

2019-20 GET Prices and Fees

2019-2020 GET Unit Purchase Price

Annually, before the GET enrollment period begins, the Committee sets the GET Unit Purchase Price. The Office of the State Actuary (OSA) provides an analysis to help the Committee set the Unit Purchase Price. This section summarizes OSA’s pricing analysis approach and the Committee’s selected 2019-2020 Unit Purchase Price.

Expected Costs. The Unit Purchase Price includes an expected costs component that estimates how much the program needs to collect in order to cover future Tuition and State-Mandated Fees based on current tuition rates and adjusted for future assumed investment returns and tuition growth:

- **Investment Returns.** The OSA currently assumes the long-term annual rate of investment return is 5.25% based on WSIB’s most recent capital market assumptions and the Program’s long-term asset allocation targets (see the *Investment Plan* section starting on page 32). Actual investment returns may vary from OSA’s assumptions.
- **Tuition Growth Assumptions.** The OSA provided in-State tuition growth assumptions with consideration for the tuition-setting policy enacted in the 2019-21 Washington State Operating Budget (see table to the right). Actual tuition growth may vary from OSA’s assumptions.

Best Estimate Tuition Growth Assumptions	
Academic Year(s)	Expected Tuition Growth
2019-20	2.3%
2020-21	2.2%
2021-29	5.50%
2029+	5.00%

Program Expenses. The Unit Purchase Price includes an expense component that determines the amount each future unit sold should contribute to the program’s assets for the payment of future Program administrative expenses. OSA estimates this amount based on the long-term cost of administering current unredeemed units. OSA determines this estimate by dividing the present value of estimated program expenses (as provided by the Program) by the number of unredeemed units as of the program’s most recent valuation date and increases the resulting amount with one year of assumed interest at 5.25%.

Reserve. The purpose of the reserve component is to ensure the long-term health of the Program and reduce the chance that the Program’s future obligations will exceed its assets available to pay those future obligations. OSA’s price analysis measures the adequacy of the program’s target reserve level under several scenarios, including higher than expected tuition growth, lower than expected investment returns, and repeats of past extreme events such as the 2008 Great Recession. The Committee’s current pricing policy targets a 15% reserve.

Amortization. State law (RCW 28B.95.030(10)) directs the Committee to include an amortization component in the Unit Purchase Price when needed to increase the program’s best-estimate funded status due to unexpected past costs. The Committee did not include this component in setting the 2019-20 Unit Purchase Price.

Setting the Unit Purchase Price. The Committee discusses and evaluates the information and assumptions presented in OSA’s pricing analysis. The 2019-2020 Unit Pricing Analysis included a Best Estimate Unit Purchase Price of \$121, along with a Best Estimate Range of \$112-\$131. According to the OSA, any Unit Purchase Price that falls within the Best Estimate Range is considered reasonable. Based on the analysis, the Committee selected a 2019-2020 GET Unit Purchase Price of \$121, which was consistent with OSA’s Best Estimate.

2019-2020 GET Unit Purchase Price Components	
Expected Costs: Covers the expected present value of the cost of future Tuition and State-Mandated Fees	\$102.86
Expenses: Contributes to GET’s administrative expenses	\$2.78
Reserve: Covers unexpected future costs (e.g. higher than expected tuition growth or lower than expected investment returns)	\$15.87
Unit Purchase Price Adopted by Committee: Sum of all components rounded down to the next whole dollar	\$121
<i>Premium above 2019-2020 Unit Payout Value of \$108.44 (effective August 1, 2019 – July 31, 2020)</i>	11.6%

Custom Monthly Payment Plan Components

2019-2020 Custom Monthly Payment Plan Contract Components*	
Principal Amount Calculated as the Unit Purchase Price (currently \$121) multiplied by the number of Units contracted.	Varies (depending on contract term and number of units)
Finance Charge Intended to offset lost investment earnings that would otherwise have been recognized if the Units had been purchased up front. Each payment also includes a small adjustment factor to pay finance charges accrued in the three-months prior to the first monthly payment due date.	5.5%/annual

**Future Custom Monthly Payment Plan Components are subject to change. The Committee will revisit these components following the GET Experience Study that OSA conducts every 5-6 years. OSA expects to conduct the next GET Experience Study by the end of State Fiscal Year 2021. Custom Monthly Payment Plans opened before November 1, 2019 include a 7.5% per annum Finance Charge and a \$1.54 per month Payment Processing Fee.*

2019-2020 Custom Monthly Plan Monthly Payment Amounts									
Projected Benefit Use Year	Contract Term (years)	Total Number of Contracted Units							
		50	100	150	200	250	300	350	400
Fall 2038	18	\$45	\$89	\$133	\$177	\$221	\$265	\$309	\$353
Fall 2037	17	\$46	\$92	\$137	\$183	\$228	\$274	\$320	\$365
Fall 2036	16	\$48	\$95	\$142	\$190	\$237	\$284	\$332	\$379
Fall 2035	15	\$50	\$99	\$149	\$198	\$247	\$297	\$346	\$395
Fall 2034	14	\$52	\$104	\$155	\$207	\$259	\$310	\$362	\$414
Fall 2033	13	\$55	\$109	\$163	\$218	\$272	\$326	\$381	\$435
Fall 2032	12	\$58	\$115	\$173	\$230	\$288	\$345	\$403	\$460
Fall 2031	11	\$62	\$123	\$184	\$245	\$306	\$368	\$429	\$490
Fall 2030	10	\$66	\$132	\$198	\$263	\$329	\$395	\$460	\$526
Fall 2029	9	\$72	\$143	\$214	\$285	\$357	\$428	\$499	\$570
Fall 2028	8	\$79	\$157	\$235	\$313	\$391	\$470	\$548	\$626
Fall 2027	7	\$88	\$175	\$262	\$349	\$436	\$523	\$610	\$698
Fall 2026	6	\$100	\$199	\$298	\$397	\$496	\$595	\$694	\$794
Fall 2025	5	\$116	\$232	\$348	\$464	\$580	\$696	\$812	\$928
Fall 2024	4	\$142	\$283	\$424	\$566	\$707	\$848	\$989	\$1,131
Fall 2023	3	\$184	\$368	\$551	\$735	\$918	\$1,102	\$1,285	\$1,469
Fall 2022	2	\$269	\$537	\$805	\$1,073	\$1,342	\$1,610	\$1,878	\$2,146
Fall 2022	1	\$523	\$1,045	\$1,568	\$2,090	\$2,613	\$3,135	\$3,657	\$4,180

Projected Benefit Use Year	Contract Term (years)	Total Number of Contracted Units							
		450	500	550	600	650	700	750	800
Fall 2038	18	\$397	\$441	\$485	\$529	\$573	\$617	\$661	\$705
Fall 2037	17	\$411	\$456	\$502	\$547	\$593	\$639	\$684	\$730
Fall 2036	16	\$426	\$474	\$521	\$568	\$616	\$663	\$710	\$758
Fall 2035	15	\$445	\$494	\$543	\$593	\$642	\$691	\$741	\$790
Fall 2034	14	\$465	\$517	\$569	\$620	\$672	\$723	\$775	\$827
Fall 2033	13	\$489	\$544	\$598	\$652	\$707	\$761	\$815	\$870
Fall 2032	12	\$518	\$575	\$633	\$690	\$747	\$805	\$862	\$920
Fall 2031	11	\$551	\$612	\$674	\$735	\$796	\$857	\$918	\$980
Fall 2030	10	\$592	\$657	\$723	\$789	\$855	\$920	\$986	\$1,052
Fall 2029	9	\$642	\$713	\$784	\$855	\$926	\$998	\$1,069	\$1,140
Fall 2028	8	\$704	\$782	\$860	\$939	\$1,017	\$1,095	\$1,173	\$1,251
Fall 2027	7	\$785	\$872	\$959	\$1,046	\$1,133	\$1,220	\$1,308	\$1,395
Fall 2026	6	\$893	\$992	\$1,091	\$1,190	\$1,289	\$1,388	\$1,487	\$1,587
Fall 2025	5	\$1,044	\$1,160	\$1,276	\$1,392	\$1,508	\$1,624	\$1,740	\$1,856
Fall 2024	4	\$1,272	\$1,413	\$1,555	\$1,696	\$1,837	\$1,978	\$2,120	\$2,261
Fall 2023	3	\$1,652	\$1,836	\$2,019	\$2,203	\$2,387	\$2,570	\$2,754	\$2,937
Fall 2022	2	\$2,414	\$2,683	\$2,951	\$3,219	\$3,487	\$3,755	\$4,024	\$4,292
Fall 2022	1	\$4,702	\$5,225	\$5,747	\$6,270	\$6,792	\$7,314	\$7,837	\$8,359

Program Fees

Type of Fee	Amount
Account Fees	
Paper Enrollment Form Fee (<i>non-refundable</i>) We only charge this fee for mailed paper enrollment forms. Additionally, if you open more than two Accounts for Students living at the same home address, we will waive all future enrollment fees for Students living at that address (accounts that have been refunded, canceled, or rolled over to another 529 plan are not included as eligible Accounts).	Paper Enrollment Form: \$50 Online Enrollment Form: N/A*
Late Payment Fee For Custom Monthly Plans, all payments are due on the 15th day of each month. We will post a late fee to your Account if we do not receive your monthly payment by the 10th day following the due date.	\$10
Dishonored Payment Fee (Automatic withdrawal, electronic payments, and checks)	\$25 or actual fee charged by the bank, whichever is greater
Refund Fees	
Program Refund Penalty For all Refunds except in the event of death, disability, Scholarship, attendance at a U.S. service academy, or graduation/completion of a degree or certificate.	10% of earnings or \$100, whichever is greater
Account Cancellation Fee (<i>assessed on Refunds only</i>)	\$10
Account Maintenance Fee (<i>assessed on Refunds only</i>)	\$1.70 per month that the account was open and active
For Organizations	
Scholarship Set-up Fee (<i>non-refundable</i>)	\$100 per master account
Student Account Transfer Fee Assessed each time the Organization transfers Units from the master Account to a named Student Account (per Student Account).	\$25

**Prior to November 1, 2017, we charged the \$50 enrollment fee for online enrollments.*