

August 17, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jim Murdaugh, Ph.D.
President

FROM: Barbara Wills, Ph.D.
Vice President for Administrative Services and Chief Business Officer

SUBJECT: College Application Fee

Item Description

This agenda item requests approval to implement an application fee. For all individuals applying to attend Tallahassee State College, an application fee of \$30 is requested.

Overview and Background

Florida Statute 1009.23(12)(a) authorizes Florida College System (FCS) institutions to establish specific user fees, which include application fees. Currently, individuals completing an application to attend TSC do not pay an application fee. A poll of the FCS institutions found that there are 23 of the 28 institutions within the Florida College System that assess an application fee. Fees range from \$25 to \$300 with variation by school and program.

Implementation of an application fee has many benefits for the College. A modest application fee would serve to defray part of the administrative cost of reviewing applications.

Another beneficial element of an application fee will be its benefit in assisting the College in deterring fraudulent applications. As with all higher education institutions, the College is experiencing a surge of fraudulent applications primarily designed to steal financial aid. These fraudulent applications, particularly come from automated submissions and AI generated applications and require resources to identify such applications, purge false data and to protect student and employee data from unlawful activity.

Dual enrollment applicants will be exempt from the application fee. Students with demonstrated financial need would be exempt.

Funding/ Financial Implications

This fee would potentially generate \$500,000 in revenue for College operations.

Recommended Action

Board approval of the Application Fee of \$30