

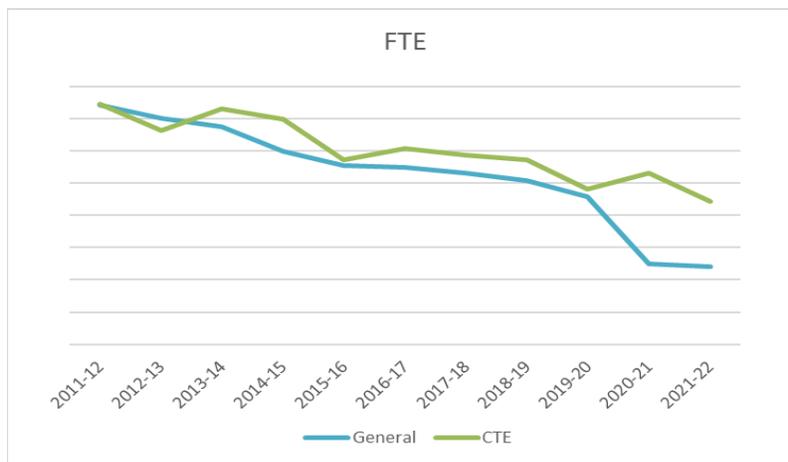
# Rogue Community College

## Pricing Structure - Fees

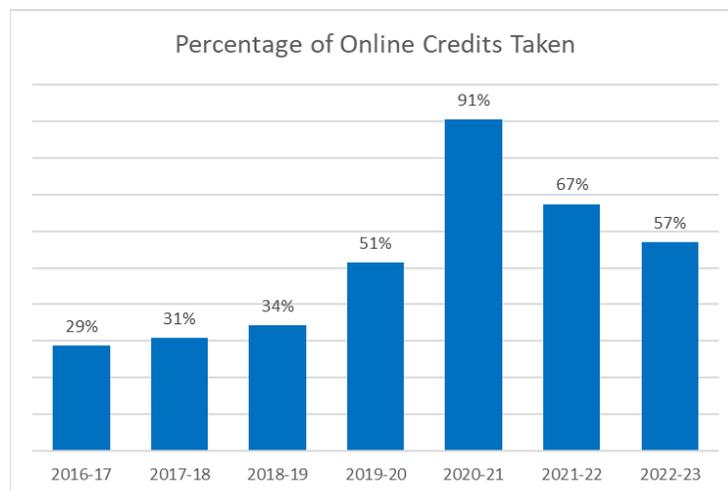
In 2020/21, RCC moved to a different pricing structure that imposes fees on courses and programs with high-operating costs. High-operating cost courses (programs and certificates) have one or more of the following: course-specific equipment and technology, limited enrollment or lower-than-average teacher-student ratios, college-provided instructional supplies, and required practicum, lab, or clinical hours. The factors mentioned below have influenced RCC's decision to move to this pricing model.

First, RCC no longer has the necessary volume of enrollment in low-operating cost courses to help offset the added costs in high-operating cost courses. Over the last 12 years, RCC has continually realized enrollment decreases, with 2020/21 being the largest decline of approximately 30%. The chart below identifies the decline in CTE (Career and Technical Education) courses and general courses.

Typically, CTE courses are considered to have high operating costs. As you can see from the chart, the decline in our non-CTE courses is dramatically more than CTE courses.



The second factor is COVID. Due to the COVID shutdown, students of all ages were required to try online education. This included kindergarten through doctoral level students. The number and types of educational providers offering online degrees and their advertising significantly increased, giving students choices they might never have considered. As you can see in the chart below, online courses are still the preferred choice for students enrolled at RCC.

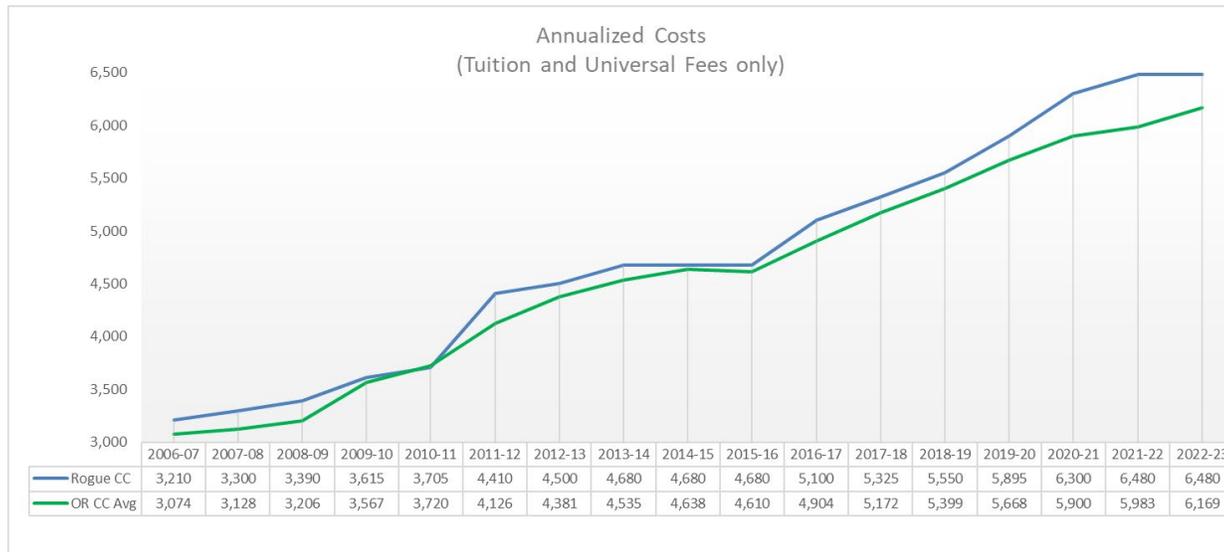


The third factor is cost. RCC's historical model was straightforward; we charged all students standard tuition and universal fees. We had a few course fees, but they were extremely limited. Unfortunately, the standard calculation

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used to compare a college’s annual cost is to calculate the annualized standard tuition and universal fees charged to all students. This comparison does not capture the course or program fees, nor does it capture differential tuition rates most community college charge. As you can see in the chart below, RCC’s cost is higher than the state average for annualized costs. With increased online education options and easy access to cost comparisons, RCC might be perceived as expensive or unaffordable. This perception is inaccurate as the cost comparisons do not include course fees, program fees or differential tuition rates.



Considering all these items, the Budget Advisory Team (BAT) realized during budget development for 2021/22 RCC is unlikely to increase the volume in low-operating cost courses to offset the volume in high-cost courses in the future. There are many advantages and disadvantages to the tuition and fee structure we have selected. In 2020, the EAB (not an acronym) published an article titled *Differential Tuition, Varying Tuition Rates by College, Program, Major, Modality, or Level* (attached). This article clearly articulates many of the same conversations, concerns, and steps we have taken to ensure we are aware of and addressing the drawbacks of the new pricing model. Another excellent source of information providing evidence of our work is the 2021/22 Budget Development Webpage ([2020-21 Budget Development](#)). Under the subheading of Tuition & Fees there are several documents containing background information describing our methodology.

The fee proposal for 2023/24 follows the same methodology adopted for the academic year 2021/22; fees will be added to programs and courses with high operating costs. In the following pages, we have provided additional information describing the benefits to students of offering high-operating cost courses, the reason for the fees, and the proposed fee.

The budgeted revenue for fees for 2023/24 is detailed below:

| Fee Category                     | Amount             |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| College Service Fee              | \$1,553,000        |
| Technology Fee                   | \$655,000          |
| Course Fees                      | \$232,000          |
| Program Fees                     | \$367,000          |
| Non-Academic Fees (General Fund) | \$92,000           |
| <b>Total Fees</b>                | <b>\$2,899,000</b> |