

## **University of Tennessee at Chattanooga**

### **Proposed Increases to 2026-27 In-State Undergraduate Tuition and Mandatory Fees**

The University of Tennessee Board of Trustees will consider a proposal to increase undergraduate in-state tuition and mandatory fees for the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC) during the Board’s annual meeting on June 30, 2026. Tennessee law (Tennessee Code Annotated § 49-7-1603) requires boards of public universities to give public notice of proposed increases to tuition and mandatory fees charged to in-state undergraduate students at least fifteen (15) days prior to holding a public meeting to adopt the increases. Individuals are permitted to provide comments during the fifteen-day period at the following website:

<https://trustees.tennessee.edu/tuition-and-fee-proposal/>

| <b>Proposed Tuition &amp; Mandatory Fees</b> | <b>2025-26</b>  | <b>2026-27</b>  | <b>Change</b> |             |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|
| Tuition                                      | \$8,712         | \$8,904         | \$192         | 2.2%        |
| Mandatory Fees                               | \$2,050         | \$2,180         | \$130         | 6.3%        |
| <b>Tuition and Mandatory Fees</b>            | <b>\$10,762</b> | <b>\$11,084</b> | <b>\$322</b>  | <b>3.0%</b> |

#### **Explanation for the Proposed Tuition and Mandatory Fee Increases**

UTC received appropriations to partially fund its FY27 salary pool. The proposed tuition increase will be used to fully fund the remainder of the salary pool. In addition to the salary pool, the proposed increase is needed to cover academic program growth as approved by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC), student scholarship and retention efforts, and other unavoidable campus operational costs described below.

#### **Purposes for Which the Revenue Derived from the Tuition and Mandatory Fee Increases Will be Used**

The majority of this new revenue will be used for the portion of the 1.5% salary pool which was not fully funded by state appropriations. The remaining funding is allocated to student scholarship and retention efforts, staffing and operational needs, and a new nursing faculty for academic program growth.

#### **Efforts to Mitigate the Effect of Tuition and Mandatory Fee Increases on Students**

Tuition and fee increases have been modest in recent years, including no increases in FY21 and FY23. Over the previous six fiscal years (FY21-FY26), the average tuition and fee increase was 1.83%. According to the THEC’s 2025-26 Tuition and Fees publication, among all ten public Tennessee universities, UTC is the third most affordable in the state. In addition, around 80% of UTC in-state undergraduate students receive some form of scholarship, grant, discount, or waiver to offset part or all the costs of attendance.