



# OVERVIEW

## Tuition Deregulation

### **What are the different types of tuition charged to students enrolled at a public university?**

There are three types of tuition:

*Statutory Tuition:* A tuition charge authorized under Texas Education Code (TEC) §54.051 in an amount determined by the Texas Legislature for resident or nonresident students. Currently, the university rate is set at \$50 per semester credit hour (SCH) for resident students. Higher rates are charged for nonresident students. Tuition for students at community and technical colleges is set by the governing boards within certain statutory parameters.

*Designated Tuition:* TEC §54.0513 authorizes institutions other than public community colleges to impose on any graduate or undergraduate, resident or nonresident student, an additional tuition charge that the governing board of the institution considers necessary for the effective operation of the institution. This rate varies by institution.

*Board Authorized Tuition:* A tuition charge authorized under TEC §54.008 for graduate programs. Institutions can set tuition at rates at least twice that of undergraduate tuition, and can set different rates among programs.

### **What is tuition deregulation?**

Prior to 2003, the Texas Legislature had the regulatory authority to set tuition rates, generally mandating that the same statutory and designated tuition rate be charged across the state. In 2003 the 78th Legislature passed HB 3015, amending TEC §54.0513 to allow governing boards of public universities to set different designated tuition rates. There is no upper limit on the amount of designated tuition that a university may charge and the amounts may vary by program, course level, and academic period. Tuition deregulation became effective September 1, 2003, and universities began increasing designated tuition in spring 2004.

### **What other academic charges are paid by students?**

In addition to statutory and designated tuition charges, all students are assessed certain fees:

*Mandatory Fees* are authorized by statute or by the governing board of an institution, and are charged to a student upon enrollment to provide services available to every student. Examples of such fees are library and laboratory fees, course and incidental fees collected under TEC §55.16(c), and other mandatory fees as authorized by the governing board of the institution.

*Course Fees* are mandatory fees required of all students enrolled in a particular course, such as materials for a chemistry lab, or a discretionary fee required of students in a given course, or for students participating in a special activity, such as a parking fee. This includes fees for state-funded continuing education courses.

*Total Academic Charges* are the total of all tuition, mandatory, and course fee charges for a student taking a given number of SCHs. It does not include textbook or other education related costs not directly tied to institutional charges.

### **How much have tuition and fees increased since tuition deregulation?**

From fall 2003 through fall 2009, the statewide average total academic charges for a student taking 15 SCHs at a public university has increased by 72 percent. (See attached Academic Charges chart.)

### **What financial assistance set-asides were required in HB 3015?**

While authorizing the increase in designated tuition, HB 3015 also added TEC Sections 56.011 and 56.012, which require universities to set-aside at least 15 percent of the amount of resident undergraduate and graduate designated tuition charges in excess of \$46 per SCH. This set-aside is to be used to provide financial assistance for undergraduate or graduate students and is intended to lessen the impact of tuition deregulation. Universities are also required to set-aside an additional 5 percent of undergraduate resident designated tuition over \$46 per SCH to fund the Texas B-on-Time Student Loan Program. The total financial aid set-asides (not including BOT) for fiscal years 2005-2008 was \$248 million for undergraduates and \$48 million for graduate students.

### **What have universities reported on spending the additional tuition revenue?**

Universities report that tuition increases are providing a growing share of their operational income, using funds to recruit and retain faculty and staff, increase academic course offerings, lower student/teacher ratios, enhance student services such as academic and career counseling, maintain and improve facilities, pay increasing utility costs, service building debt, and provide additional financial aid to lower-and-middle-income students.

### **How are universities held accountable for deregulated tuition?**

The Legislature provided that, as a condition of tuition deregulation, each university shall make satisfactory progress towards the goals provided in its master plan for higher education and *Closing the Gaps*, and the state's plan for higher education. HB 3015 and section 54.0515 requires each university to meet acceptable performance criteria, including measures such as graduation rates, retention rates, enrollment growth, educational quality, efforts to increase diversity, opportunities for financial aid, and affordability.

**For more information:** Office of External Relations  
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board  
[er@thecb.state.tx.us](mailto:er@thecb.state.tx.us)  
[www.thecb.state.tx.us/Agency/Topics.cfm](http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/Agency/Topics.cfm)  
(512) 427-6111

**ACADEMIC CHARGES**  
**(TUITION, MANDATORY FEES, AND AVERAGE COLLEGE AND COURSE FEES)**  
**FALL 2003-FALL 2009**

Institution	Statutory Tuition				Designated Tuition				Total Tuition			
	Fall 2003	Fall 2009	Change	Percent Change	Fall 2003	Fall 2009	Change	Percent Change	Fall 2003	Fall 2009	Change	Percent Change
Angelo State University	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$600	\$1,372	\$772	129%	\$1,290	\$2,122	\$832	64%
Lamar University	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$600	\$1,500	\$900	150%	\$1,290	\$2,250	\$960	74%
Midwestern State University	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$585	\$1,404	\$819	140%	\$1,275	\$2,154	\$879	69%
Prairie View A&M University	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$540	\$1,692	\$1,152	213%	\$1,230	\$2,442	\$1,212	99%
Sam Houston State University	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$585	\$1,575	\$990	169%	\$1,275	\$2,325	\$1,050	82%
Stephen F. Austin State University	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$615	\$1,665	\$1,050	171%	\$1,305	\$2,415	\$1,110	85%
Sul Ross State University	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$450	\$1,080	\$630	140%	\$1,140	\$1,830	\$690	61%
Tarleton State University	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$645	\$1,328	\$683	106%	\$1,335	\$2,078	\$743	56%
Texas A&M International University	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$525	\$1,278	\$753	143%	\$1,215	\$2,028	\$813	67%
Texas A&M University (1)	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$690	\$1,826	\$1,136	165%	\$1,380	\$2,576	\$1,196	87%
Texas A&M University-Commerce	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$645	\$1,410	\$765	119%	\$1,335	\$2,160	\$825	62%
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$690	\$1,414	\$724	105%	\$1,380	\$2,164	\$784	57%
Texas A&M University-Galveston	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$690	\$1,874	\$1,184	172%	\$1,380	\$2,624	\$1,244	90%
Texas A&M University-Kingsville	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$600	\$1,206	\$606	101%	\$1,290	\$1,956	\$666	52%
Texas A&M University-Texarkana	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$510	\$1,200	\$690	135%	\$1,200	\$1,950	\$750	63%
Texas Southern University	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$690	\$1,900	\$1,210	175%	\$1,380	\$2,650	\$1,270	92%
Texas State University-San Marcos	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$690	\$1,980	\$1,290	187%	\$1,380	\$2,730	\$1,350	98%
Texas Tech University	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$690	\$1,687	\$997	144%	\$1,380	\$2,437	\$1,057	77%
Texas Woman's University	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$690	\$1,620	\$930	135%	\$1,380	\$2,370	\$990	72%
The University of Texas at Arlington (2)	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$690	\$2,462	\$1,772	257%	\$1,380	\$3,212	\$1,832	133%
The University of Texas at Austin (3)	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$690	\$2,276	\$1,586	230%	\$1,380	\$3,026	\$1,646	119%
The University of Texas at Brownsville	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$480	\$1,209	\$729	152%	\$1,170	\$1,959	\$789	67%
The University of Texas at Dallas	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$690	\$2,204	\$1,514	219%	\$1,380	\$2,954	\$1,574	114%
The University of Texas at El Paso	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$690	\$1,653	\$963	140%	\$1,380	\$2,403	\$1,023	74%
The University of Texas at San Antonio	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$690	\$1,813	\$1,123	163%	\$1,380	\$2,563	\$1,183	86%
The University of Texas at Tyler	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$690	\$1,575	\$885	128%	\$1,380	\$2,325	\$945	68%
The University of Texas of the Permian Basin	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$600	\$1,440	\$840	140%	\$1,290	\$2,190	\$900	70%
The University of Texas-Pan American	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$480	\$1,358	\$878	183%	\$1,170	\$2,108	\$938	80%
University of Houston	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$690	\$1,920	\$1,230	178%	\$1,380	\$2,670	\$1,290	93%
University of Houston - Clear Lake	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$690	\$1,530	\$840	122%	\$1,380	\$2,280	\$900	65%
University of Houston - Downtown	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$615	\$1,350	\$735	120%	\$1,305	\$2,100	\$795	61%
University of Houston - Victoria	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$690	\$1,395	\$705	102%	\$1,380	\$2,145	\$765	55%
University of North Texas (4)	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$690	\$1,930	\$1,240	180%	\$1,380	\$2,680	\$1,300	94%
West Texas A&M University	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$458	\$1,354	\$896	196%	\$1,148	\$2,104	\$956	83%
<b>STATEWIDE AVERAGE</b>	\$690	\$750	\$60	9%	\$625	\$1,602	\$977	156%	\$1,315	\$2,352	\$1,037	79%

**ACADEMIC CHARGES**  
**(TUITION, MANDATORY FEES, AND AVERAGE COLLEGE AND COURSE FEES)**  
**FALL 2003-FALL 2009**

Institution	Mandatory Fees				Average College Course Fees				Total Tuition and Fees			
	Fall 2003	Fall 2009	Change	Percent Change	Fall 2003	Fall 2009	Change	Percent Change	Fall 2003	Fall 2009	Change	Percent Change
Angelo State University	\$478	\$947	\$469	98%	\$25	\$0	-\$25	-100%	\$1,793	\$3,069	\$1,276	71%
Lamar University	\$427	\$1,063	\$636	149%	\$30	\$0	-\$30	-100%	\$1,747	\$3,313	\$1,566	90%
Midwestern State University	\$432	\$959	\$527	122%	\$85	\$112	\$27	32%	\$1,792	\$3,225	\$1,433	80%
Prairie View A&M University	\$566	\$890	\$324	57%	\$58	\$278	\$220	379%	\$1,854	\$3,610	\$1,756	95%
Sam Houston State University	\$619	\$815	\$196	32%	\$76	\$97	\$21	28%	\$1,970	\$3,237	\$1,267	64%
Stephen F. Austin State University	\$382	\$951	\$569	149%	\$48	\$39	-\$9	-19%	\$1,735	\$3,405	\$1,670	96%
Sul Ross State University	\$561	\$821	\$260	46%	\$16	\$16	\$0	0%	\$1,717	\$2,667	\$950	55%
Tarleton State University	\$417	\$705	\$288	69%	\$35	\$52	\$17	49%	\$1,787	\$2,835	\$1,048	59%
Texas A&M International University	\$446	\$821	\$375	84%	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$1,661	\$2,849	\$1,188	72%
Texas A&M University (1)	\$810	\$1,512	\$702	87%	\$167	\$255	\$88	53%	\$2,357	\$4,343	\$1,986	84%
Texas A&M University-Commerce	\$477	\$579	\$102	21%	\$9	\$39	\$30	333%	\$1,821	\$2,778	\$957	53%
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi	\$537	\$857	\$320	60%	\$35	\$46	\$11	31%	\$1,952	\$3,067	\$1,115	57%
Texas A&M University-Galveston	\$468	\$784	\$316	68%	\$20	\$185	\$165	825%	\$1,868	\$3,593	\$1,725	92%
Texas A&M University-Kingsville	\$633	\$985	\$352	56%	\$5	\$29	\$24	480%	\$1,928	\$2,970	\$1,042	54%
Texas A&M University-Texarkana	\$231	\$318	\$87	38%	\$4	\$55	\$51	1296%	\$1,435	\$2,323	\$888	62%
Texas Southern University	\$486	\$551	\$65	13%	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$1,866	\$3,201	\$1,335	72%
Texas State University-San Marcos	\$628	\$1,011	\$383	61%	\$64	\$0	-\$64	-100%	\$2,072	\$3,741	\$1,669	81%
Texas Tech University	\$1,145	\$1,473	\$328	29%	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$2,525	\$3,910	\$1,385	55%
Texas Woman's University	\$438	\$675	\$237	54%	\$77	\$109	\$32	42%	\$1,895	\$3,154	\$1,259	66%
The University of Texas at Arlington (2)	\$831	\$1,060	\$229	28%	\$155	\$0	-\$155	-100%	\$2,366	\$4,272	\$1,906	81%
The University of Texas at Austin (3)	\$714	\$1,442	\$728	102%	\$627	\$0	-\$627	-100%	\$2,721	\$4,468	\$1,747	64%
The University of Texas at Brownsville	\$302	\$761	\$459	152%	\$18	\$86	\$68	378%	\$1,490	\$2,806	\$1,316	88%
The University of Texas at Dallas	\$1,242	\$1,961	\$719	58%	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$2,622	\$4,915	\$2,293	87%
The University of Texas at El Paso	\$417	\$709	\$292	70%	\$40	\$32	-\$8	-20%	\$1,837	\$3,144	\$1,307	71%
The University of Texas at San Antonio	\$842	\$1,201	\$359	43%	\$0	\$259	\$259	0%	\$2,222	\$4,023	\$1,801	81%
The University of Texas at Tyler	\$415	\$888	\$473	114%	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$1,795	\$3,213	\$1,418	79%
The University of Texas of the Permian Basin	\$438	\$610	\$172	39%	\$21	\$75	\$54	257%	\$1,749	\$2,875	\$1,126	64%
The University of Texas-Pan American	\$322	\$604	\$282	88%	\$67	\$52	-\$15	-22%	\$1,559	\$2,764	\$1,205	77%
University of Houston	\$588	\$873	\$285	48%	\$298	\$620	\$322	108%	\$2,266	\$4,163	\$1,897	84%
University of Houston - Clear Lake	\$370	\$574	\$204	55%	\$108	\$60	-\$48	-44%	\$1,858	\$2,914	\$1,056	57%
University of Houston - Downtown	\$279	\$515	\$236	85%	\$31	\$9	-\$22	-71%	\$1,615	\$2,624	\$1,009	63%
University of Houston - Victoria	\$460	\$555	\$95	21%	\$45	\$47	\$2	4%	\$1,885	\$2,747	\$862	46%
University of North Texas (4)	\$827	\$971	\$144	17%	\$159	\$208	\$49	31%	\$2,366	\$3,859	\$1,493	63%
West Texas A&M University	\$373	\$762	\$389	104%	\$100	\$36	-\$64	-64%	\$1,621	\$2,902	\$1,281	79%
<b>STATEWIDE AVERAGE</b>	<b>\$547</b>	<b>\$888</b>	<b>\$341</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>\$71</b>	<b>\$82</b>	<b>\$11</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>\$1,934</b>	<b>\$3,323</b>	<b>\$1,389</b>	<b>72%</b>