Basic Technology Fee: Overview

What is the Basic Technology Fee?

- The Basic Technology fee is a departmental charge that is being implemented beginning with the 2014 fiscal year. This new fee is being established to provide a regularized, long-term source of funding to keep current with technology requirements. Traditionally at SIU, each department has been independently responsible for these basic technology costs. With the centralization of both technology services and personnel, these costs are likewise being centralized. SIU needed a mechanism to charge these costs back to departments in a standardized and predictable way.

- The amount of the charge per unit is based on employee FTE as of February 28, 2013. This is the same data used for the calculation of group health insurance expense. Employees have been classified as “high usage” or “other” based upon job classification. We did not include graduate assistants or student employees in the calculation. The calculation will be performed annually each spring, effective for the following fiscal year.

- Cost details for each unit will be provided to the Vice Chancellors for further distribution. The fee will be billed quarterly in conjunction with the group health insurance billing.

What services are covered by the Basic IT fee?

The basic technology fee covers a bundle of technology services that includes the following:

- Network ports / Ethernet switches
- Wireless network
- Telecom Services (phone number, dial tone, phone lease, troubleshooting and repair)
- Virtual fax service
- Data center services
- Email, calendaring, and productivity tools
- Directory services
- Information security and privacy
- Desktop hardware and equipment
- Campus wide software site licenses including the Microsoft and Oracle campus agreements
- Private cloud services (File services, Web services, SharePoint, Print Servers)
- Accounts and passwords
- Data backups
- Internet 1 and Internet 2 connectivity
What services are not covered by the Basic IT fee (and will thus be an additional cost if needed)?

The fee does not cover services that are more incremental or specific in demand including all of the following:

- Miscellaneous telecommunication charges including long distance (see FAQ for a complete list)
- There will be an upcharge for a variety of materials and services. The upcharge applies to any non-standard item or service. Example; a standard desktop computer with monitor may cost $1,000. A person in graphics design may need a unique monitor which makes the purchase price $1,500. The Technology Fleet Replacement Program (funded by the Basic Technology Fee) would contribute $1,000 to the purchase and the department would pay the $500 upcharge.
- Servers (physical or virtual) and software specific to a department or College’s needs
- Custom application development
- Printers, paper, toner cartridges (though a printer service will be available at an additional charge)
- Forensic and data analysis for security breaches
- Large volume data storage
- Desktop Support (in most cases desktop support will be provided by existing IT staff already located in the unit)