

Senior/Graduation Fee

What is this fee?

This nonrefundable fee would be applied to degree-seeking students who reach senior status or apply for graduation using the WSU Graduation Application. This would include students earning an Associate, Bachelors, Masters, or Doctoral degree. A student would be charged a single fee per degree, so a student having to reapply or move their graduation application would not be charged multiple times. This fee will not impact the eligibility of graduation or hinder the awarding of a degree. This will prevent the mailing of official transcripts and printing of the diploma.

When will this fee be assessed?

This fee will ideally be assessed at the time that a student reaches their senior/final year.

How much is this fee?

We are asking for a \$25 Senior/Graduation Fee.

What will the revenue from this fee be used for?

These funds would be used for the expenses associated with graduation, the Warrior Grad Celebration, and commencement. This will include diploma covers, academic honors cords, printing diplomas, mailing diplomas, commencement costs which may include but are not limited to printing costs, refreshments, decorations, music, and other supplies.

What is the expected amount of revenue from this fee?

It is anticipated based on past, current, and past trends, that roughly 1835 students would have this fee assessed each fiscal year. This would equate to \$45,875.00 annually.

Why is this fee being requested?

Currently there is no budget exclusive to graduation/commencement. Primarily Academic Affairs and the Registrar's Office have paid for these expenses from their own operating budgets. The cost for graduation/commencement exceeds the amount of operating budget provided to these areas. This would establish a separate budget for funds to be exclusively used for graduation/commencement.

The graduation/commencement expenses for 2018-19 were as follows:

Academic Honors Cords	\$4200.00
Diploma Covers	\$7000.00
Diploma Printing/Mailing	\$12000.00
Band	\$6000.00
Commencement Programs	\$8300.00

Stage Decorations	\$300.00
Commencement Tickets	\$500.00
Student Help	\$3600.00
Refreshments (Food/Water)	\$3000.00
Office Supplies	\$500.00
6 Months Free Transcripts for Seniors (Warrior Space Orders Only)	
Total Graduation/Commencement Expenses	\$45400.00

How do other institutions in Minnesota State and in the region compare with such a fee?

Minnesota State University – Mankato: \$25 Graduation Fee

<https://mankato.mnsu.edu/university-life/campus-services/campushub/bills-payment/miscellaneous-university-charges/graduation-fee/#:~:text=The%20Charge,or%20during%20the%20previous%20semester.>

St. Cloud State University: Undergraduate/Masters - \$30 and Doctoral - \$35 Graduation Application Fee <https://www.stcloudstate.edu/srfs/graduation/default.aspx>

Minnesota State University – Moorhead: \$30 Commencement Fee

<https://www.mnstate.edu/registrar/graduation/questions/#:~:text=Is%20there%20a%20fee%20to,services%2C%20interpreter%20services%2C%20etc.>

Metropolitan State University: \$20 Graduation Fee

<https://www.metrostate.edu/students/graduation>

Southwest Minnesota State University: \$25 Graduation Fee

<https://www.smsu.edu/campuslife/registrationrecords/graduation/index.html>

Bemidji State University: No Fee

Saint Mary's University of Minnesota: \$190 Graduation Fee

<https://www.smumn.edu/admission/bachelors-completion/tuition-fees>

University of Wisconsin – La Crosse: \$38 Graduation Fee

<https://www.uwlax.edu/cost/>

University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire: \$30 Senior Processing Fee

<https://www.uwec.edu/commencement/more-information/senior-processing-fee/#:~:text=Fees%20for%20graduation%20currently%20range,graduates%20and%20is%20not%20refundable.>