



FLAT RATE Tuition Frequently Asked Questions

What does flat rate tuition mean?

Effective Fall 2019, MSU is moving to a block tuition model. Under the block tuition model, undergraduate students taking 12-18 credit hours will be charged a flat rate for tuition that will be the same if a student enrolls in 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, or 18 credits in any one semester.

A student taking 19 or more credits will be charged the flat rate for the first 18 credit hours plus an additional per credit hour rate for each credit over 18. For example, a student taking 20 credits will be charged flat rate tuition plus 2 credits at the per credit rate.

Students taking 11 or fewer credits will continue to be charged per credit hour.

What are the benefits of flat rate tuition?

Flat rate tuition can encourage students to graduate within 4 years. A study of MSU data shows that students who attempted 15 or more credits in their first fall semester, or completed 30 credits during their first year, had 6-year graduation rates of nearly 88 percent. This is 8 percentage points higher than MSU's current 6-year graduation rate and nearly 30 percentage points higher than the national average. Additionally, graduating in 4 years can decrease a student's cost to degree by saving additional years of room and board, books, and other expenses related to attending college.

What is the flat rate tuition price?

The flat rate tuition for students taking 12-18 credits varies slightly among students based on the college of their major and their progress toward degree, and it varies significantly between resident and non-resident students in the same manner as the current tuition structure:

- Undergraduate resident flat rate tuition per semester: \$7,230 to \$8,595
- Undergraduate out-of-state and international flat rate tuition per semester: \$19,883 to \$20,786

Students taking 11 or fewer credits will continue to be charged on a per credit model that, like the flat rate tuition, will vary slightly among students based on the college of their major and their progress toward degree and significantly between resident and non-resident students:

- Undergraduate resident per credit tuition rate per semester: \$482 to \$573 per credit
- Undergraduate out-of-state and international per credit tuition rate per semester: \$1,325.50 to \$1,385.75 per credit

Will fees change under flat rate tuition?

Additional fees such as course, major, and international fees will continue to be charged in addition to the per credit or flat rate tuition rate.

Will financial aid increase in response to flat rate tuition?

Yes, approximately \$7 million has been set aside for additional undergraduate financial aid for 2019-2020.

How does flat rate tuition impact students' financial aid?

Under the current per credit tuition model, when students add or drop classes their tuition charges change and their financial aid package is refigured and increased or decreased accordingly. With flat rate tuition, students who add or drop classes but maintain between 12 and 18 credits will not have their financial aid packages refigured because their tuition costs will not change.

Students who enroll for less than 12 credits may receive less financial aid than students in the flat rate, due to the lower tuition charges. Similarly, students who enroll for more than 18 credits may receive more financial aid than students in the flat rate, due to their higher tuition charges. Students who change enrollment after an initial financial aid payment may have financial aid adjusted to recognize their new higher or lower tuition charge. The exact amount of an increase or decrease will depend on the student's specific aid package.

Who is included under flat rate tuition?

Undergraduate degree-seeking students taking 12 or more hours in the fall, spring, or summer semesters.

Which students are not included under flat rate tuition?

- Undergraduate students who are taking less than 12 credits
- Students with English as a Second Language (EL) as their primary designation
- Lifelong learning students
- Agricultural Technology Certificate Program students
- Accelerated Second Degree BSN students
- Online nursing RN to BSN students
- Great Plains IDEA Program students

Detailed flat rate and per credit tuition rates for the 2019-2020 academic year are:

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY						
2019-20 TUITION			RATE STRUCTURE			
Structure Credits	RESIDENT - Per Semester			NON-RESIDENT - Per Semester		
	Per Credit 1-11	Block 12-18	Block/Credit 19+	Per Credit 1-11	Block 12-18	Block/Credit 19+
Undergraduates - Core/Professional						
Freshman	\$482.00	\$7,230	Block + per credit >=19	\$1,325.50	\$19,883	Block + per credit >=19
Sophomore	\$494.00	\$7,410	Block + per credit >=19	\$1,325.50	\$19,883	Block + per credit >=19
Junior	\$555.00	\$8,325	Block + per credit >=19	\$1,366.75	\$20,501	Block + per credit >=19
Senior	\$555.00	\$8,325	Block + per credit >=19	\$1,366.75	\$20,501	Block + per credit >=19
Undergraduates - Eli Broad College of Business						
Freshman	\$482.00	\$7,230	Block + per credit >=19	\$1,325.50	\$19,883	Block + per credit >=19
Sophomore	\$494.00	\$7,410	Block + per credit >=19	\$1,325.50	\$19,883	Block + per credit >=19
Junior	\$573.00	\$8,595	Block + per credit >=19	\$1,385.75	\$20,786	Block + per credit >=19
Senior	\$573.00	\$8,595	Block + per credit >=19	\$1,385.75	\$20,786	Block + per credit >=19
Undergraduates - College of Engineering						
Freshman	\$482.00	\$7,230	Block + per credit >=19	\$1,325.50	\$19,883	Block + per credit >=19
Sophomore	\$494.00	\$7,410	Block + per credit >=19	\$1,325.50	\$19,883	Block + per credit >=19
Junior	\$573.00	\$8,595	Block + per credit >=19	\$1,385.75	\$20,786	Block + per credit >=19
Senior	\$573.00	\$8,595	Block + per credit >=19	\$1,385.75	\$20,786	Block + per credit >=19

Are summer courses included in flat rate tuition?

Yes, summer courses are included under flat rate tuition, starting in summer 2020. The two summer sessions combined are considered one semester.

How does flat rate tuition impact dropping and adding from courses?

If a student maintains between 12 to 18 credit hours in a semester, dropping or adding courses within that range does not result in a change in the cost of tuition. Additional course or disciplinary fees may apply to the particular courses that are added or dropped.

If a student is originally enrolled in fewer than 12 credits hours, the tuition they are charged is based on per credit amounts. If a student adds a course putting them at or above 12 credits hours, there will be an adjustment to their account to reflect flat rate tuition.

If a student paying flat rate tuition drops to fewer than 12 credit hours *during the drop/add period*, charges are adjusted to remove flat rate tuition and will reflect per credit hour charge for all coursework.

If a student paying flat rate tuition adds to more than 18 credits *during the drop/add period*, they will be charged the flat rate tuition for the first 18 credit hours plus an additional per credit hour rate for each credit over 18.

Will more course sections be offered with the expectation that students will register for more credits under flat rate tuition than they did under per credit tuition?

Yes, \$3.2 million in funds have been allocated to provide additional seats for the 2019-2020 year in acknowledgment that under flat rate tuition students may enroll in a larger number of courses.