

SHAC Eligibility & Wellness Fee: Additional Information

We care about the health of all Lobos and support the concept that access to health care is a human right. Student fees have been assessed for many years in order to assure access to care for all students and to support the health of the campus community. The process of allocating these fees has been updated in order to improve equitability and transparency.

As part of its stated mission, SHAC explicitly holds itself accountable to having a measurable impact on student success and wellness. Services are designed with guidance from the [Student Health Leadership Council](#), patient satisfaction surveys and the [Student Fee Review Board](#) with a focus on busy students for whom the timely access of medical and counseling services for both acute and chronic conditions can make a difference in academic success. SHAC offers affordable, comprehensive and integrated care that is not duplicated or readily available elsewhere. Services offered include: [Counseling](#) and [Psychiatry](#), [Health Promotion](#), [General Medical](#), [Sexual and Reproductive Health](#), [Allergy and Immunization](#), [Travel Health](#), Sports Medicine, [Physical Therapy](#), [Massage Services](#), [Acupuncture](#), [Pharmacy](#), [Lab](#), and [X-ray](#).

History of the fee:

In the past, Student Health and Counseling was appropriated a portion of the student activity fees that UNM students were mandated to pay as part of their tuition and fees to attend the university ([UNM Policy 1310](#)). Student activity fees are charged per credit hour. For the portion of fees that were allocated to SHAC, students taking fewer hours had the same access to services as those taking a full course load, creating an inequity since everyone has full access to SHAC services.

How the fee is now assessed:

The fee is not new and is “net neutral” to the student body - student activity fees are being decreased by approximately the total amount allocated to SHAC in past years. Rather than paying the fee on a per credit hour basis, all students enrolled in 4 or more credit hours will pay the same fee for access to services at SHAC. This method of administering the fee is more equitable since it is assessed on a “head count” basis rather than by credit hour. It will now be itemized separately on each student’s fee statement so you can see exactly what you are being charged. Those students taking less than 4 hours can elect to pay the fee for SHAC eligibility by visiting SHAC to make payment.