



2009-10 Tuition FAQ

GENERAL

Is tuition increasing this fall?

If you are a student who enrolled in fall 2006, fall 2007 or fall 2008, you are under the Guaranteed Tuition Plan, and will see no change or increase in tuition this fall. The [breakdown of tuition and fees](#) may be found on the Bursar's site.

Is there an institutional fee for students this fall?

Yes. All students will pay an institutional fee of \$100 for the upcoming academic year.

Why is the fee being extended?

The fee was originally set in December 2008 for the spring 2009 semester. The temporary fee was part of the USG Board of Regents' plan to offset state budget reductions. Now that the System's Fiscal Year 2010 budget has been set and we have a much clearer picture of the state's declining revenues, the regents have decided that a special institutional fee must be part of the overall strategy to ensure access and academic excellence for students.

My insurance company requires that I be enrolled as a full-time student. I am taking 12 hours. Am I still considered a full-time student?

Yes, for financial aid and verification of enrollment purposes, 12 hours is still considered full-time.

Does the \$100 institutional fee apply to fall, spring and summer semesters?

The institutional fee will go into effect beginning fall semester 2009 and will apply to all three semesters. You must pay the fee each semester that you are enrolled.

Who sets the Institute's tuition rate?

The [University System of Georgia's Board of Regents](#) set tuition rates for each of the state's 35 public colleges and universities annually.

What will be the new tuition and fees?

A listing of the new tuition and fees can be found [on this chart](#) provided by the Georgia Tech Bursar's Office.

What will the money from the tuition increase be used for?

Tuition and fees provide funds for classroom and lab instruction as well as academic support services that exist outside the classroom. Examples of offices that provide academic support include advising, Professional Practice (co-op), International Education (study abroad), tutoring, and Student Affairs. Tuition does not go toward building construction, travel or athletic scholarships.

Why is Georgia Tech's tuition more expensive than any other state university?

Georgia Tech is a research institution. Degree programs in science and technology are space-intensive, equipment-intensive, and energy-intensive. These requirements are more costly compared to universities with different academic priorities. In addition, the expense associated with attracting and retaining premier faculty in science and engineering increases the cost of educating students who pursue a degree from Georgia Tech.

Where can I get assistance to help manage my academic schedule?

There are numerous resources and services available for students seeking academic support:

- [Advising at Tech](#): Meet with your advisor, a mentor, or a trusted faculty member at least once a semester to map out your goals and classes. Your advisor may also point you to some useful tutoring programs within your department.
- [Success Programs](#): Offers mentorship and one-on-one tutoring to help strengthen your knowledge on a given subject.
- [Office of Minority Education](#): All students are welcome to take advantage of tutoring programs through OMED.



GUARANTEED TUITION PLAN (“FIXED FOR FOUR”)

Is the Guaranteed Tuition Plan being discontinued?

Students who enrolled between 2006-2008 will receive the rate [guaranteed](#) them at the time they entered the system and will see no change in tuition this fall. Students enrolling as freshmen this summer or subsequent semesters will not be under the Guaranteed Tuition Plan.

What about students who enrolled prior to the Guaranteed Tuition Plan?

In-state students who entered the system prior to fall 2006 and are not enrolled in the co-op program will pay the same rate as incoming students — \$3,035 per semester. For out-of-state students, the cost will be \$12,140 per semester.

I am on the Guaranteed Tuition Plan and want to transfer to Tech. What rate will I pay?

Students who are on the Guaranteed Tuition Plan and who elect to transfer to another institution will continue to pay their guaranteed tuition rate until the time on their plan expires. This includes students on the Guaranteed Tuition Plan who transfer to Tech. Tuition changes for fall 2009 do not affect any student who is currently on the Guaranteed Tuition Plan, including those who transfer from one USG institution to another.

Will students in the Guaranteed Tuition Plan have to pay additional tuition if they take any credit hours above 12?

No, this new policy doesn't affect students on the Guaranteed Tuition Plan. Students on the Guaranteed Tuition Plan will see no change in their tuition rate, regardless of the number of hours taken.

I am on the Guaranteed Tuition Plan but it expires summer term 2010. What will I pay the following semester?

Students enrolled under the Guaranteed Tuition Plan have a fixed rate for 12 semesters. Once it expires, continuing students will pay the current rate under the Flat Tuition Plan.

As an incoming freshman, what if I choose to enroll this summer instead of the fall? Will I receive the Guaranteed Tuition rate?

The tuition rates set for 2008-09 apply for freshmen enrolling in summer semester. Beginning in the fall, you will pay the same tuition as other entering freshmen.

FLAT TUITION PLAN

Why did the Board of Regents decide to set a flat tuition rate in lieu of the fixed for four plan?

Unforeseen economic circumstances coupled with substantial budget reductions compromised the long-term viability of a fixed tuition model. Academically competitive colleges and universities must maintain an equally competitive tuition rate. Despite this change, Georgia Tech's tuition rate remains one of the lowest when compared with its peer institutions while maintaining a top-tier national and international ranking.

What does it mean that students enrolled at Georgia Tech will pay a “flat tuition rate?”

New students enrolling this fall will pay one of two rates: either \$1,800 per semester for 6 hours or fewer or \$3,035 for more than 6 hours. Out-of-state students will pay either \$7,200 per semester for 6 hours or fewer or \$12,140 for more than 6 hours. Students will not pay an additional rate for taking more than 15 hours in a single semester.

What led to this change?

Historically, tuition has been based upon 12 credit hours, with no additional charge for more hours. The average number of credit hours carried by Georgia Tech students, however, is higher than that figure. Given the current budget picture, it is difficult to maintain academic quality and provide classes for free. Therefore, the tuition calculation has been revised to more accurately reflect the cost associated with these extra credits.

Will the new flat tuition rate apply to students who enrolled prior to fall 2006 and who are not on the Guaranteed Tuition Plan?

Yes, any student not on the Guaranteed Tuition Plan will pay the flat tuition rate unless the student is a fifth-year co-op. These students will pay the same rate as students who enrolled in fall 2008.

What about students who opt for a study abroad program?

Issues regarding these students are being studied. These new rates will not affect tuition for summer semester 2009.

This new tuition model only impacts Georgia Tech and UGA. Why do research universities cost more?

Degree programs in science and technology are space-intensive, equipment-intensive, and energy-intensive. These requirements are fundamentally larger and more costly compared to universities with different academic priorities. In addition, the cost associated with attracting premier faculty increases the cost of educate students who pursue a degree at Georgia Tech.

FINANCIAL AID

If I have received a financial aid award letter, will I get a new award letter?

The Office of Scholarships & Financial Aid has updated its records to reflect current tuition and fees. You will receive a new award letter if the amounts of any of your awards are impacted by these changes. You can [e-mail your advisor](#) with any specific questions.

What if I am unable to afford the new tuition rate?

Georgia Tech is committed to working with students and families to find resources to help fund their education. For information regarding loans or scholarship assistance, contact the [Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid](#). Students may also inquire with their academic department about scholarship opportunities. Tech also offers a robust co-op and internship programs to help students earn money, gain real world experience, and complete their degrees.

HOPE SCHOLARSHIP (for Georgia residents)

Will HOPE continue to cover my tuition?

Yes, HOPE will pay the new flat rate for students attending Tech.

Is the \$100 institutional fee covered by HOPE?

No, HOPE does not cover fees approved by the Board of Regents after January 2004. This fee is not HOPE eligible.

Will HOPE cover my tuition if I take fewer than 15 hours per semester?

Yes, HOPE will pay the rate regardless of the number of hours taken.

For more information

Office of Scholarships & Financial Aid

<http://www.finaid.gatech.edu>

finaid@gatech.edu

404-894-4160

Bursar's Office

<http://www.bursar.gatech.edu>

404-894-4618

Georgia Tech Housing

<http://www.housing.gatech.edu>

404-894-2470

Success Programs,

A Division of Student Affairs

<http://www.successprograms.gatech.edu>

404-894-1945