



## STUDENT FEES ADVISORY COMMITTEE FY26 BASE AUGMENTATION REQUEST (G)

The WGRC is seeking a FY26 Base Augmentation Request in the amount of \$5,000 for snacks.

Providing snacks to students at the WGRC plays a vital role in addressing food insecurity and fostering a supportive, welcoming environment for all who visit our center. Many students, particularly those who are experiencing financial strain, struggle to afford nutritious food options, which can negatively impact their concentration, energy levels, and overall well-being. By offering free snacks, we help ensure that all students have access to nourishment that can make a difference in their ability to focus, engage, and succeed academically.

Students consistently report that having snacks available helps them concentrate while studying and provides a sense of comfort when they need a break from the demands of their coursework. The availability of snacks not only meets a basic need but also creates a more inviting atmosphere that encourages students to visit the WGRC, connect with our resources, and engage with the broader campus community.

The WGRC has seen a remarkable increase in student visits, highlighting the growing need for resources like snacks that support students in their daily lives. This surge in visits reflects the center's role as a crucial support hub for students, aligning with the institution's strategic priority to increase student engagement.

Additionally, offering snacks supports our commitment to lowering costs for economically disadvantaged students by reducing financial barriers that can hinder their success. Providing this essential support helps to ensure that all students, regardless of their financial situation, have what they need to stay nourished, focused, and involved in their academic pursuits. Further, this financial savings can help promote retention of First Time in College (FTIC) students and retention of Pell-eligible FTIC students.

Providing snacks is more than a gesture of hospitality; it's a tangible way to demonstrate our dedication to student well-being, success, and engagement, reinforcing the WGRC's role as a central resource that cares for the holistic needs of the university community.

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Project: Snacks

Investment: \$5,300 (Asking amount plus 6% admin fee)

Itemized breakdown estimate: The WGRC spends an average of \$500 a month to provide snacks to students. \$5,000 would allow for approximately 10 months of snack provisions, allowing for the slower periods during winter and summer breaks.