



Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
System Guidelines
 Chapter 5 – Administration

**Guideline 5.11.1.3 Senior Citizen Charges and Fees
 for Procedure 5.11.1 – Tuition and Fees**

Purpose: Policy 1A.1, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Organization and Administration, defines a system guideline as giving explicit direction, instructions or guidance on internal forms, processes and other administrative or managerial matters, consistent with Board policy and System procedure. Each college and university must establish local procedures consistent with this guideline.

The following directions are to be followed by colleges and universities to establish consistent procedures for fees to be charged to senior citizens who take either credit or non-credit courses.

Background: As defined in Minnesota Statutes §135A.51 a senior citizen is a legal resident of Minnesota who has reached 62 years of age before the beginning of any term, in which a course of study is pursued, or a person receiving a railroad retirement annuity who has reached 60 years of age before the beginning of the term.

Minnesota Statutes §135A.52 includes special provisions regarding senior citizen charges for accessing higher education programs. The following chart helps to clarify when a fee can or cannot be charged.

Guideline Requirements:

Charge/Fee	Courses Taken for Credit	Non-Credit Courses	Audited Courses	Rationale
Tuition for courses designed and offered specifically and exclusively for seniors	No	Yes	No	Tuition is permitted to be charged in law, M.S. 135A.52, subd.1 for these non credit courses
Tuition	No	No	No	Specified in law, M. S. 135A.52, subd.1
Administrative Fee	Yes	No	No	Specified in law, M.S. 135A.52, subd.1
Closed Enrollment Training Program charges/CT	Yes	Yes	N/A	Specified in law, M.S. 135A.52, subd.2 (b)
Student Application Fee	Yes	No	No	Not required of non-credit students

Charge/Fee	Courses Taken for Credit	Non-Credit Courses	Audited Courses	Rationale
Parking	Yes	Yes	Yes	Authorized for all in MS 136F.53 & not exempted; as required of all users
Charge/Fee	Courses Taken for Credit	Non-Credit Courses	Audited Courses	Rationale
Statewide Student Association	Yes	No	No	Required in MS 136F.22 for credit courses
Late Fee	Yes	Yes	Yes	Not exempted, not activity fee; as required of all students
Experiential Learning	Yes	N/A	N/A	Not exempted, not activity fee; as required of all students
Placement	Yes	N/A	N/A	Not exempted, not activity fee; as required of all students
Student Life/Activity Fee	No	No	No	Prohibited by M.S. 135A.52, subd.1
Athletic Fee	No	No	No	Prohibited by M.S. 135A.52, subd.1 as this is considered an activity fee
Health Services	Yes	Yes	Yes	Authorized in MS 136F.20 and not exempted
Residential Learning Community Fee	Yes	N/A	N/A	User fee, allowed by Board policy
Technology Fee	Yes	No	No	Not exempted; not activity fee; user fee required of all students; authorized per credit.
Student Union Facility Fee	Yes	No	No	Not exempted; not activity fee; user fee required of all students
Personal Property & Service Charge	Yes	Yes	Yes	Authorized in MS 135A.52, Subd. 1 as materials, personal property or services charges
Non-resident or Reciprocity Tuition	Yes	Yes	Yes	Waiver available only to "MN legal residents" (includes reciprocity)

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