Differential Tuition FAQs

What is differential tuition?
Differential or tiered tuition refers to a system where students are charged different tuition rates depending on their academic program or field of study, with higher tuition being applied to higher-demand, resource-intensive programs. This allows LSU to maintain the same level of excellence across all programs, smaller faculty-to-student ratios, and more specialized services.

Which programs apply differential tuition?
Differential tuition will apply to on-campus undergraduate and graduate programs in Tier 2.

Undergraduate & Graduate Academic Programs by Cost Classification

Tier 1	Tier 2
African and African American Studies	Accounting
Communication Sciences and Disorders	Allied Health
Communication Studies	Agriculture and Extension Education and Evaluation
Education	Agricultural Business/Agribusiness
English	Agricultural Economics
French Studies	Animal Sciences
Geography and Anthropology	Applied Depositional Geosystems
History	Applied Statistics
Interdisciplinary Studies	Architecture
Leadership and Human Resource Development	Art and Design
Library and Information Science	Athletic Training
Mass Communication	Biochemistry
Mathematics	Biological and Agricultural Engineering
Philosophy and Religious Studies	Biological Sciences
Political Science	Business Analytics
Social Work	Business Administration
Sociology	Cardiopulmonary Science
World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures	Chemical Engineering
University College Advising/Counseling	Chemistry
University College Freshman Year	Civil Engineering
	Climatology and Climate Change
	Cloud Computing and Machine Learning
	Coastal Environmental Science
	Comparative Biomedical Sciences
	Computer Engineering
	Computer Science
	Construction Management
	Cybersecurity Risk Management

Tier 1	Tier 2
	Dental Hygiene
	Dental Laboratory Technology
	Digital Media Arts and Engineering
	Econometrics
	Economics
	Electrical Engineering
	Emerging Information Technologies for Business
	Energy Law and Policy
	Engineering and Engineering Science
	Entomology
	Entrepreneurship and Information Systems
	Environmental and Energy Policy
	Environmental Engineering
	Environmental Health Sciences
	Environmental Management Systems
	Environmental Modeling and Analysis
	Environmental Sciences
	Estate Planning and Taxation
	Experimental Statistics
	Film and Television
	Finance
	Financial Analytics
	Financial Economics
	Fine Arts
	General Business
	Geology and Geophysics
	Industrial Engineering
	Information Systems & Decision Sciences
	Interior Design
	International Trade and Finance
	Kinesiology
	Landscape Architecture
	Law
	Management
	Marketing
	Materials Science and Engineering
	Mechanical Engineering
	Medical Physics and Health Physics
	Microbiology
	Music
	Music Education
	Natural Resource Ecology and Management

Tier 1	Tier 2
	Natural Sciences
	Nutrition and Food Sciences
	Oceanography and Coastal Sciences
	Pathobiological Sciences
	Petroleum Engineering
	Physics and Astronomy
	Plant Pathology and Crop Physiology
	Plant, Environmental, and Soil Sciences
	Pre-Occupational Therapy
	Pre-Physical Therapy
	Pre-Physician Assistant
	Psychology
	Renewable Natural Resources
	School Librarianship
	Screen Arts
	Sport Administration
	Statistics
	Studio Art
	Textiles, Apparel Design, and Merchandising
	Theatre
	Transportation Engineering
	Veterinary Clinical Sciences
	Veterinary Medicine

How much does differential tuition cost?
Tuition costs for both standard programs (Tier 1) and those with differential tuition (Tier 2) vary by credit hour. [View tuition and fee schedules here.](#)

Does this apply to summer courses?
Differential tuition applies to fall, winter intersession, and spring courses but not summer.

If I have two majors, will I pay the tuition differential twice?
Students majoring in two or more programs will only be assessed one tuition and fee rate based on their primary program of study.

What if I can't afford the increase to my existing degree program?
Students who are unable to meet their tuition requirements may [apply for a hardship exemption](#).