

Student Fees Advisory Committee

REPORT ON TYPE, LEVEL, AND EXPENDITURE OF COMPULSORY FEES FOR STUDENT SERVICES

Fiscal Year 2027

University of Houston

Dulce Maria Otera
SFAC Chair

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SFAC Vice-Chair



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Date: November 13, 2025

To: Dr. Renu Khator, *Chancellor/President*
Dr. Paul Kittle, *Vice-Chancellor/Vice-President for Student Affairs*

From: Ms. Dulce Maria Otero, *Student Fees Advisory Committee Chair*
Mr. Mohammad Sami Tabbara, *Student Fees Advisory Committee Vice-Chair*

cc: SFAC Members: Mr. Juan Gonzalez Diaz, Student Representative; Mr. Diego Arriaga, Student Representative; Ms. Kathreen Hookfin, Student Representative; Ms. Haley Blackmon, Presidential Appointment; Dr. Chi Nguyen, Presidential Appointment; Dr. Donna Pattison, Presidential Appointment; Ms. Catherine Essinger, Presidential Appointment; and Mr. Donell Young, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students (mentor and non-voting member).
All Student Fee Funded Units

RE: FY27 Student Fees Advisory Committee (SFAC) Recommendations

The Student Fees Advisory Committee (SFAC) was tasked with making strategic decisions regarding the allocation of funding for the upcoming fiscal year. Our priorities and recommendations emphasize increasing accessibility, promoting cross-departmental collaboration, and enhancing data-driven decision-making. To achieve this, we request that all units provide more comprehensive data utilizing the event pass system to help the committee assess impact and ensure that our recommendations accurately reflect the needs of the student body.

The SFAC recognizes that Fiscal Years 2026 and 2027 have presented significant challenges due to rising costs and increased enrollment. The decisions made during this cycle were not taken lightly, as we fully understand the essential role each unit plays in supporting the University of Houston student community.

The Vice President for Student Affairs, Dr. Paul Kittle, presented to the SFAC an executive budget reallocation across all departments following an internal audit by the Division of Student Affairs. This reallocation supports the establishment of the Cougar Experience Board, a new University-sponsored organization designed to enhance campus life through expanded weekend programming.

The following departments were not affected by budget reductions: the Center for Student Empowerment, Veteran Services, Cougar Family & Parent Engagement Center, Cougars in Recovery, Justin Dart Jr. Student Accessibility Center, A.D. Bruce Religion Center, Debt Student Service for Athletic Facilities, and the University Student Health Center.

All other Student Fee Funded units not listed above will receive a 2% base trim for FY 2026 and a 1% base trim for FY 2027.

The SFAC supports the founding of the Cougar Experience Board, recognizing its alignment with student needs, particularly for on-campus residents seeking opportunities to connect and build community during weekends. With student fees funding this initiative, we anticipate a more vibrant campus culture and a stronger sense of belonging. The committee, though, doesn't take this allocation lightly and expects metric-based, ongoing justification for this new initiative.

The committee recommends that the Center for Student Involvement leadership and the Cougar Experience Board build a sustainable partnership with UH Wellness. We encourage the use of the Event Pass system and the collection of both quantitative and qualitative data to assess student engagement. We also expect the Board's student leaders to serve as liaisons between the Residential Hall Association and Registered Student Organizations, fostering accessibility, community building, and open dialogue to address student concerns.

After thorough consideration, the committee determined it necessary to implement a 15% reduction on all marketing-related funding requests. While we value promotional initiatives and recognize their importance in increasing awareness, this adjustment aligns with our commitment to fiscal responsibility. We strongly encourage all units to partner with the Center for Student Media, as it can serve as both a cost-effective and collaborative resource for sustainable community building.

The SFAC further recommends that units strengthen cross-departmental partnerships to maximize the impact of student fees. Our shared goal is to ensure that all students are aware of and able to access the full range of campus resources that support student success, engagement, and retention.

Peer-to-peer communication remains one of the most effective forms of outreach. Therefore, we strongly encourage units to collaborate with student leaders and student-run media outlets to enhance visibility and engagement. This approach not only reduces costs but also provides valuable experiential learning opportunities and fosters direct connections between university departments and the student body.

Furthermore, SFAC encourages the Health and Wellbeing units to further strengthen their collaboration with the Center for Student Involvement and the Residence Hall Association. Students who are active in campus organizations or who live on campus are often more likely to assume leadership roles and influence their peers. By fostering these relationships and consistently promoting available resources, we can reduce stigma and ensure that all students feel supported in their personal, academic, and social well-being. Additionally, we emphasize the importance of maintaining multiple communication channels and strongly encourage further partnerships with The Daily Cougar, CoogTV, and Coog Radio to ensure broad outreach and engagement.

In conclusion, the SFAC extends its gratitude to all units and dedicated staff who support the students at the University of Houston. We hope our recommendations help strengthen collaboration and synergy across departments.

With Cougar Spirit,

Dulce Marie Otero
Chair

Mohammad Sami Tabbara
Vice-Chair

Student Service Fee Rate Schedule FY2027

Fee Rate without SFAC proposed increase:

Fee Rate for Fall/Spring

Student enrolled in 6 hours or more:	\$260 per student
Student enrolled in less than 6 hours:	\$244 per student

Fee Rate for Summer

Student enrolled in 6 hours or more:	\$217 per student
Student enrolled in less than 6 hours:	\$212 per student

Projected Total Revenue less waivers/bad debt/online students: \$25,460,702

Enrollment Base for FY2025-2026: 45,375 students*

Salary Mandate: \$160,645

Post Season Football/Basketball Support: \$100,000

Reserve: \$2,000,000

Calculation of the Student Services Fee:

For purposes of calculating the total level of FY27 fees for student services, the \$21.50 Health Center Fee and the \$45 Athletic Facility Fee are calculated as part of the \$260 Student Service Fee. While the Health Center Fee and the Athletic Facility Fee count towards the total, they are considered dedicated fees. As such, these fees are not included in the percentage-based allocation calculations.

* The committee arrived at the enrollment base number of 45,375 and subsequently the FY27 base budget as derived from the actual enrollment numbers for FY26 as determined by Business Services.

UNIT ALLOCATIONS

Activities Funding Board

FY2026 OT: \$0	FY26 Base Budget: \$187,472	FY2027 OT: \$0
	FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$183,723	
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$0	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$181,848	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with the budget trim.

SFAC continues to maintain AFB's base budget at one percent of the Student Service Fees. The committee would like to thank you for your service to the student body and for supporting our multiple student organizations with opportunities that enrich the campus community. We appreciate you providing us with proper information regarding student activities. The committee also recognizes your commitment to the University's strategic goals. We are eager to see how AFB continues supporting the campus vibrancy and student population.

A.D. Bruce Religion Center

FY2026 OT: \$0	FY26 Base Budget: \$232,886	FY2027 OT: \$0
	FY2026 Base Budget: \$232,886	
	FY27 Base Augmentation: \$1,777	
	FY2027 Base Budget: \$234,663	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with merit and equity adjustments.

The committee recognizes the value of the A.D. Bruce Religion Center to the campus community and appreciates the efforts of the center with its limited staff capacity. The committee asks that you continue your highlighting focus on making students feel safe and secure within the campus environment and commends your increased efforts in student outreach. We look forward to seeing the progress of the Wudu Station and other design plans once building renovations are complete.

Athletics

FY2026 OT: \$0	FY26 Base Budget: \$4,187,322	FY2027 OT: \$0
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$0	
	FY2027 Base Budget: \$4,187,322	

The committee recognizes and appreciates your unwavering commitment to our student-athletes and your dedication to supporting their academic and athletic achievements. The committee values the responsiveness to last year's feedback and recommends seeing more detailed accounts of how SFAC funds specifically impact the student experience. Fiduciary accountability remains imperative, and SFAC commends your efforts to work in partnerships both within the university and with the surrounding community as a whole. The committee would like to recommend working with existing student media organizations to centralize travel efforts and advance marketing for the Cougar Community. SFAC would like to congratulate the department on its major accomplishments in the greater national athletics sphere and values the impact it has had in helping uplift the university as a whole.

Band Program/Spirit Squad

FY2026 OT: \$0	FY26 Base Budget: \$319,580	FY2027 OT: \$165,000
	FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$313,188	
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$0	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$309,993	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with the budget trim.

SFAC approves your FY27 OT request for Travel for the Band and Spirit Teams.

SFAC approves your FY27 OT request for travel-related expenses. We are aware of your request for new uniforms due to the current lifespan. SFAC encourages you to come back next year and request new uniforms again, in the hope of a better financial situation for SFAC. We have decided to fully fund your travel expenses, as your commitment to the University’s success is commendable.

The committee applauds the visibility that Spirit of Houston provides for the University and looks forward to upcoming performances. The committee asks that you continue to highlight any metrics relating to outreach and impact of band recruiting, UH awareness, and student success in future performances. We recognize that every participant in the organization continues to dedicate countless hours towards showcasing university spirit and cougar pride at a multitude of events.

We encourage you to explore any partnership events permitted by the University and to collect and present data on outreach, visibility, and band growth over the years. We look forward to seeing the success of the Spirit of Houston at next year’s marching band competition.

Blaffer Art Museum

FY2026 OT: \$0	FY26 Base Budget: \$20,425	FY2027 OT: \$48,166
	FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$20,016	
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$0	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$19,812	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27, subject to the budget trim.

SFAC approves your FY27 OT request for student interns.

SFAC approves your FY27 OT request for an art curator.

SFAC approves your FY27 OT request for student programs.

The committee strongly recommends that Blaffer do outreach through the Center for Student Media to help reach a broader community to improve attendance metrics heavily affected by construction for the Centennial project. We commend Blaffer for improving campus and providing strong and competitive positions for our students. We are looking forward to seeing the results of your exciting initiatives for FY27.

Campus Recreation

FY2026 OT: \$0	FY26 Base Budget: \$287,368	FY2027 OT: \$0
	FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$281,621	
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$0	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$278,747	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with the budget trim.

SFAC appreciates your continued support of the students’ health and wellbeing. The programs and opportunities offered at your facilities help improve the student experience and are greatly appreciated.

Center for Student Advocacy and Community (CSAC) – Cougar Cupboard

FY2026 OT: \$0	FY26 Base Budget: \$89,317	FY2027 OT: \$184,0690
	FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$87,531	
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$0	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$86,637	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with the budget trim.

SFAC approves the full amount of your FY27 OT request for the Cougar Cupboard.

The committee sincerely values the department's work and recognizes the importance of the Cougar Cupboard and all it supports through its capabilities. SFAC believes in your department’s efforts to expand its reach and create a system of advocacy that focuses on those who need it.

Center for Student Empowerment (CSE)

FY2026 OT: \$13,250	FY26 Base Budget: \$449,058	FY2027 OT: \$91,259
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$8,961	
	FY2027 Base Budget: \$458,019	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with merit and equity adjustments.

- SFAC approves your FY26 OT request for Expanded Retention Efforts.
- SFAC approves your FY27 OT request for Student Workers.
- SFAC approves your FY27 OT request for Summer Bridge.
- SFAC approves your FY27 OT request for First Gen Bash.
- SFAC approves your FY27 OT request for Expanded Retention Efforts.
- SFAC approves your FY27 OT request First Gen Initiative.
- SFAC approves your FY27 for Empowerment Summit.
- SFAC approves your FY27 for Circle Time with CSE.
- SFAC approves your FY27 for Financial Empowerment.

The SFAC commends the Center for Student Empowerment for its continued dedication to supporting students’ civic, academic, financial, mental health, career, and personal development. We are especially pleased with the new podcast created in collaboration with the Center for Student Media. SFAC is proud to continue supporting the center and recognizes its valuable contributions across campus.

Center for Student Involvement

FY2026 OT: \$0

FY26 Base Budget: \$0

FY2027 OT: \$0

FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$0

FY2027 Base Budget: \$0

The Center for Student Involvement did not make one-time requests and it did not request any funding from the student service fee.

The Student Fees Advisory Committee (SFAC) has approved the creation of a new University Sponsored Organization under the Center for Student Involvement to expand weekend programming for both residential and commuter students at the University of Houston.

SFAC recommends that the Cougar Experience Board (CEB) prioritize student wellness as its core mission. Many residential students are far from home and seek community, while weekends often provide much-needed time for rest and connection.

The CEB should serve as a liaison among campus departments, registered student organizations, and community partners, ensuring students are aware of available campus resources. SFAC encourages a strong partnership with UH Wellness to guide health-centered programming and collaboration with the Residential Hall Association to strengthen relationships between Residential Advisors and residents. Educational initiatives should remain engaging, non-repetitive, and focused on lifelong wellness learning.

We also encourage collaboration with METRO to help ensure students have access to transportation through metro cards and with the Metropolitan Volunteer Program to support community engagement. Additionally, the CEB should develop a buddy system that connects residential and commuter students to foster a more unified campus community.

Finally, SFAC notes that other funded units received budget reductions this year. Therefore, we expect the CEB to prioritize partnerships and shared programming to maximize resources and ensure collaboration remains a core practice.

Children’s Learning Center

FY2026 OT: \$53,800

FY26 Base Budget: \$107,663

FY2027 OT: \$404,238

FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$105,510

FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$0

FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$104,433

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with budget trim.

SFAC approves your FY26 OT request for Student Employees.

SFAC approves your FY27 OT request for Student Employees.

SFAC approves your FY27 OT request for Support for Low Income Parents.

Coog Radio

FY2026 OT: \$0	FY26 Base Budget: \$46,615	FY2027 OT: \$18,868
	FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$45,683	
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$0	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$45,217	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with the budget trim.

SFAC approves your FY27 OT request partially for \$10,176 for National Conference Travel.
 SFAC approves your FY27 OT request partially for \$5,512 for Marketing and App Promotion.
 SFAC approves your FY27 OT request for Communications, Software, and App Maintenance Upgrades.

The committee commends the efforts of Coog Radio in expanding their reach through the implementation of their app. We would appreciate it if you included more metrics to accurately measure the impact. We support the services and opportunities Coog Radio offers to students.

CoogTV

FY2026 OT: \$13,992	FY26 Base Budget: \$82,782	FY2027 OT: \$19,928
	FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$81,126	
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$0	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$80,299	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with the budget trim.

SFAC approves your FY26 OT request partially for \$8,480 for the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) Conference.
 SFAC approves your FY26 OT request partially for \$5,512 for Coog TV Events and Marketing.
 SFAC approves your FY27 OT request partially for \$8,480 for the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) Conference.
 SFAC approves your FY27 OT request partially for \$5,936 for Sports Coverage and Travel.
 SFAC approves your FY27 OT request partially for \$5,512 for Coog TV Events and Marketing.

SFAC appreciates CoogTV for striving to keep students informed. We especially commend your use of social media for outreach. We encourage CoogTV to utilize its outreach in collaboration with other USO’s as to increase overall student involvement on campus. The committee looks forward to continued success from this unit.

The Cougar

FY2026 OT: \$13,540	FY26 Base Budget: \$76,267	FY2027 OT: \$26,706
	FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$74,742	
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$0	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$73,979	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with the budget trim.

SFAC partially approves your FY26 OT request for \$9,600 for Spring 2026 College Media Association (CMA) Conference Travel.

SFAC partially approves your FY26 OT request for \$4,240 for Student Marketing, Outreach & Awards Submissions.

SFAC approves your FY27 OT request partially for \$10,786 for Sports Coverage Travel.

SFAC approves your FY27 OT request for \$11,680 digital footprint.

SFAC partially approves your FY27 OT request for \$4,240 for Student Marketing, Outreach & Awards Submissions.

The committee looks forward to seeing the continued success of The Cougar's initiatives. We are proud to continue supporting this unit. We would like to see more metrics on the implementation of student funds into the initiatives funded by SFAC for the Cougar. Thank you for serving as the reporting voice of the student body and adapting to multiple media formats.

Cougars in Recovery

FY2026 OT: \$14,900

FY26 Base Budget: \$210,857

FY2027 OT: \$14,900

FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$1,995

FY2027 Base Budget: \$212,852

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27.

SFAC approves your FY26 OT request for the Graduation Ceremony and Friendsraising dinner.

This committee commends Cougars in Recovery for providing a safe and supportive environment for members of the University of Houston during the pursuit of education, despite increased demand. We are eager to observe the partnerships and improvements the program puts in place in the future.

Cougar Parent and Family Engagement Center

FY2026 OT: \$93,930

FY26 Base Budget: \$324,592

FY2027 OT: \$0

FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$17,735

FY2027 Base Budget: \$342,327

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with merit and equity adjustments.

SFAC approves your FY26 OT request for Branding

SFAC approves your FY26 OT request for Graduate Assistant

SFAC approves your FY26 OT request for Office Programming

SFAC approves your FY26 request for Conference Travel

We recognize that the center's rebranding requires strong marketing efforts and recommend using storytelling to highlight staff and collaborating with The Daily Cougar to spotlight the center's continuous services. We commend the center for its dedication to creating an inclusive space for all students and for its continued commitment to student support. We also value the strong partnerships the center maintains across departments and hope to see those collaborations continue to thrive.

SFAC approves the FY27 OT request for Campus ESP.
 SFAC approves the FY27 OT request for the Maxient.
 SFAC approves the FY27 OT request for Know The Code.
 SFAC approves the FY27 OT request for Commuter Services.
 SFAC approves the FY27 OT request for Student Outreach and Support.
 SFAC approves the FY27 OT request for Lunch and Learn.

SFAC acknowledges the commitment of the Dean of Students office (DOS) to serve as a primary resource for connecting students navigating personal, academic, or health issues to supplementary campus and community resources. We appreciate the DOS for continuing to uphold all students at the University of Houston to high performing standards and providing the resources for students to do so while also focusing on programming that helps increase the spirit and engage the Cougar Community as a whole.

DSA Business Services

FY2026 OT: \$0	FY26 Base Budget: \$922,427	FY2027 OT: \$0
	FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$914,611	
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$10,633	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$905,387	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with the budget trim and merit and equity adjustments.

The SFAC acknowledges the crucial role of DSA Business Services in overseeing budgeting, allocation, and compliance for various departments across the University. The committee anticipates that this unit will thrive through its commitment to building lasting partnerships and introducing new services.

DSA IT Services

FY2026 OT: \$0	FY26 Base Budget: \$1,078,285	FY2027 OT: \$0
	FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$1,074,399	
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$16,700	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$1,063,606	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with the budget trim and merit and equity adjustments.

The committee would like to commend this unit for your diligence in providing resources and solutions to the UH Community. SFAC looks forward to observing the efforts DSA IT Services pursues with student organizations on campus to continue improving the student experience.

Frontier Fiesta

FY2026 OT: \$110,000	FY26 Base Budget: \$190,802	FY2027 OT: \$186,4710
	FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$186,986	
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$0	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$185,078	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with the budget trim.

SFAC approves your FY26 OT request partially for \$110,000 for operational expenses.

SFAC approves your FY27 OT request partially for \$100,000 for operational expenses.
 SFAC approves your FY27 OT request partially for \$58,849 for Safety and Security.
 SFAC approves your FY27 OT request partially for \$27,622 for Parking Lot Rental.

The committee is happy to fund the continued success of Frontier Fiesta, and we applaud all the efforts made in the previous years to ensure student attendances. The committee recognizes your efforts to capture attendance metrics effectively and efficiently. SFAC encourages Frontier Fiesta to ensure that Frontier Fiesta remains a place inclusive to all students and to ensure that the tradition is safe for all UH students. We strongly encourage Frontier Fiesta to come back to SFAC next year and request additional funding as we are aware that due to financial constraints, we were unable to fully fund all your requests. We also strongly encourage Frontier Fiesta to do outreach within our cougar family and secure sponsorships to help make Frontier Fiesta a lasting tradition that brings all UH students and alums together. We also recommend analyzing your spending and allocation of funds within the organization to remain frugal when possible. Future funding given by SFAC will depend on how data collection improves. SFAC is excited for the future of Frontier Fiesta and appreciates the continuation of this special UH tradition.

Homecoming

FY2026 OT: \$0	FY26 Base Budget: \$89,017	FY2027 OT: \$15,000
	FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$87,237	
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$0	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$86,346	

SFAC reauthorizes your budget for FY27 with the budget trim.

SFAC approves your FY27 OT request partially for \$10,000 for Bed Races.
 SFAC approves your FY27 OT request partially for \$5,000 for Summer Marketing.

The committee would like to see improvements in the performance of the bed race event and for it to continue serving as a staple of UH tradition. We strongly encourage the Homecoming Board to increase its organizational efforts to ensure all student fees are used efficiently and to ensure a strong, well-organized Homecoming. The committee approves your marketing request partially to improve outreach and attendance at UH Homecoming events.

Justin Dart Jr., Student Accessibility Center

FY2026 OT: \$38,160	FY26 Base Budget: \$177,836	FY2027 OT: \$0
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$83,851	
	FY2027 Base Budget: \$261,687	

SFAC reauthorizes your budget for FY27 with one additional position and merit and equity adjustments.

SFAC approves \$38,160 from your FY26 OT request for the Surveillance Upgrade Project.

SFAC commends the DART center for their continued efforts towards outreach and the accessibility needs of the student body. The committee understands the challenges that a growing student body brings and thanks you for the services the center provides here on campus.

Health and Wellbeing

FY2026 OT: \$0	FY26 Base Budget: \$97,372	FY2027 OT: \$0
	FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$95,425	
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$0	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$94,451	

SFAC reauthorizes your budget for FY27 with the budget trim.

Metropolitan Volunteer Program (MVP)

FY2026 OT: \$0	FY26 Base Budget: \$93,276	FY2027 OT: \$11,623
	FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$91,410	
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$0	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$90,478	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with the budget trim.

SFAC approves your FY27 OT request for Cesar Chavez Day of Service.
SFAC approves and partially funds your FY27 OT request for Be The MVP.

The committee appreciates the Metropolitan Volunteer Program's contributions to the Houston community. We appreciate the increase in MVP's volunteer hours and hope this trend will continue. We look forward to seeing the evolution of MVP towards these goals and its efforts to assist the Houston community.

Speech and Debate

FY2026 OT: \$0	FY26 Base Budget: \$37,992	FY2027 OT: \$158,170
	FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$37,232	
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$0	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$36,852	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with the budget trim.

SFAC approves your FY27 OT request partially for \$62,010 for Travel-Policy Debate.
SFAC approves your FY27 OT request partially for \$27,560 for Legal Debate Travel.
SFAC approves your FY27 OT request partially for \$31,800 for Model Debate Travel.
SFAC approves your FY27 OT request for \$31,800 for Coaching Policy Debate.
SFAC approves your FY27 OT request partially for \$5,000 for Hosting Model Conferences.

SFAC recognizes the Speech and Debate program’s commitment to providing competitive opportunities for UH students on a national stage. The program’s achievements, including reaching top competitions nationwide with the Policy Debate team and the Opening Round Championship Series in Mock Trial over the past two years, have directly contributed to the University’s visibility and reputation. The student body should be proud of the dedication and accomplishments of all student participants in these programs.

However, SFAC remains concerned regarding the program’s recent internal allocation decisions, particularly the discontinuation of funding for the Mock Trial team. While we appreciate the program’s efforts to expand opportunities through Model Debate and the Honors Debate Workshop, these decisions raise significant

questions about equitable support across the program’s constituent teams and the transparency of budget prioritization.

Student Service Fee funding represents a substantial investment by the student body in student programming, and it is the fiduciary responsibility of SFAC to ensure that these funds are used in a manner that maximizes student impact and can be properly accounted for. SFAC found that the rationale for removing Mock Trial from the program’s funding structure was insufficiently justified and not communicated in a transparent manner. These actions hinder collaboration and create perceptions of inconsistency in financial stewardship.

For next year’s and future SFAC committees. SFAC expects the Speech and Debate program to provide clear and detailed breakdowns of funding allocations for all initiatives, as required for all other fee-funded units. Funds should be used in a manner that directly supports student engagement, competition, and experiential learning, and all allocation decisions should be communicated transparently to both SFAC and the student body.

SFAC continues to support the program’s core competitive activities, including travel and coaching, while emphasizing that future funding decisions will be contingent upon demonstrated accountability, equitable treatment of all teams, and adherence to clear budgeting standards. The committee looks forward to continued collaboration with Speech and Debate to ensure that Student Service Fee funds are used effectively to benefit the maximum number of UH students.

Student Fees Advisory Committee (SFAC)

FY2026 OT: \$0	FY26 Base Budget: \$9,500	FY2027 OT: \$0
	FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$9,310	
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$0	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$9,215	

SFAC has decided to maintain the current base budget for SFAC operations less the budget trim.

Student Government Association (SGA)

FY2026 OT: \$0	FY26 Base Budget: \$156,324	FY2027 OT: \$0
	FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$153,198	
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$0	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$151,634	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with the trim.

The committee commends the Student Government Association for providing students with the platform to become leaders among their peers. SFAC is excited for our campus to welcome the 62nd administration, and we strongly support their success and effort for continuous student representation and advocacy.

Student Health Center

FY2026 OT: \$0	FY26 Base Budget: \$2,101,759	FY2027 OT: \$0
	FY2027 Base Budget: \$2,105,404	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27.

The committee appreciates this unit’s efforts in expanding your operations. We recognize the importance of the services offered by the Student Health Center. Thank you for providing health services to the UH community.

Student Program Board (SPB)

FY2026 OT: \$0	FY26 Base Budget: \$181,616	FY2027 OT: \$147,490
	FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$177,984	
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$0	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$176,168	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with the budget trim.

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with the trim.

SFAC approves your FY27 OT request partially for \$50,000 for the Frontier Fiesta Concert.

SFAC approves your FY27 OT request partially for \$80,000 for the Homecoming Concert.

SFAC approves your FY27 OT full request for Cinema Programming.

The committee recognizes the hard work SPB puts into providing students with a multitude of events that enrich campus life. SFAC commends your efforts in organizing and hosting many events for campus life, and we would like to see more surveys that reflect the interests of the entire student body regarding the concerts for Fiesta and Homecoming. We are thankful for your programming in Cinema, and we are proud to see that this program is being extremely successful with the student body.

University Career Services

FY2026 OT: \$0	FY26 Base Budget: \$1,150,773	FY2027 OT: \$0
	FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$1,146,633	
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$18,875	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$1,135,125	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with the budget trim.

The committee commends your ability to capture participation data and impact metrics. Your presentation conveyed the impact of both the programs and department operations. SFAC would like to thank the University Career Services department for its continued support provided to the student body.

Veteran Services

FY2026 OT: \$19,270	FY26 Base Budget: \$284,454	FY2027 OT: \$60,000
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$4,042	
	FY2027 Base Budget: \$288,496	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with merit and equity adjustments.

SFAC approves your FY26 OT request for funding the Veteran Services students in the summer.

SFAC approves your FY27 OT request for annual programming for military-affiliated students.

The committee appreciates the various programs and resources the Veteran Services department provides not only to our current student veterans but also to members of military families and the University of Houston

military community. The committee would like to see assessment metrics such as retention data and the measurable impact of the upcoming programs. The committee would like to applaud the Veteran Service department for your fiscal responsibility while advocating for and supporting an important demographic of the student population.

Vice President for Student Affairs Office

FY2026 OT: \$0	FY26 Base Budget: \$1,327,128	FY2027 OT: \$0
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$149,246	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$1,578,941	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with the augmentation towards the planned funding of weekend programming.

The VPSA office was granted substantial initial funding in the form of a Base Augmentation to move forward with a plan to create a new USO focused on weekend programming. SFAC authorizes the funding with the expectation that it will fund one FTE and three part-time student positions. While the evidence provided did not fully substantiate the position, the committee found the justification sufficient, given the department’s clear emphasis on expanding programming for the Cougar community. SFAC was comfortable supporting the request under these circumstances. Still, we expect comprehensive metrics and outcome data moving forward, particularly given the resources reallocated from other fee-funded units.

The committee encourages continued efforts to build trust through clear, accessible information sharing with the student body.

UH Wellness

FY2026 OT: \$11,130	FY26 Base Budget: \$572,531	FY2027 OT: \$5,300
	FY2026 Base Budget (with 2% budget trim): \$561,080	
	FY2027 Base Augmentation: \$0	
	FY2027 Base Budget (with 1% budget trim): \$555,355	

SFAC reauthorizes your base budget for FY27 with the budget trim.

SFAC approves \$11,130 from your FY26 OT request for Classroom Technology Enhancements

SFAC approves your FY 2027 OT request for Wellfest

The committee would like to thank the UH Wellness department for its services, contributing to the well-being and education of the UH community at large. SFAC would like to recommend a continued emphasis on digital efforts and partnerships with the residential halls and RSOs in order to expand departmental reach even further. The committee appreciates the effort towards providing a safe and comfortable environment and looks forward to seeing the continued impact of UH Wellness’s services.

Student Fees Advisory Committee Recommendations Approval

November 12, 2025

By signing below, the members of the Student Fees Advisory Committee (SFAC) approve the attached recommendations concerning FY2027 base budgets and one-time allocations, and FY26 additional one-time allocations, as well as other related policy and/or budgetary issues cited in the report.

SFAC Members:

Dulce Marie Ortega
SFAC Chair

Mohammad Sami Tabbara
SFAC Vice-Chair

Juan Gonzalez Diaz
Student Representative

Diego Arriaga
Student Representative

Kathreen Hookfin
Student Representative

Haley Blackmon
Presidential Appointment

Donna Patterson
Presidential Appointment

Catherine Essinger
Presidential Appointment

Chi Nguyen
Presidential Appointment

Fiscal Year 2027 Student Fees Advisory Committee

Student Service Fee FY26/FY27 Base Budgets						
Department/Description	FY26 Base Budget	FY26 2% Base Trim	FY26 Merit & Equity Adjustments	FY26 Base Budget	FY27 1% Base Trim	FY27 Base Budget
Activities Funding Board	\$ 187,472	\$ (3,749)	\$ -	\$ 183,723	\$ (1,875)	\$ 181,848
A.D. Bruce Religion Center	232,886	-	1,777	234,663	-	234,663
Athletics	4,187,322	-	-	4,187,322	-	4,187,322
Athletics Facilities (\$45 of \$260 for Debt Service)						4,406,660
Band Program/Spirit Squad	319,580	(6,392)	-	313,188	(3,195)	309,993
Blaffer Art Museum	20,425	(409)	-	20,016	(204)	19,812
Campus Recreation	287,368	(5,747)	-	281,621	(2,874)	278,747
CSAC - Cougar Cupboard	89,317	(1,786)	-	87,531	(894)	86,637
Center for Student Empowerment	449,058	-	8,961	458,019	-	458,019
Children's Learning Center	107,663	(2,153)	-	105,510	(1,077)	104,433
Coog Radio	46,615	(932)	-	45,683	(466)	45,217
Coog TV	82,782	(1,656)	-	81,126	(827)	80,299
The Cougar	76,267	(1,525)	-	74,742	(763)	73,979
Cougars In Recovery	210,857	-	1,995	212,852	-	212,852
Cougar Parent and Family Engagement Center	324,592	-	17,735	342,327	-	342,327
Council for Cultural Activities (CCA)	176,837	(3,537)	-	173,300	(1,768)	171,532
Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)	4,281,448	(85,629)	51,215	4,247,034	(42,814)	4,204,220
Dean of Students	1,157,290	-	19,984	1,177,274	-	1,177,274
DSA Business Services	922,427	(18,449)	10,633	914,611	(9,224)	905,387
DSA IT Services	1,079,285	(21,586)	16,700	1,074,399	(10,793)	1,063,606
Frontier Fiesta	190,802	(3,816)	-	186,986	(1,908)	185,078
Homecoming	89,017	(1,780)	-	87,237	(891)	86,346
Dart Student Accessibility Center	177,836	75,514	8,337	261,687	-	261,687
Health and Wellbeing	97,372	(1,947)	-	95,425	(974)	94,451
Metropolitan Volunteer Program (MVP)	93,276	(1,866)	-	91,410	(932)	90,478
Speech and Debate	37,992	(760)	-	37,232	(380)	36,852
Student Fees Advisory Committee (SFAC)	9,500	(190)	-	9,310	(95)	9,215
Student Government Association (SGA)	156,324	(3,126)	-	153,198	(1,564)	151,634
Student Health Center (\$21.50 of \$260)				-		2,105,404
Student Program Board (SPB)	181,616	(3,632)	-	177,984	(1,816)	176,168
University Career Services (UCS)	1,150,773	(23,015)	18,875	1,146,633	(11,508)	1,135,125
Veteran Services	284,454	-	4,042	288,496	-	288,496
VPSA Office	1,327,128	129,619	19,627	1,476,374	102,567	1,578,941
Salary Mandate	346,426		-	346,426		160,645
UH Wellness	572,531	(11,451)	-	561,080	(5,725)	555,355
Grand Totals	\$ 18,954,538	\$ -	\$ 179,881	\$ 19,134,419	\$ -	\$ 25,460,702

FY27 Projected Revenue (less waivers, bad debt/online students)

\$ 25,460,702

Remaining Balance

-

FY26/27 SSF Fund Balance

\$ 5,132,144

 FY25 Additional One-Times

(500,000)

 FY26 One-Times

(1,750,000)

 FY26 Post Season Football & Basketball

(100,000)

 Reserve

(2,000,000)

FY27 Reserve

\$ 782,144

Fiscal Year 2027 Student Fee Advisory Committee

SFAC Approved FY26 Additional One-Times		
Department/Description	Requested	SFAC Awarded
Center for Student Empowerment (CSE)		
Expanded Retention Efforts	\$13,250	\$13,250
CSE Subtotal		\$13,250
Children's Learning Center (CLC)		
Grad Asst for supportive role to teachers and children in the classrooms	\$53,800	\$53,800
CLC Subtotal		\$53,800
Coog TV		
National Association of Broadcasters Conference	\$10,600	\$8,480
Events and Marketing	6,890	5,512
Coog TV Subtotal		\$13,992
The Cougar		
Spring 2026 College Media Association Conference Travel	\$12,000	\$9,600
Student Marketing, Outreach and Awards Submission	5,300	4,240
The Cougar Subtotal		\$13,840
Cougars in Recovery		
Annual graduation ceremony and friendraising dinner	\$15,900	\$14,900
Cougars in Recovery Subtotal		\$14,900
Cougar Parent and Family Engagement Center		
Branding/Marketing	\$21,200	\$16,960
Graduate Assistant	\$19,200	\$19,200
Office Programming	\$53,000	\$45,050
Conference Travel	\$15,900	\$12,720
CPFEC Subtotal		\$93,930
Counseling and Psychological Services		
Surface Pros	\$8,840	\$8,840
CAPS Subtotal		\$8,840
Dean of Students		
Mentor Collective	\$37,100	\$27,825
NABITA Training	41,340	41,340
Dean of Students Subtotal		\$69,165
Frontier Fiesta		
Operational Expenses (infrastructure, parking lot, security, tents)	\$131,811	\$110,000
Frontier Fiesta Subtotal		\$110,000
Justin Dart Jr. Student Accessibility Center		
Surveillance Upgrade Project	\$47,700	\$38,160
Dart SAC Subtotal		\$38,160
Veteran Services		
Summer Student Employees	\$19,270	\$19,270
Veteran Services Subtotal		\$19,270
UH Wellness Center		
Classroom Technology Enhancements	\$14,840	\$11,130
UH Wellness Center Subtotal		\$11,130
GRAND TOTAL FY26 ADDITIONAL ONE-TIMES		<u>\$460,277</u>

Fiscal Year 2027 Student Fee Advisory Committee

SFAC Approved FY27 One-Times		
Description	Requested	SFAC Awarded
Band/Spirit Teams		
Uniform Purchase for Band	260,000	-
Travel for Band/Spirit Teams	165,000	165,000
Band/Spirit Teams Subtotal		\$165,000
Blaffer Art Museum		
Student Interns (3 for 9 months each)	20,606	20,606
Assistant Curator of Education (part-time funding for 9 months)	19,080	19,080
Student Programs	8,480	8,480
Blaffer Art Museum Subtotal		\$48,166
Center for Student Advocacy and Community (CSAC) - Cougar Cupboard		
Food Staples (Milk, Bread, Cultural Food, Nonperishables, Eggs)	79,500	79,500
Student Support, Supplies, Recurring Pantry Soft Fee	61,321	61,321
Food Funds Produce	34,768	34,768
Hygiene Products	8,480	8,480
CSAC - Cougar Cupboard Subtotal		\$184,069
Center for Student Empowerment		
Student Workers	22,270	22,270
Summer Bridge	22,260	22,260
First Gen Bash	13,780	13,780
Expanded Retention Efforts	13,250	13,250
First Gen Initiative	10,388	10,388
Empowerment Summit	7,208	7,208
Circle Time with CSE	1,603	1,603
Financial Empowerment	500	500
Center for Student Empowerment Subtotal		\$91,259
Children's Learning Center		
Student Employees	\$246,238	\$246,238
Support for Low-Income Student Parents	158,000	158,000
Children's Learning Center Subtotal		\$404,238
Coog Radio		
National Conference Travel	\$12,720	\$10,176
Marketing & App Promotion	6,890	5,512
Communications, Software, and App Maintenance Upgrades	3,180	3,180
Coog Radio Subtotal		\$18,868
Coog TV		
National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) Conference	\$10,600	\$8,480
Sports Coverage Travel	7,420	5,936
CoogTV Events & Marketing	6,890	5,512
Coog TV Subtotal		\$19,928
The Cougar		
Sports Coverage Travel	13,483	10,786
Digital Footprint	11,680	11,680
Student Marketing, Outreach & Awards Submissions	5,300	4,240
The Cougar Subtotal		\$26,706
Cougars in Recovery		
Funding annual graduation ceremony and friendraising dinner	\$15,900	\$14,900
Cougars In Recovery Subtotal		\$14,900

Description	Requested	SFAC Awarded
Council for Cultural Activity		
Cultural Taste of Houston	\$33,862	\$33,862
Global Fashion	17,888	17,888
Council for Cultural Activity Subtotal		\$51,750
Dean of Students		
Joint Tailgates	\$48,230	\$40,000
Family Weekend	45,000	40,000
IA/GA/Law Interns	38,400	38,400
Campus ESP	30,585	30,585
Maxient	11,660	11,660
Know the Code	5,300	5,300
Commuter Services	5,300	5,300
Student Outreach and Support	5,300	5,300
Lunch and Learn Series	4,240	4,240
Dean of Students Subtotal		\$180,785
Frontier Fiesta		
Operations Expenses	\$197,881	\$100,000
Safety & Security	75,140	58,849
Parking Lot Rental	42,622	27,622
Frontier Fiesta Subtotal		\$186,471
Homecoming		
Bed Races	17,185	10,000
Homecoming Summer Marketing	12,424	5,000
Homecoming Subtotal		\$15,000
Metropolitan Volunteer Program (MVP)		
Be The MVP	\$10,203	\$8,000
Cesar Chávez Day of Service	3,623	3,623
MVP Subtotal		\$11,623
Speech and Debate		
Sufficient funding for a complete travel season for the Policy Debate Program	\$95,400	\$62,010
Support for expanded Legal Debate travel schedule	\$42,400	\$27,560
Travel support for the Model Debate Program	\$42,400	\$31,800
Coaching support for full-spectrum Policy Debate Program	\$31,800	\$31,800
Budgetary support to supplement hosting national level tournaments	\$26,500	\$0
Hosting three new Models Conferences	\$15,000	\$5,000
Graduate Assistant for Legal Debate	\$10,600	\$0
Speech and Debate Subtotal		\$158,170
Student Program Board		
Frontier Fiesta Concert	\$126,000	\$50,000
Homecoming Concert	111,500	80,000
ESports Programming	31,100	-
SPB Cinema Programming	17,490	17,490
Student Program Board Subtotal		\$147,490
Veteran Services		
Annual Programming funds used to fund regular programming events for Military Affiliated Students	\$65,000	\$60,000
Veteran Services Subtotal		\$60,000
UH Wellness		
Wellfest	\$5,300	\$5,300
UH Wellness Subtotal		\$5,300
GRAND TOTAL FY27 ONE-TIMES		\$1,789,723