

STUDENT SERVICES FEE (SSF)

2023-24

DEPARTMENTAL REPORT TO THE COUNCIL ON STUDENT AFFAIRS AND FEES (COSAF)

SECTION 1: DEPARTMENT SSF DATA

The following data was provided to COSAF from Budget & Intuitional Analysis and Student Affairs Divisional Resources

Student Services Fee Recipient:	MENASA Student Resources (Middle Eastern, North African, South Asian)
Contact:	Waseem, Affaf
Finance Manager:	Michael Rogai
Total 2023-24 SSF Projected Allocation:	\$257,102
Percent of Overall Budget Funded by SSF:	98%
Approximate percent of the total 2023-24 SSF revenue:	1%

Expense	2022-23 SSF Actuals	2023-24 Projected SSF Allocation
Salaries/Benefits	\$162,024	\$233,166
Operational Costs	\$23,839	\$23,936
Other	\$300	\$0
TOTAL	\$186,163	\$257,102

Explanation if over a 10% differential between 2022-23 and 2023-24:

Student Life Dev Specialist 2 was added

SECTION 2: DEPARTMENT RESPONSES

Use as much space as needed

1. Please provide a general description of your department's function

The Middle Eastern, North African, and South Asian (MENASA) Student Resources is a unit which falls under the Community Resource and Retention Centers umbrella. These centers provide resources, programs, and opportunities to students to help them develop personally and professionally.

Our mission is to provide holistic support to MENASA students at UC Davis. We approach the work through education, advocacy, and an intersectional lens. Our holistic support model includes a focus on student wellness, community building, academic support, advocacy, sense of belonging, and cultural identity.

Our programs aim to touch on each of these holistic support themes. We also recognize that our students hold various identities which shape their experience on campus and how they interact with resources. We hope to facilitate access to these resources while providing understanding to help students transition from high school into college successfully and to graduate. Regardless of students' major/minor, the office is here to support their journey through college.

2. Please list the departmental program(s) and/or service(s) specifically funded by the Student Services Fee Annual Asian and Pacific Islander AND Middle Eastern, North African, and South Asian (AandPI AND MENASA) Fall Welcome, quarterly workshop series called Chai Chats, book club discussion series, Annual MENASA Leadership Retreat, Annual MENASA Community Graduation, additional events, marketing, student staff salary, space reservation, general programs hosted by the office, career staff salary, CGA and SSO fees.

Please note that the 23-24 projected allocation reflects division approved funds to hire an additional full-time employee (FTE) or career staff position and to hire 2 additional student staff positions. By hiring an additional FTE as a Program Coordinator, we will have a dedicated staff person working to offer relevant programs to help develop skills, and are educational to impact students' academic, professional, and personal success. The increase in student staff will help balance workload for student staff and provide additional opportunities to students who are interested in gaining experiential learning.

3. Please provide information regarding the benefit to UC Davis students from the departmental program(s) or service(s) specifically funded by the Student Services Fee

Be as specific and concise as possible. Include the specific type (e.g., undergraduate, graduate, professional, transfer, etc.) and an estimated number of students served.

As of Fall 2022, 14% of the undergraduate student population, including but not limited to first generation, transfer, and international students, who identify as Middle Eastern, North African, and/or South Asian. This number has been increasing steadily from 2017 (10.7%), when this unit was fully integrated within Student Affairs. All our events are open to the general community with a focus on the Southwest Asian, North African, and South Asian experience.

We disaggregate students out of more general racial categorizations to provide culturally sensitive and specific resources. The office does this to identify the specific needs of these students as they are overlooked when we aggregate them into larger groupings of "Asian, White, African American, etc." due to the unique histories and challenges of students in these demographics. Due to these aggregate groupings, students find their ethnic identity is often invisibilized and services are not offered that are inclusive of their backgrounds which can often impact their sense of belonging and connectedness to campus life. The office benefits UC Davis as it works to demystify southwest Asian, North African, and South Asian identities, creates intentional educational programs to build community, and advocates for inclusivity. Our programs, activities, and opportunities also aim to support all students in their personal and professional goals.

Apart from events, the director (career staff) provides referral services to connect students to existing resources to help students personally in the transition to UC Davis. The director also meets with students on community concerns like addressing campus climate concerns, identifying points of advocacy, and supporting ideas to proactively problem solve or by providing more information regarding resources across campus.

The director has also been working on connecting mental health resources to the community in the absence of the MENASA/International CAN counselor which has not be filled in 4.5 years. Additionally, the office answers questions prospective students may have about UC Davis and works closely with housing to provide consultations to the Living Learning Community.

The new program coordinator (career staff) supports with programmatic support to the office by working with student staff to create intentional programming.

Many have expressed that our services allow students reflect about their identities, feel recognized and seen in their whole selves, and express greater sense of belonging given national climate. Our current goal is to grow the capacity of the office with the addition of new staff and work with the team to holistically review how we can further our support across campus.