

Statement of Financial Responsibility (SFR)

Financial institutions, including the financial offices of colleges and universities, are required by federal debt collection and consumer protection laws to be transparent with their billing and payment policies/procedures and collection requirements. Institutions must also ensure that students (consumers) are aware of their policies and responsibilities. For this reason, UC Merced requires that students accept the Statement of Financial Responsibility (SFR), which acknowledges their financial obligations and understanding of the related policies of the university. The SFR informs students of their financial responsibilities associated with enrolling for classes, living in on-campus housing and participating in meal plans; and explains the potential consequences that may result if a student fails to meet those obligations.

Our goal is to help students understand the cost of their education and the financial policies associated with their enrollment at UC Merced. The SFR, in conjunction with the Business and Financial Services' website, MyBill account information, letters and other documentation, helps explain the university's expectations for payment, and allows us to clearly inform students of our policies related to billing, late payment, contact methods, etc.

What is the SFR and how do I complete it?

The SFR is a mandatory agreement that outlines financial obligations and responsibilities for attendance at UC Merced. All students must complete the SFR via their student portal on the checklist items.

What if I don't accept the SFR?

The SFR must be accepted in order to continue to access university services, including class registration, as an active UC Merced student.

How often do I have to complete the SFR?

The SFR must be completed every term, or if changes to the current agreement are mandated.

What if someone else is responsible for paying my account (i.e. through a parent, sponsorship or employer)?

All students are ultimately responsible for their student account, including any unpaid balances should the third-party payer not pay completely, and as such, must accept the SFR.

Why must I complete the SFR if my tuition and applicable fees are being covered by the university or outside funding sources?

It is common for students whose tuition and fees are funded to accrue charges on their student account which are not covered by the university and/or outside sources of aid. For instance, students may be sponsored for tuition and fees only, and have housing charges, for which they are responsible. Student accounts also reflect items such as parking fines. In these instances, students are financially responsible for those additional charges and, as such, must accept the SFR. Additionally, in the event an account balance results from a change of circumstance in a funding source, students are responsible for the amount due.

What communications does the SFR cover?

While a student at UC Merced, we must be able to contact you regarding your academic and financial obligations and requirements. The SFR applies to any contact made regarding your financial obligations to the university.

What is an SFR Hold?

Failure to complete the SFR can result in a hold being applied to your account. This hold will prevent registration-related activities.

Once I complete the SFR, when will the hold be lifted?

If you have an enrollment hold due to the SFR requirement, it will be removed immediately upon accepting the agreement.

If I have additional questions regarding the SFR, who should I reach out to?

Please contact the SBS office sbs@ucmerced.edu if you have any questions regarding the SFR.

Read the [Statement of Financial Responsibility](#).