



Athletic Fee Referendum Proposal

February 2025

#GraduateChampions

Winona State Athletic Fee History*

- 2022-23 academic year and prior: Minn State athletic fee maximum was \$55 per semester.
 - Winona State at \$54.96 per semester for 2019-20 through 2022-23 academic years
- 2023-24 academic year: Minn State athletic fee maximum was increased to \$75 per semester
 - Winona State at \$56.04 per semester for 2023-24
 - Referendum in Spring 2024 – resulted in increase of 10.06% to \$61.68 per semester



Minnesota State University System Comparison

All four-year schools (sponsoring athletics) in the Minn State System are in various stages of working up to the new max.

Bemidji State University: \$75 per semester

Southwest Minnesota State University: \$75 per semester

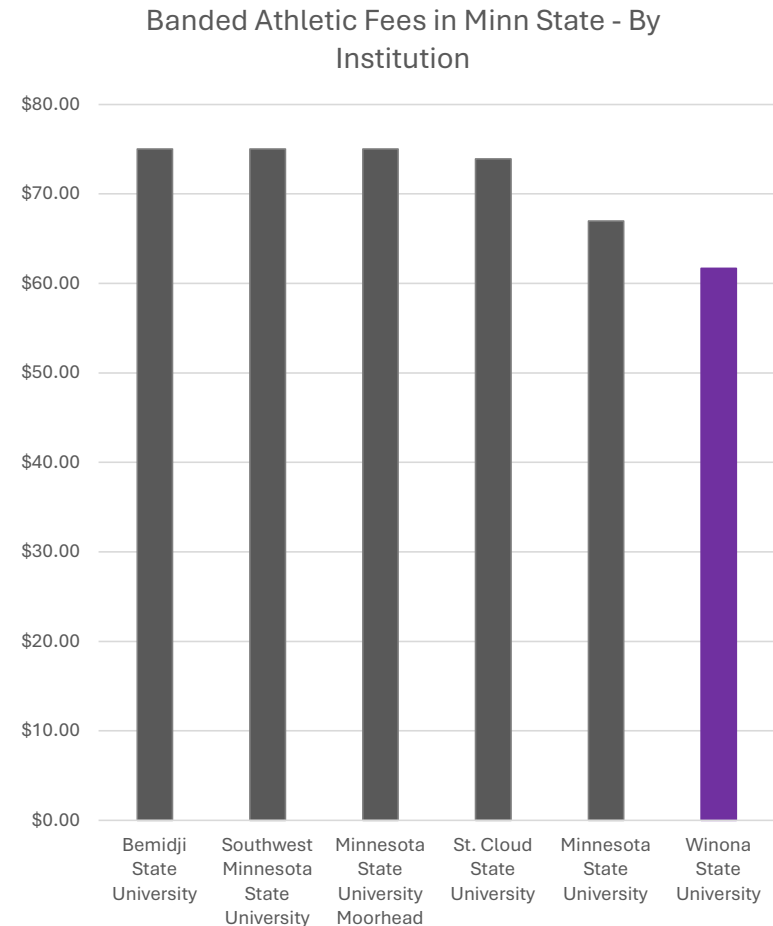
Minnesota State University Moorhead: \$75 per semester

St. Cloud State University: \$73.89 per semester*

Minnesota State University: \$66.96 per semester

Winona State University: \$61.68 per semester

**St Cloud State is banded at 9 credits instead of 12*



FY24 Team Travel, Game Operations, Administrative Expenses**

- Examined how much was spent on the following in 2023-24:
 - Team travel – hotels, transportation, food (tied directly to competition)
 - Game day – officials, entry fees, facility rentals
 - Administrative – technology fees, recruiting, memberships

FY24 Expenses	\$910,337.99
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FY24 Student Fees (actual)	\$549,086.53
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Difference	\$361,251.46
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FY24 Expenses	\$910,337.99
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FY25 Student Fees (budgeted)	\$575,721.00
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Difference	\$334,616.99
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Bridging the Gap

Fundraising Activities

Camps and Clinics
Letter Writing Campaigns
Adopt a Player
Team gear fundraisers
Local restaurant partnerships
Hosting youth tournaments
University Giving Day
...and more...

Other Responsibilities

Class and related coursework
Practice and competition
Travel to and from games
Jobs
Internships
Community Service
Other clubs and organizations



Lainy Ristau

Tennis



This would give us the opportunity to travel more safely. Currently, the coach and team members are driving to and from matches, sometimes as far away as Bismarck, North Dakota.



Jack Langan

Baseball



Almost every week we run camps to offset the costs of in-season operations. This takes away from time when we could be studying and recovering from practices. We're excited to build community engagement, but an increase in student fee revenue helps offset the volume of fundraising hours and helps us balance our time.



Clara Thoemke

Tennis



We're currently spending \$16,000 to rent facilities for practice and matches. When we want to host a fundraiser tied to our sport, we have to pay an extra rental fee to have those events.



Great Expectations***

In the classroom:

3.44 average student-athlete cumulative GPA
5 Academic All-Americans
24 Academic All-District

In competition:

5 Individual National Champions
8 All-Americans
8 All-Region

In the community:

Created an economic impact of \$119,181 through 3,747 community service hours

BY THE NUMBERS	396	Number of Student-Athletes - 2024-2025 Academic Year
	67	Number of Different Majors Declared - 2024-2025 Academic Year
	88%	Academic Success Rate (2014-2017 Cohort) - Ranks 4 th in NSIC and 55 th in Division II (out of 313)
	72%	Federal Graduation Rate (2014-2017 Cohort) - Ranks 2 nd in NSIC and 33 rd in Division II (out of 313)
	\$119,181	Economic Impact of Community Service Hours - Hours during from April 1, 2023-March 31, 2024



Student Involvement Opportunities

- Opportunity to attend home athletic contests
 - Seventy-six home events in 2024-25
 - A rallying point for all on campus that helps build campus culture
- Opportunity to develop
 - Game day workers/Interns
 - Communications majors gain real-world experience in broadcasting (play-by-play, videographer, engineer)
 - Cheer and Dance teams can perform routines in front of crowds before competing
 - Athletic Training students achieve mandated hours
 - Student coaches and team managers learn how to lead a team on the other side of the clipboard
- Over 400 student-athletes represent Winona State in fifteen sports



Request and Enhanced Commitment

Our Requests:

- Go to referendum for an increase in athletic fees:
 - \$13.26 increase per semester
 - \$75 per semester
- Administration is considering the fee be extended to Rochester campus students

Our Commitment:

- Enhance the overall student environment at home contests
 - Game day giveaways
 - Rewards program
- Host youth camps and games in Rochester



Questions?



