**STUDENT REPRESENTATION FEE IS OPTIONAL**

**\*\*\*The Department of Veterans Affairs will not pay these fees.** If you would like to opt out of this fee, please read and complete the attached form then email it to **Cuyamaca.cashier@gcccd.edu****.** **This form will need to be completed for every semester.** If you want your voices heard at the state level and willing to pay this fee contact the Cashiers office at 619-660-4256.

**What is it?**

In October 2019 Assembly Bill 1504 was signed into law, requiring California Community Colleges to collect a student representation fee (SRF) of $2 per semester. This law went into effect January 1, 2020, and all students who initially register for classes on or after January 1, 2020 will have this fee imposed**.** It is a mandatory fee that supports student representation efforts at the local and state level.

California Education Code 76060.5 states: “… A student representation fee of two dollars ($2) shall be collected by the officials of the community college… for student representation fees. The money collected pursuant to this section shall be expended to provide support for governmental affairs representatives of local or statewide student body organizations who may be stating their positions and viewpoints before city, county, and district governments, and before offices and agencies of state government...”

$1 of the fee goes to support the state-wide Student Senate of the California Community Colleges (SSCCC), and $1 of the fee goes to the efforts of our own Associated Students of Cuyamaca College to be used toward representing Cuyamaca College students at the local and state level.

1. Provide effective student representation and participation in state-level community college shared governance and with governmental affairs representatives.
2. Leadership and advocacy training, awareness and information.  This includes stipends for participation in shared governance processes to learn about and advocate for student issues, and participation in training provided by the ASCC related to shared governance and advocacy.
3. Attendance at conferences and meetings of student-centered, non-partisan organizations.
4. Advertisements consisting of information about legislative issues of interest to the student body.
5. Travel expenses for lobbying and/or advocacy of students.
6. Purchasing of equipment and supplies used for lobbying and/or advocacy, including apparel.
7. Hosting non-partisan conferences or meetings on legislative issues.
8. Attending legislative activities such as the SSCCC General Assembly in March.
9. Visiting the offices of local and state elected officials to learn about and advocate for student issues.

**Why is it important?**

The focus of this fee is to emphasize the role of community colleges in California as a postsecondary institution representing 2.1 million students, in addition to establishing an assurance of the students’ role in the shared governance process.

This fee provides and enhances access to governance mechanisms for the purpose of effective representation, accountability, and also improving communication, coordination, and collaborative efforts to organize and advocate on issues affecting California Community College students.

Kind regards,