

**ASWWU Student Senate Response University Response to Pandemic (different title)
April 3, 2020**

ASWWU Resolution on Tuition and Fee Revisions as Response to COVID-19 Pandemic.

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has classified the COVID-19 outbreak as a worldwide pandemic;¹ and

WHEREAS, Western Washington University has suspended all in-person courses for all of Spring Quarter 2020; ² and

WHEREAS, Western Washington University, and other relevant agencies, have taken actions to assist students during this pandemic; ² and

WHEREAS, the actions taken by the university are helpful and appreciated, but far from adequate; and

WHEREAS, there are two student-led petitions calling for Western Washington University to reduce the overall cost of tuition and fees which had amassed 5,671 at the submission of this resolution; ^{3,4} and

WHEREAS, students and their families may not be financially stable during the current socio-economic climate; ^{5,6} and

WHEREAS, Western Washington University has said that it will not be lowering tuition charges for spring quarter 2020; ⁷ and

WHEREAS, a week of instruction for Spring 2020 was cancelled; ⁷ and

WHEREAS, instructors only had 24 days of notice to move all of their curriculum online and the UFWW has stated that this shift will lead to “a compromised educational experience”; ^{7,8} and

WHEREAS, campus buildings that students are required to pay maintenance and operation fees for are closed to them including, but not limited to, the Non-Academic Building Fee, the Student Recreation Fee, the Service & Activity Fee and the Multicultural Center Fee; ^{7,9} and

WHEREAS, many students rely on jobs in the service industry as a source of income; and

WHEREAS, almost all RA's and apartment advisers were laid off and they have expressed concerns about finding housing, food, and safety; ¹⁰ and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Graduate-Professional Students (NAGPS) has released a statement calling for education institutions to offer at risk students tuition reductions or waivers

¹ <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-media-briefing-on-covid-19---11-march-2020>

² <https://vimeo.com/398988343/18d10d00f4>

³ https://www.change.org/p/western-washington-un-partial-wwu-refund?use_react=false

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS STUDENT SENATE WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY:

THAT, the Western Washington University's Board of Trustees (WWU BoT) shall refund overall tuition statements for Spring Quarter 2020 by 12.9%; and

THAT, the WWU BoT shall refund students for the maintenance and operation of building fees that they do not have access to; and

THAT, the WWU BoT shall extend the tuition payment deadline for Spring Quarter 2020 to the fifth Friday of the quarter (May 8); and

THAT, the WWU BoT shall exempt late tuition payment fees and interest assessment for Spring Quarter 2020; and

THAT, the WWU Registrar's office shall exempt late add/withdrawal fees for Spring Quarter 2020; and

THAT, the Western Washington University Food and Housing Services (WWU FHS) shall extend the payment deadline for Spring Quarter 2020 to the fifth Friday of the quarter (May 8); and

THAT, the WWU FHS shall exempt late payment fees for Spring Quarter 2020; and

THAT, the WWU FHS shall halt the following actions due to late payments for Spring Quarter 2020:

Suspension of Student Dining Accounts;

The termination of Housing Agreements; and

⁴ https://www.change.org/p/sabah-randhawa-wwu-spring-2020-tuition-adjustment/sign?original_footer_petition_id=19197327&algorithm=promoted&source_location=petition_footer&grid_position=13&pt=AVBlldGl0aW9uAMWcQgEAAAAAXn6tse67n2IyYTc5ZmNiOQ%3D%3D

⁵ - <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/the-avenue/2020/03/17/the-places-a-covid-19-recession-will-likely-hit-hardest/>

⁶ - <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/03/imf-economic-lessons-from-china-fight-against-coronavirus>

⁷ - <https://www.wwu.edu/coronavirus>

⁸ - <https://www.ufww.org/bufww/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Coronavirus-Faculty-Concerns-1.pdf>

⁹ - <https://bfp.wwu.edu/files/IntroductionFeesRates19.pdf>

¹⁰ - <https://www.westernfrontonline.com/2020/04/01/western-fires-all-ras-and-apartment-advisers/>

¹¹

<http://depts.washington.edu/uwaaup/wordpress/?fbclid=IwAR22vkqJ19j9ckL6l91yclZUBagw4d6Z7hIDpqq920IJ7sQsTgn-2ITXtBw>

THAT, WWU FHS provide free housing and meal plans to the students that they laid off for Spring Quarter 2020; and

THAT, all students with on-campus hourly jobs shall receive compensation, for the duration of Spring Quarter 2020, for work as if they had continued to work the same hours during Spring Quarter 2020; and

THAT, WWU shall grant all work-study students their full work-study allotment; and

THAT, WWU shall instruct professors and TAs to provide a recorded version of lectures and sections for all students during Spring Quarter 2020; and

THAT, WWU shall instruct professors and TAs to allow for a 12 hour grace period on assignment deadlines for all students during the first week of Spring Quarter 2020; and

THAT, WWU, the WWU FHS, the WWU's Department Chairs, and other relevant agencies, shall increase their transparency, currently and in the future, regarding immediate and impactful decisions resulting from Natural Disasters; and

THAT, this resolution be forwarded to President Sabah Randhawa, Vice President Melynda Huskey, Provost and Vice President Brent Carbajal, Vice President Stephanie Bowers, Vice President Richard Van Den Hul, Vice President Donna Gibbs, Vice Provost Steven Vanderstaay, Assistant Dean Michael Sledge, WWU Board of Trustees, and all WWU Deans.