At the direction of the UNC System Board of Governors, East Carolina University will institute a change in the definition of distance education for the assessment of tuition and fees, beginning with the fall 2022 semester.

Each year, the BOG approves tuition rates for each university and directs its member institutions as to which fees should and should not be charged to distance education students. Distance education students are only required to pay campus security, educational and technology, and student government association fees. The tuition authorization does not specify which students qualify as distance education students, and in the past, practices have differed across the UNC System institutions.

Beginning in fall 2022, students will be classified as distance education students depending on the degree program in which they are enrolled rather than by the method of instruction for a given course or semester. For the purpose of assessing student fees, a distance education program is one designed to deliver 80% or more of its instruction through distance education or off campus.

Students enrolled in such distance education programs taking one or fewer classes on-campus per term will be assessed only the campus security, educational and technology, and association of student government fees, and will not have access to services and activities supported by other student fees unless they opt-in to those on-campus services and pay an additional fee.

Students enrolled in such distance education programs taking two or more on-campus courses per term will be assessed all mandatory fees.

Students not enrolled in distance education programs will be assessed all mandatory fees regardless of how their courses are delivered in each semester.

For the full list of designated distance education programs or for more information, visit https://online.ecu.edu/de-billing-update/. For questions not addressed in the FAQ, email onlineservices@ecu.edu or call 1-800-398-9275.