



AMS/GSS Health and Dental Plan Fee Increase

To members of AMS Council:

The AMS/GSS Health and Dental Committee is proposing to increase the AMS/GSS Health and Dental Fee from its current cost of \$264.63/student/policy year to \$277.50/student/policy year starting from the 2022-23 policy year.

From 2020-2021 to 2021-22, the AMS/GSS Health and Dental Fee has remained at \$264.63 without any increases due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on students' financial wellbeing. As we move out of the pandemic, and experience rapidly increasing usage of the AMS/GSS Health and Dental Plan, we recognize a strong need to increase the fee to meet the rising number of claims from students. Currently, we are projecting a loss where the total cost of insurance claims significantly surpasses the total amount paid in insurance premiums (collected via the AMS/GSS H&D Plan Fee from enrolled students). Projections based on increasing claim activity indicate that the fee *should* be at about ~\$309 per student in the upcoming 2022-23 policy year. Currently, we are at \$264.63.

While we do have a healthy AMS/GSS Health and Dental Reserve that is able to temporarily cushion the costs that may likely arise from claims costs far surpassing insurance premiums paid for the Plan, this method of keeping the Plan fee at \$264.63 is unsustainable long-term. We need to take action to bridge the increasing gap between claims costs and the insurance premiums paid. In AMS Code Section XIII under Article 4, there may “be an increase of up to five percent (5%) in the Health and Dental Plan Fee even if the Consumer Price Index increases by less than that, provided that there has been a recommendation for such an increase by the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Committee and that such a recommendation has been approved by a special resolution of the Graduate Student Society council and by a Two-thirds (2/3) Resolution of the Alma Mater Society Council”.

Therefore, we are requesting approval from AM Council to increase the AMS/GSS Health and Dental Fee from \$264.63 to \$277.50, beginning in the 2022-23 policy year. This is a 4.86% increase, just below the 5% threshold. For questions, please reach out at vpfinance@ams.ubc.ca. Thank you!

Cheers,

Mary Gan

Vice President, Finance at the Alma Mater Society of UBC Vancouver