Sec. 54.539. RECREATIONAL SPORTS FEE; THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM. (a) If approved by student vote at an institution, the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System may charge students at a component institution of The Texas A&M University System a recreational sports fee not to exceed $175 for each regular semester and not to exceed $87.50 for each term of each summer session. The fee may be used only for financing, constructing, operating, maintaining, and improving new and existing recreational sports facilities and programs at the designated institution.

(b) The recreational sports fee may not be levied unless the levy of the fee has been approved by a majority vote of those students at the affected institution participating in a general student election called for that purpose.

(c) The amount of the fee authorized by this section may not be increased to an amount that exceeds by 10 percent or more the total amount of the fee that is in effect on September 1, 2007, or as last approved by a student vote under this subsection unless the increase has been approved by a majority vote of the students at the affected institution participating in a general election called for that purpose. The fee may not exceed the maximum amounts provided by Subsection (a).

(d) If, in an academic year, the total compulsory fee charged under this section is proposed to be increased by an amount less than an amount that would require a student election under Subsection (c), the board of regents of The Texas A&M University System may, in lieu of an election, hold a public meeting on the increase at which students have the opportunity to comment before the increase takes effect.

(e) Each university shall collect any student recreational sports fee imposed under this section and shall deposit the money collected in an account to be known as the student recreational sports account.

(f) A student recreational sports fee imposed under this section is not counted in determining the maximum student services fee which may be charged under Section 54.513 of this subchapter.

(g) The board may permit a person who is not enrolled at a system institution to use a facility paid for by student recreational sports fees if:

(1) the person's usage does not materially interfere with student demand or usage;
(2) the person is charged a fee that is not less than the student fee and is not less than the direct and indirect cost to the institution of providing for the person's usage; and
(3) the person's usage does not increase materially the potential liability of the institution.

(h) The president of each institution in the system shall establish a formal system for student input with respect to matters of construction and operation of a facility or program financed by a student recreational sports fee.

2012 Rec Sports Fee Statute

Amended by:
Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 1226, Sec. 2, eff. June 18, 2005.