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What is a resource fee?

Hodges University strives diligently to provide course materials to students at a rate that is less than what would be paid to purchase the same course materials independently. A resource fee is a new course fee tied to individual courses that have required course materials/textbooks for that course.

Will resource fees be on all courses?

No. Resource fees will only be included on courses that have required course materials. If there are no textbooks/course materials required, there will not be any additional resource fees added to that course.

Why is Hodges charging resource fees now?

Over the past 3-5 years, there has been a significant increase in the prices of textbooks and other course materials for post-secondary education. In efforts to reduce these costs, Hodges University has partnered with textbook vendors and publishers to provide all required course materials at a discounted rate for all students.

How much are the resource fees?

The resource fees range from \$0 - \$500 per course. These amounts are based on the number of required materials for the course and the type of materials used (i.e. e-books, access codes, physical textbooks). A majority of the resource fees are below \$90 per course.

Can a student see how much their resource fees will be?

Yes, students will be able to [view details](#) about all courses, the required course materials (including ISBN information) and the resource fee associated with each course. Please note that there may be updates to the course materials and resource fee pricing prior to the start of each term.

How do students pay for the resource fees?

If a student is considered a cash-paying student, the resource fees are a required institutional fee that all cash-paying students pay. If a student is using Title IV federal aid (financial aid) to pay for tuition and/or fees, the student has the right to opt out of the resource fees and purchase the required materials on their own.

Can a student use Title IV federal aid (financial aid) to pay for resource fees?

Yes. If a student has enough financial aid to cover the tuition and fee costs, the resource fees will be included in those costs. Please keep in mind that if a student is using financial aid to cover the costs, check with a financial aid specialist to make sure that the financial aid will cover all tuition and fees, including the resource fees.

Can a student use Title IV federal aid (financial aid) to pay for course materials if they opt out?

No. A student will be ineligible to use financial aid to cover course materials/textbooks if a student decides to opt out of the resource fees.

How long do I have if I want to opt out?

A student may opt out during the add/drop period of their first session course. After the add/drop period has passed, the student will be required to pay for all resource fees that have been applied to their account. For example, if a student is starting their 4-month session in 19JAN and their first course begins January 7th, the student will have the first two (2) days of the course, or the add/drop period, to decide if they want to opt out or stay opted in.

What are the pros of staying opted in?

- There's no need to worry about looking up course materials on multiple external sites – Hodges University has already done that for the student.
- All required course materials will be available to a student on the first day of class.
- A student will be charged significantly less in comparison to an external book vendor that may charge retail price, shipping, taxes and more – the resource fees are one low rate per course.
- A student will have access to our customer service teams through eCampus and Student Financial Services if they need assistance or have questions about course materials.
- A student will be eligible for use financial aid funds to help cover the resource fee costs, if applicable.
- A student will be eligible to sign up for a payment plan if financial aid cannot cover the entire cost, which may include resource fees.

What are the cons of opting out?

- A student may not use Title IV federal aid (financial aid) to purchase their required and/or optional materials, for any course.

- All of the required course materials will be the student's responsibility to purchase on their own.
- Resource fees will not be applied to a student's account, so they would be ineligible to set up a Hodges payment plan for the course materials.
- A student is required to have all course materials purchased and received no later than the third day after the course start date.
- It is not the responsibility of Hodges University faculty and/or staff to provide extenuating accommodations if you are purchasing your required materials from a third-party.

Does the University still use book vouchers?

No. The University no longer uses book vouchers since we have now implemented the resource fees being placed on each course.

How does the new resource fee process work?

Instead of receiving a book voucher, students will automatically receive access to their required digital course materials via eCampus and/or receive physical materials shipped to their home.

When will the course materials be available to the student?

- E-books and access codes will be available on the first day of the class start date.
- Physical books will be shipped to the student within a week prior to the class start date. If the student did not register until the start of the semester, please speak with an eCampus Customer Service Representative.

What if e-books are not provided for a course?

If an e-book is not offered for a course, the student will receive a physical textbook. The student will be sent an email from eCampus to verify their shipping address for these physical course materials. It is **VERY** important that the student confirmed his/her physical mailing address so the physical item(s) can be shipped to the correct address.

Can a student opt out and opt back in throughout the semester?

No. All opt-outs are final for the remainder of the 4-month period. A student will not be eligible to opt back in until the following 4-month period.

Where do students access/download their e-books?

All e-materials will be available through the eCampus Digital Bookshelf, accessible through myHUGO and Blackboard. Most materials are used through the VitalSource Bookshelf. A student may also go directly to the VitalSource webpage by clicking [here](#) and logging in to their bookshelf using their Hodges credentials. For additional support, students can go to [VitalSource support](#).

What if students have additional questions about resource fees?

If a student has additional questions, please contact the Office of Student Financial Services via email at universitystore@hodges.edu or sas@hodges.edu; via phone at 239-938-7770 or 239-938-7760.