



Frequently Asked Questions

(updated 02.03.09)

What is the Professional Fee?

Much like the surcharge assessed by the College of Architecture, Design and Construction, the School of Pharmacy, and the College of Veterinary Medicine, the College of Business Professional Fee provides the college with funds (in excess of university tuition) to improve the learning experience by increasing teaching resources, adding new student services and improving program options and technology. In addition, the Professional Fee will be used to establish the Office of Professional and Career Development, thereby improving the existing features and services of the current Office of Business/Student Partnerships.

What is the Office of Professional and Career Development?

The Office of Professional and Career Development (OPCD) will assist students and employers in their joint internship/career search activities within the Auburn University College of Business. The OPCD will continue to offer services previously provided by the Office of Business/Student Partnerships as well as introduce new features and services. Among the changes are:

- An online career management system whereby employers can register for expos, post jobs, and access resumes; students will also be able to schedule on-campus interviews through this system
- Increased personnel to include career coaches, an information technology specialist, and a recruiting events coordinator
- Technology for video interviews/conferencing and interview training
- Subscriptions to employment/corporate information databases for international and domestic opportunities

Who is charged the Professional Fee?

All undergraduate students enrolled in the pre-business curriculum as well as those who have declared a major within the College of Business will be charged the Professional Fee. This includes those students who are seeking a double major in the College of Business and in another school or college. It does NOT include students who are seeking to earn a business minor. Anyone enrolled in a College of Business graduate program (*on-campus only*) will be assessed the Professional Fee.

When does the Professional Fee take effect?

For all graduate business students, the Professional Fee took effect in fall 2008. For all undergraduate business students, the Professional Fee will go into effect in fall 2009.

How much is the Professional Fee?

The Professional Fee for undergraduate students is based upon your class standing at the start of each semester. It is the same, whether you are enrolled as a part-time student or a full-time student.

	<u>Fall Semester</u>	<u>Spring Semester</u>	<u>Summer Semester</u>
Freshman (30 or fewer semester hours)	\$260	\$260	\$75
Sophomore (31-60 semester hours)	\$260	\$260	\$75
Junior (61-90 semester hours)	\$560	\$560	\$150
Senior (91 or more semester hours)	\$560	\$560	\$150

The Professional Fee for graduate students is based upon the number of hours taken each semester. The fee for currently enrolled graduate students is \$200 per semester hour (fall, spring and summer).

What is the Professional Fee going to be used for?

The Professional Fee will be used to enhance the learning experience, add teaching resources, and improve student services and program features. Among the initiatives identified are: a mandatory international residency requirement for MBA students, the hiring of teaching resources, and the establishment of the Office of Professional and Career Development.

Why is the Professional Fee more in the junior and senior years?

The increased fee during the junior and senior years allows the College of Business to hire additional faculty and instructors for upper level business courses. Additional faculty leads to smaller class sizes and more course offerings so that students can get the classes they need when they need them in order to graduate.

Is the Professional Fee eligible for reimbursement under the PACT (Prepaid Affordable College Tuition) Program?

For the four-year contract option, PACT covers 128 semester hours of undergraduate public college tuition. As the professional fee is not deemed a tuition surcharge, it is not covered by the PACT program.

Are scholarships available for the Professional Fee?

There are no specific scholarships for the Professional Fee. However, all undergraduate business students are encouraged to complete the online scholarship application. Undergraduate scholarships are awarded each spring for the following academic year. **Applications are available in early December and will be due on or before January 15, 2009.** Visit <http://business.auburn.edu/students/scholarships/> for more information.

Were students made aware of the Professional Fee proposal to the Auburn University Board of Trustees?

Yes. The College of Business Student Council hosted a Town Hall Meeting on November 6, 2007. At this meeting, Dean Paul Bobrowski spoke about the Professional Fee as well as addressed general concerns about the college. All students were invited to attend via e-mail. The Student Council was also responsible for flyers and postings on the digital signage throughout the building.

If I enroll for both mini-semesters in the summer, do I pay the Professional Fee each term?

The fee is the same whether you are enrolled in the full summer semester, in one mini-semester or in both mini-semesters. Students who enroll in both mini-semesters will pay the Professional Fee only once, at the start of the first session.

Will the Professional Fee change during the course of my enrollment?

The Professional Fee is subject to annual review by the Auburn University Board of Trustees and may be subject to change. Such changes would take effect at the start of the upcoming fall semester.

What happens if I withdraw from classes?

For fall and spring semesters, the Professional Fee will be credited to your account if you withdraw from **all** classes prior to the 15th class day. For any summer session, the Professional Fee will be credited to your account if you withdraw from **all** classes prior to the 5th class day. No fees will be credited if an individual course is dropped.

Who do I contact if my question has not been answered above?

Questions and concerns should be addressed to the following:

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