities verified through disability services, Title IX situations, seniors in the military science pre-commissioning program, seniors working on double majors, and other unusual circumstances. The following are not considered extenuating circumstances for an appeal: part-time student, academic suspension, suspension for code of conduct violation, financial aid suspension.

Can students still be charged a higher tuition rate for exceeding credit hours cap imposed by the state?

Yes, students exceeding the state credit hour cap will have to pay an additional excess credit hour fee. The guaranteed rate does not cover excess credit hour fees.

Can students still be charged a higher tuition rate for repeat courses for a third time?

Yes, the guaranteed rate does not cover courses that a student enrolls in for a third time and a three peat fee will be applied to their account.

What rate will be assigned to students who are double major seekers?

Double major degree seekers will be placed in the 4 year (12 consecutive semesters) guarantee tuition plan cohort based on their primary major. Students who were enrolled in Fall 2014, Spring 2015 or Summer 2015 may be assigned to a plan that is less than 4 years.

Does prior enrollment count toward a student's guaranteed tuition and fee plan?

For students enrolling at TAMUCC for the first time beginning in Fall 2015 or later, a student's plan will **not** be determined by the number of semester credit hours they have earned at another institution.

What will the undergraduate students in a Nursing Major be charged?

For the first two years, undergraduate students in the pre-nursing major will be charged the guaranteed tuition rate for Other Colleges. When the student is fully admitted into the Nursing program they will transition to the upper level portion of their program and their rate will be changed to a per hour guaranteed rate for Nursing for the remaining two years.

What will the undergraduate students in College of Business majors be charged?

A student that has declared a College of Business major will be changed the per hour guaranteed rate for College of Business.

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Do semesters of withdrawal count towards the guaranteed tuition plans years?

Yes, students who leave the university and then return will retain their original rate provided their time period has not expired. In the event that the time period has expired, the student will have a guaranteed rate based on the rate for new incoming students entering at that time.

How will students in the Employee Betterment Program be affected?

Employees in the EBP will continue to pay 50% of the TAMUCC current resident tuition cost per semester credit hour.