

## Ballot Language Draft #1

Since 1959, Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) has served as the official voice of students providing services and programs that meet the educational, social, recreational, and cultural needs of the Cal State LA's diverse student community.

Currently, the annual student body fee is \$53.75, as reflected by a \$26.88 per student fee in the fall semester and \$26.87 per student fee in the spring semester. ASI has not adjusted its student body fee since 1996. As such, our fee is the lowest out of the 23 campuses in the CSU System.

### **Ballot Question One:**

Obligation Options Referendum Ballot Language:

E:

Shall ASI amend the 1988 & 1996 referendums that provide partial financial support to Anna Bing Arnold Children's Center to instead require a minimum annual payment of \$140K and allow the ASI Board of Directors discretion and the ability to increase funding based on the Board priorities as outlined in Policy 206 – Reporting and Budgeting Guidelines for External Organizations Receiving Over \$3,000.

Supporting Statement:

Opposing Statement:

**Survey Questions:**

If Cal State LA ASI offered the following new or enhanced services or programs, which do you feel should be a priority for ASI to offer/expand?

Rate 1 – 5

**1 lowest to 5 highest**

- 1 2 3 4 5 **Housing insecurity/homelessness Initiative** - Provide funding for rental of emergency short-term housing in Student Housing or local hotels.
- 1 2 3 4 5 **Cal State LA Food Pantry Initiative** – Provide consistent funding to address food insecurity for Cal State LA students. Program currently exists and funding will allow the program to expand days of operation and provide food consistently.
- 1 2 3 4 5 **Physical, Mental Health & Wellness Initiative** – Provide new programs that will encourage the holistic wellbeing of Cal State LA student's physical and mental level throughout the year.
- 1 2 3 4 5 **Book Voucher Program Expansion** – expand the offering of the \$300 book voucher program from 25 students to 50 students per semester for a total of 100 students.
- 1 2 3 4 5 **Club Funding Cap will increase from \$6,000 per year to \$7,000** – Clubs currently have access to \$3,000 per semester in funding. This increase of \$500 per semester will move the total access to \$7,000.
- 1 2 3 4 5 **Major Speaker Series** – Two major speakers per semester will be provided each year from a collaborative coordination committee.
- 1 2 3 4 5 **Major Concert Performance** – An event that will be coordinated once a year to expose Cal State LA students to premier entertainment.
- 1 2 3 4 5 **Professional Development and Leadership Series** – A dynamic series of workshops, presentations, and speakers addressing professional and leadership development for life during and after college.

**Please Rank the following from 1 through 8 by level of priority, one being the highest:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Housing insecurity/homelessness Initiative** - Provide funding for rental of emergency short-term housing in Student Housing or local hotels.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Cal State LA Food Pantry Initiative** – Provide consistent funding to address food insecurity for Cal State LA students. Program currently exists and funding will allow the program to expand days of operation and provide food consistently.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Physical, Mental Health & Wellness Initiative** – Provide new programs that will encourage the holistic wellbeing of Cal State LA student’s physical and mental level throughout the year.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Book Voucher Program Expansion** – expand the offering of the \$300 book voucher program from 25 students to 50 students per semester for a total of 100 students.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Club Funding Cap will increase from \$6,000 per year to \$7,000** – Clubs currently have access to \$3,000 per semester in funding. This increase of \$500 per semester will move the total access to \$7,000.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Major Speaker Series** – Two major speakers per semester will be provided each year from a collaborative coordination committee.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Major Concert Performance**- An event that will be coordinated once a year to expose Cal State LA students to premier entertainment.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Professional Development and Leadership Series** – A dynamic series of workshops, presentations, and speakers addressing professional and leadership development for life during and after college.

**For the above new services and programs how much would you be willing to increase the ASI student body fee:**

<u>\$5</u>	<u>yes</u>	<u>no</u>
<u>\$10</u>	<u>yes</u>	<u>no</u>
<u>\$15</u>	<u>yes</u>	<u>no</u>
<u>\$20</u>	<u>yes</u>	<u>no</u>

### Question Three:

Shall ASI index the ASI Student Body Fee annually not to exceed the percentage set by Higher Education Price Index (HEPI). The indexing would begin in 2019.

Currently, the annual student body fee is:

\$53.75 = \$26.88 per student in the fall semester and  
\$26.87 per student in the spring semester.

The new annual student body fee with the index will be

\$54.72 = \$27.36 per student in the fall semester and  
\$27.36 per student in the spring semester.

- A \$.97 cent increase

Supporting Statement: (pros from the options sheet)

raises ASI fee; meets organization's needs; offer students new programs and services; be able to meet child care center obligation; clear and easy to understand; students decide; more opportunities to give

Opposing Statement: (cons from the options sheet)

fee increase for students (largest since 1996); difficult to pass; does not revise current referendum obligations; does not explore grants/donations; takes more money from students; need to be clear on value added from the additional programs for students

Fee Indexing: We are using the Commonfund Higher Education Price Index (HEPI) as an inflation index designed specifically to track the main cost drivers in higher education. The increase for this referendum will be 1.8% in 2019.

- Source: <https://www.commonfund.org/commonfund-institute/higher-education-price-index-hepi/>