

From: [Morgan, Melissa](#)
To: start_updates@lists.oregonstate.edu
Cc: [Office of Student Orientation](#)
Subject: START fees for 2024
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 4:25:00 PM

Greetings,

I'm writing to share an update regarding the fee structure for START Orientation summer programs. As you're likely aware, START Orientation primarily relies on fees collected from participating families, with only a small portion, around 10% of our total budget, coming from Education & General (E&G) funds annually. Despite our ongoing efforts to enhance our START program, pursue cost savings throughout, and align with student wage recommendations from Student Affairs, we have encountered challenges in maintaining this funding approach without considering a substantial revision.

Oregon State University has chosen in the past to keep mandatory attendance at START accessible to all incoming students without charging any fees. While we are steadfastly committed to accessibility and affordability, we have found it necessary to introduce a very modest fee of \$10 per student attending START starting in summer 2024.

After consultation with our campus partners and analyzing our competitors, we believe these fees are reasonable for students and their families. We understand that this might pose a financial challenge for some families, and we encourage them to reach out to us directly if they need assistance. It's important to note that virtual START will continue to be free of charge. This decision is part of a multi-year plan to improve the financial sustainability of the START program, and may result in future updates in the years ahead.

We know that change can be hard and we're grateful for your questions and support as we move through this change. Please let us know what questions you have after you review this email.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership.

Melissa Morgan (she/her)
Director of the Office of Student Orientation
Office of the Dean of Students | [Oregon State University](#)

Oregon State University in Corvallis, OR is located within [the traditional homelands](#) of the Mary's River or [Ampinefu Band of Kalapuya](#). Following the Willamette Valley Treaty of 1855, Kalapuya people were forcibly removed to reservations in Western Oregon. Today, living descendants of these people are a part of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Community of Oregon and the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians. Learn more about the [land on which you live and work](#) and [Oregon's native communities](#).

