Graduate Professional Program Fee Information

1. Why is the graduate business professional fee necessary?
The Professional Program Fee (PPF) supports the Mihaylo College of Business and Economics maintain its current AACSB International (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International) accreditation for its business programs (i.e. MBA and MSA). Mihaylo College of Business and Economics is one of approximately 560 institutions worldwide - less than 5% of all business schools - accredited by the prestigious AACSB International. The fee supports college operations and new initiatives to remain competitive in the business world.

2. Who made the decision to implement the graduate business profession fee?
The decision to implement the PPF for coursework required in state-supported professional master’s of business degree programs was made by the California State University Board of Trustees on May 13, 2009. The fee was then issued as an Executive Order from the CSU Chancellor’s Office to all CSU institutions that have applicable graduate programs in Business. The Graduate PPF took effect in Fall 2009 semester and will continue for all semesters following. The fee implementation is a system-wide decision.

3. Which degree programs at Mihaylo College of Business and Economics are affected?
Master’s of Business Administration (MBA), all concentrations at CSUF main campus; Master’s in Accountancy, Master’s in Taxation (main campus), and Master’s in Information Systems

4. How much is the graduate business professional fee?
For Fall 2014 the fee is $254 per unit in addition to the current registration and other fees (fees are subject to change). For example, a 3-unit course would total $762 for this fee. Fee Information is found online at: http://sfs.fullerton.edu/feeinformation/Default.asp

5. To what courses does this fee apply?
All courses that apply to the completion of the degree program will be subject to the fee. This includes all prerequisite and pre-admission courses (i.e. calculus and statistics courses) as well as any courses required for the degree, including concentration and elective courses as well as undergraduate business courses taken as a graduate student. Courses taken that are clearly outside the requirements of the degree program and would never be used to fulfill a requirement of any state supported MCBE graduate program would not be assessed the fee.

7. Does the fee apply to international and out-of-state students?
Yes, all students including international, in-state and out-of-state residents are subject to the Graduate PPF.
8. How will the revenues generated from this fee be used?
Some of the ways the fee may be used include:

• To maintain standards of AACSB accreditation
• To attract and retain much-needed tenure-track faculty members to teach in the graduate program
• To support programs and services to Mihaylo graduate students
• To provide financial assistance to eligible students

9. How will the fee benefit the students?
With the fee being directly applied to Mihaylo graduate students, they will receive continued access to the business programs which meet the quality standard of AACSB with respect to the curriculum, faculty, and services. As well, students who exhibit a financial need can apply to be considered for increased financial assistance and student assistantships as a direct result of revenues generated by the fee.

10. What if I can't afford this fee?
Immediately apply online with the ‘Free Application for Federal Student Aid’ or FAFSA (http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/). The CSUF Financial Aid Office will determine ‘eligibility’ for each student, giving the professional program fee increase full and significant consideration. How quickly the office is able to determine your ‘eligibility’ is based in large part on the completeness and accuracy of the information you provide in FAFSA.

All students determined to be ‘eligible’ can apply for State University Grant, Stafford Student Loans, and other scholarships. In addition, between 25-33 percent of the fee revenue will be set aside for financial aid.

12. What if I have additional questions about the fee?
This FAQ was designed to answer many of the questions that students have. It is important for students to know that the fee was issued by the CSU Chancellor’s Office to all CSU institutions and is a required fee. Thus it is not appealable nor is it something that an individual institution can have waived. For more information, students are encouraged to read the CSU Board of Trustees resolution (http://www.calstate.edu/BOT/Resolutions/May2009.pdf).