

LOUISIANA COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

Changing Lives,
Creating Futures

Monty Sullivan
System President

Officers:

Stephen Toups
Chair

Paul Price, Jr.
First Vice Chair

Willie L. Mount
Second Vice Chair

Members:

- Tari T. Bradford
Helen Bridges Carter
Timothy W. Hardy
Alterman L. "Chip" Jackson
Erika McConduit
Michael J. Murphy
Joe Potts
Stanton W. Salathe
Stephen C. Smith
Mark D. Spears, Jr.
Craig Spohn
Vincent St. Blanc, III

Student Members:

- Jeremy Gray
Raissa Oliveira Yantis

Louisiana
Community
& Technical
College System

265 South Foster Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Phone: 225-922-2800
Fax: 225-922-1185

www.lctcs.edu

APPROVED

Handwritten signature and date 2/13/19 over a line reading LCTCS BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

TO: Dr. Monty Sullivan
LCTCS President

FROM: Dr. Emily Campbell
Chief Enrollment Management Officer

Dr. Amber Blair
Director of Student Engagement & Grant Initiatives

Joseph F. Marin
Chief Operations Officer

SUBJECT: Student Referendum for Fletcher Technical Community College

DATE: 2/8/2019

FOR BOARD ACTION

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Board authorize the Student Government Association of Fletcher Technical Community College (FTCC) to conduct a referendum to assess a \$15.00 per student activity fee each semester, beginning in the 2019 fall term.

Background: With increased enrollment, since the college took on a new campus in Thibodaux (formerly under SCL Technical College) there is a higher demand for student engagement activities. The Office of Student Affairs, along with SGA, have received requests for additional student-led events and activities as well as proposals for new student clubs and/or organizations.

The implementation of a Student Activity Fee would encourage engagement of non-SGA related organizations, increase of campus-wide activities for both Schriever and Thibodaux campus, provide opportunities for the increased student-participation in leadership development as well as event and program development, and provide means for major student activities and events that are non-SGA hosted; such as co-curricular programs, cultural events, student professional development, intramural sports, fitness classes, and support to the student clubs and/or organizations.

The Student Government Association (SGA) Executive Board of FTCC recognizes that current fiscal realities prevent FTCC from utilizing state dollars to support these activities, and have petitioned college leaders about establishing a self-assessed, \$15.00 flat fee per enrolled student to support these activities.

This is a student-led initiative. As such, FTCC's SGA will educate the student body about the proposed referendum, the goals of the proposed fee, and the fiscal impact to the students. The campaign will be led by officers of the SGA and will include a plan of sharing information via the college's website and social media outlets. Information will also be communicated via student email, Canvas, and posters/flyers. The referendum

will be discussed at monthly SGA meetings. The SGA will make every effort to have a voter turnout greater than 50% of the student population.

Per LCTCS Policy #2.012, colleges must obtain approval from the Board prior to holding a formal referendum with financial implications. The Board approves whether a referendum vote can happen, and the student body of FTCC will decide whether the proposed fee will actually be assessed. FTCC has provided all materials required by LCTCS Policy #2.012 (enclosed herein).

**The ballot language will be as follows:**

Do you approve the creation of a \$15.00 (flat fee) *Student Activity Fee*, per enrolled student, effective fall 2019 to provide means for student activities, programs, and events? These would include such things as co-curricular programs, cultural events, student professional development, intramural sports, fitness classes, and support to the student clubs and/or organizations. If approved by the students of Fletcher Technical Community College, the fee will be implemented in fall 2019.

- All Fletcher Technical Community College students will be assessed the fee.
- The \$15.00 flat fee per student will be assessed during the fall, spring, and summer semesters
- The fee will be collected and managed by Fletcher Technical Community College's Student Affairs Office.

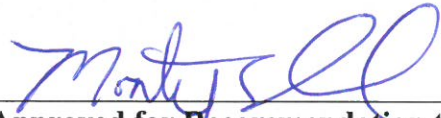
\_\_\_ Yes, I approve a \$15.00 flat fee per enrolled student - *Student Activity Fee*.

\_\_\_ No, I do not approve a \$15.00 flat fee per enrolled student - *Student Activity Fee*.

**History of Prior Actions:** N/A

**Fiscal Impact:** Using enrollment numbers for the last three semesters (spring, summer, and fall 2018) at Fletcher Technical Community College, the increased Student Activity fee would raise approximately \$70,450 per year.

**Benefits to the System:** Providing students with student engagement outside of the classroom that includes an enriched calendar of activities and events will aid in efforts to increase enrollment and improve retention and completion rates. When a student is invested in his or her school, he or she is much more likely to stay until graduation.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Approved for Recommendation to the Board**  
**Dr. Monty Sullivan, President**

2-13-19  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**



## Fletcher Technical Community College

### Referendum for Student Activity Fee

#### Request for Approval from LCTCS Board of Supervisors

1. Explanation of the reason for the referendum:

Fletcher Technical Community College currently collects a \$5.00 fee per student each semester, fall and spring, which is dedicated to the Student Government Association (SGA). This fee generates less than \$25,000 annually to support all types of student activities. With increased enrollment, since the college took on a new campus in Thibodaux (formerly under SCL Technical College) there is a higher demand for student engagement. The current SGA fee only permits a minimal amount of Campus-wide activities and programming.

The current SGA fee supports 12 student clubs and/or organizations as well as Campus-wide events for the benefit of the entire student body. The fee also supports travel for the SGA President to the Council of Student Body President meetings and additional conferences that the Executive Cabinet members are needing to attend.

The Office of Student Affairs, along with SGA, have received requests for additional student-led events and activities as well as proposals for new student clubs and/or organizations. Due to the limited funding that SGA currently receives, they have not been able to approve most requests. The implementation of a *Student Activity Fee* would encourage engagement of non-SGA related organizations, increase of campus-wide activities for both Schriever and Thibodaux campus, provide opportunities for the increased student-participation in leadership development as well as event and program development, and provide means for major student activities and events that are non-SGA hosted; such as co-curricular programs, cultural events, student professional development, intramural sports, fitness classes, and support to the student clubs and/or organizations. A *Student Activity Fee* would allow funds generated from SGA fees to strictly be used for SGA purposes therefore allowing a balance in diversity of student engagement. This would increase the functionality of SGA, its governance, events and programs, training, and development.

The College's Administration believes that providing students with student engagement outside of the classroom that includes an enriched calendar of activities and events will aid in efforts to increase enrollment and improve retention and completion rates. When a student is invested in his or her school, he or she is much more likely to stay until graduation.

The Student Government Association Executive Board have proposed the creation of a self-assessed student activity fee, to be assessed of all students each fall, spring and summer semesters, in the amount of \$15.00 flat fee per enrolled student.

2. Exact wording of the referendum as it will appear on the ballot:

**Ballot Language**

Student Activity Fee

Do you approve the creation of a \$15.00 (flat fee) *Student Activity Fee*, per enrolled student, effective fall 2019 to provide means for student activities, programs, and events? These would include such things as co-curricular programs, cultural events, student professional development, intramural sports, fitness classes, and support to the student clubs and/or organizations. If approved by the students of Fletcher Technical Community College, the fee will be implemented in fall 2019.

- All Fletcher Technical Community College students will be assessed the fee.
- The \$15.00 flat fee per student will be assessed during the fall, spring, and summer semesters
- The fee will be collected and managed by Fletcher Technical Community College's Student Affairs Office.

\_\_\_ Yes, I approve a \$15.00 flat fee per enrolled student - *Student Activity Fee*.

\_\_\_ No, I do not approve a \$15.00 flat fee per enrolled student - *Student Activity Fee*.

3. Explanation of efforts to educate students on the referendum issue:

The Student Government Association will use a variety of methods to publicize and educate the students about the referendum. It will use the school's website, social media outlets, student email, Canvas, and poster/flyers to disseminate information about the referendum. The SGA will ensure that students know the reasons for the proposed new fee and the fiscal impact on them. The SGA will also reserve time at their monthly meetings for open discussions about the referendum.

4. Anticipated voter turnout:

The Student Government Association will make every effort to have a voter turnout greater than 50% of the student population.

5. Financial impact if the referendum is passed:

Using enrollment numbers for the last three semesters (spring, summer, and fall 2018) at Fletcher Technical Community College, the increased Student Activity fee would raise approximately \$70,450 per year.

6. Appeals Process for Appealing the Referendum Result:

Appeals can be submitted to the Director of Student Affairs within two weeks of the vote to determine if the vote was valid, with formal appeal to the Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs to determine if a second vote is necessary.

7. Certification by the Chancellor for this item:

This referendum proposal has the approval and support of Dr. Kristine Strickland, the Chancellor of Fletcher Technical Community College.