

2022 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 76

BY SENATOR FIELDS

POSTSECONDARY ED. Provides that certain graduate students shall be exempt from mandatory student fees. (8/1/24)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3351(A)(5)(a) and to enact R.S. 17:3351.1(D), 3351.3(E),
3 3351.7(E), 3351.8(E), 3351.9(D), 3351.10(D), 3351.12(D), 3351.18(D), 3351.19(E),
4 3351.20(G), and 3351.21, relative to fees charged to students at public postsecondary
5 education institutions; to exempt certain graduate students from the payment of such
6 fees; to require each public postsecondary education management board to adopt a
7 policy providing for such exemptions; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 17:3351(A)(5)(a) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.
10 17:3351.1(D), 3351.3(E), 3351.7(E), 3351.8(E), 3351.9(D), 3351.10(D), 3351.12(D),
11 3351.18(D), 3351.19(E), 3351.20(G), and 3351.21 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 §3351. General powers, duties, and functions of postsecondary education
13 management boards

14 A. Subject only to the powers of the Board of Regents specifically
15 enumerated in Article VIII, Section 5 of the Constitution of Louisiana, and as
16 otherwise provided by law, each postsecondary system management board as a body
17 corporate shall have authority to exercise power necessary to supervise and manage

1 the day-to-day operations of institutions of postsecondary education under its
2 control, including but not limited to the following:

3 * * *

4 (5)(a)(i) In accordance with any other applicable provision of this Paragraph,
5 determine the fees which shall be paid by students.

6 **(ii) Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a**
7 **graduate student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall**
8 **be exempt from payment of all mandatory fees imposed in accordance with this**
9 **Section except for tuition.**

10 * * *

11 §3351.1. Technology fee; authority to assess; use of proceeds

12 * * *

13 **D. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a**
14 **graduate student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall**
15 **be exempt from payment of the technology fee imposed in accordance with this**
16 **Section.**

17 * * *

18 §3351.3. Academic excellence fee; Louisiana State University and Agricultural and
19 Mechanical College

20 * * *

21 **E. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a**
22 **graduate student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall**
23 **be exempt from payment of the academic excellence fee imposed in accordance**
24 **with this Section.**

25 * * *

26 §3351.7. Facilities use and maintenance fee increase; amount; waivers; limitations;
27 University of New Orleans

28 * * *

29 **E. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a**

1 **graduate student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall**
 2 **be exempt from payment of the facilities use and maintenance fee imposed in**
 3 **accordance with this Section.**

4 §3351.8. Facilities use and maintenance fee increase; amount; waivers; limitations;
 5 Southern University at New Orleans

6 * * *

7 **E. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a**
 8 **graduate student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall**
 9 **be exempt from payment of the facilities use and maintenance fee imposed in**
 10 **accordance with this Section.**

11 §3351.9. Academic excellence fee; amount; waivers; University of Louisiana
 12 System

13 * * *

14 **D. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a**
 15 **graduate student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall**
 16 **be exempt from payment of the academic excellence fee imposed in accordance**
 17 **with this Section.**

18 §3351.10. Academic excellence fee; amount; waivers; Louisiana Community and
 19 Technical College System

20 * * *

21 **D. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a**
 22 **graduate student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall**
 23 **be exempt from payment of the academic excellence fee imposed in accordance**
 24 **with this Section.**

25 * * *

26 §3351.12. Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and
 27 Mechanical College; Professional Program Fee; masters degree in
 28 business administration; Louisiana State University and Agricultural
 29 and Mechanical College

* * *

D. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a graduate student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall be exempt from payment of the professional program fee imposed in accordance with this Section.

* * *

§3351.18. Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College; digital media program fee; amount; waivers

* * *

D. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a graduate student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall be exempt from payment of the digital media program fee imposed in accordance with this Section.

§3351.19. Building use fee; amount; waivers; public postsecondary education management boards

* * *

E. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a graduate student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall be exempt from payment of the building use fee imposed in accordance with this Section.

§3351.20. Mandatory fees

* * *

G. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a graduate student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall be exempt from payment of any fee imposed in accordance with this Section.

§3351.21. Fee exemption; graduate students

Each public postsecondary education management board shall adopt a policy providing that a graduate student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall be exempt from the payment of any mandatory fee

1 **except for tuition.**

2 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on August 1, 2024; if vetoed by the
3 governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on
4 the day following such approval by the legislature or August 1, 2024, whichever is later.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Cheryl Serrett.

DIGEST

SB 76 Engrossed 2022 Regular Session Fields

Present law provides that each public postsecondary education management board shall have the authority to determine the fees paid by students. Proposed law provides that notwithstanding present law, a graduate student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall be exempt from payment of all mandatory fees imposed in accordance with present law except for tuition.

Proposed law exempts such graduate students from all of the following specific fees imposed in accordance with present law:

- (1) Technology fee (all campuses) (R.S. 17:3351.1)
- (2) Academic excellence fee (LSU System, Univ. of La. System, & La. Community and Technical Colleges System) (R.S. 17:3351.3, 3351.9, 3351.10)
- (3) Facilities use and maintenance fee at the Univ. of New Orleans (R.S. 17:3351.7)
- (4) Facilities use and maintenance fee at Southern Univ. at New Orleans (R.S. 17:3351.8)
- (5) Professional program fee at LSU (MBA program) (R.S. 17:3351.12)
- (6) Digital media program fee at LSU (R.S. 17:3351.18)
- (7) Building use fee (all campuses) (R.S. 17:3351.19)
- (8) Mandatory fees (all campuses) (R.S. 17:3351.20)

Proposed law further requires each public postsecondary education management board to adopt a policy providing that such graduate students are exempt from the payment of all mandatory fees except for tuition.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Amends R.S. 17:3351(A)(5)(a); adds R.S. 17:3351.1(D), 3351.3(E), 3351.7(E), 3351.8(E), 3351.9(D), 3351.10(D), 3351.12(D), 3351.18(D), 3351.19(E), 3351.20(G), and 3351.21)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the original bill

1. Changes effective date.