

PROGRAM FEE REQUEST

University: **University of Arizona**

College/School: **College of Public Health**

Programs: All graduate degree programs: **MPH, MS, PhD & DrPH**

Check One: **Graduate X** Undergraduate Check one: Upper Division Lower Division Both

New **FALL 2016**
 (Proposed) (Effective Date)
Existing \$75.00 \$50.00 Oct 2015
 (Proposed) (Current) (Year Approved)

Proposed fee to be applied as:
 Per Term X Per Unit, Total of 42 Units per Program
Proposed fee to be applied:
 X Fall X Spring X Summer No Winter
 Date Submitted: 10/30/2015

Rationale for Request (~100 words)

The College of Public Health (MEZCOPH) is requesting to increase our program fee for graduate studies in the following programs: MPH (biostatistics, environmental and occupational health, epidemiology, family and child health, health behavior and promotion, health services administration, public health policy and management, public health practice), MS (biostatistics, environmental health sciences, epidemiology), PhD (biostatistics, environmental health sciences, epidemiology, health behavior and health promotion) and DrPH (maternal and child health, public health policy and management) and to support the following activities:

- 1) Computer support for our required biostatistics and epidemiology courses. This includes maintaining and keeping current the state-of-the-art software in our computer classroom that is used for several required courses and is a resource for our students to conduct course assignments.
- 2) Support videoconferencing capabilities for “real-time” synchronous classes between our Tucson and Phoenix campuses.
- 3) Provide the required additional advising needed to oversee internships that occur throughout Arizona.
- 4) Provide for a breadth of community-based instructors for our courses that allow students to get further insight to public health programs.
- 5) Enhance our environmental and occupational health laboratory-based courses

Compliance with Board Guidelines (~250 words)

(1) The program fee will substantially increase the quality of the learning experience for the student, providing a basis for later opportunities that justifies the extra cost to the student. MEZCOPH provides professional graduate education. The program fee allows MEZCOPH to enhance an applied curriculum and provide the student support services necessary to have a continual communication with community organizations. The fees will also negate the need for MEZCOPH to limit the enrollment in its courses and will be used in part to support graduate assistantships.

(2) The program fee provides set aside funds for need based aid at a rate of 14%. Set aside allocations and disbursements are monitored on an annual basis for compliance.

(3) As a professional school, MEZCOPH’s operational costs are greater than normal academic programs for the following two reasons: required field experiences, and its mission to provide outreach to Arizonans. Field based courses are part of the curriculum for all MPH students. Every student is required to complete an intensive internship course that involves oversight by an academic advisor and a committee of two faculty members. Our applied courses are 1) field-based, 2) service learning, and 3) lab-based or computer intensive, requiring small faculty to student ratios. In all of these programs, students interact directly with public and private agencies providing community based public health services and research. Additionally, in compliance with our college’s accreditation, all graduate students are required to have exposure to core public health courses.

Student Consultation (~100 words)

We consulted with students via one survey and two discussion groups. A total of 48 graduate students completed the survey. Each student was asked “What do you consider to be a reasonable increase in differential tuition so we can continue to support teaching assistants and have advisors and faculty who can support your courses, internships and research?” Most students (68.8%) stated \$20 per credit as the amount to increase and an additional 10% stated \$30 per semester. The mean value of an increase was \$24.79. We received 22 individual comments with most indicating that an increase would not be welcome.

MARKET PRICING (~200)

For 27 state universities with accredited schools of public health, the in-state tuition and fees for master of public health degrees range from \$7,812 to \$24,950 per year and out-of-state tuition ranges from \$16,500 to \$37,195. The proposed MEZCOPH in-state tuition with fees would have a cost of \$13,848 which places it as the 12th least expensive program for residents out of the 27 state universities reviewed. For non-residents the increase in program fee now has the College moving ahead of the only school compared with our tuition from five years ago. As can be seen by these figures, there is great elasticity of demand based on many factors, including the perceived quality of education. Furthermore, the number of applications to schools over the past 2 years has increased by approximately 20% due to a centralized application processing program. Our proposed program fee will have little to do with our competitive tuition.

State Funded University with School of Public Health	Resident Tuition + Mandatory Fees	Program Fees	Total Resident Tuition & Fees	Non-Resident Tuition + Mandatory Fees	Program Fees	Total Non-Resident Tuition & Fees
University of California Berkeley	18,814	6,136	24,950	31,059	6,136	37,195
University of California at Los Angeles	18,420	4,689	23,109	31,121	4,689	35,810
University of Minnesota	16,380	4,538	20,918	21,510	4,538	26,048
University of Illinois at Chicago	15,210	4,232	19,442	27,450	4,232	31,682
University of Colorado, Anschutz Campus	13,194	5,026	18,220	21,870	5,026	26,896
University of Washington	16,614	1,089	17,703	33,738	1,089	34,827
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	14,509	1,926	16,435	30,963	1,926	32,889
University of Maryland	13,320	1,823	15,143	23,598	1,823	25,421
University of Iowa	14,157	0	14,157	30,741	0	30,741
University of Arizona - 12 units/sem at \$75/unit – Proposed	12,048	1,800	13,848	30,370	1,800	32,170
Ohio State	12,392	865	13,257	31,864	865	32,729
University of South Florida	10,354	74	10,428	21,052	74	21,126
Texas A&M	4,202	3,610	7,812	12,624	3,876	16,500

ACCOUNTABILITY

Financial Aid Set-Aside Amount: 14%

Proposed Annual Revenue

Annual Program Fee Amount	\$	1,800
Number of Students Enrolled Annually	#	300
Total Annual Revenue	=	540,000

Proposed Annual Expenditures

Financial Aid Set Aside (14%)	\$	75,600
Institutional and Advising Personnel	\$	237,600
Support Staff Expense	\$	81,000
Total Operating Expenses	\$	145,800
Total Program Costs	=	540,000