

**A Resolution Approving the Mandatory Fee Proposed by the Office of Sustainability for  
Fiscal Year 2026**

1. **WHEREAS** the Residence Hall Association (RHA) is the governing body for all on-campus students at the University of Maryland, and
2. **WHEREAS** RHA has primary consideration over matters concerning campus sustainability through the Sustainability Committee of Maryland (SCOM), and
3. **WHEREAS** the Student Sustainability Fee, created in 2009, funds environmental and sustainability initiatives that make UMD greener and more sustainable, and
4. **WHEREAS** UMD graduates via the Graduate Student Government (GSG) recently agreed to support their proportionate use of the Campus Pantry, a free resource for all UMD residents and students which helps combat food insecurity in the student body, and
5. **WHEREAS** historically, only undergraduate students had been paying this fee even though the money generated from it is utilized by both undergraduate and graduate students alike, and
6. **WHEREAS** 27% of UMD students face food insecurity, with undergraduate usage of the Campus Pantry projected to increase to 42% in 2024 ([Addendum A](#)), and
7. **WHEREAS** the new contribution to the fee from graduates now leaves approximately \$36,600 to be used elsewhere, and
8. **WHEREAS** student leaders in RHA and the Student Government Association (SGA) have been collaborating on ways to effectively use these remaining funds and offset fee increases to undergraduate students with the Campus Pantry's labor costs increasing to \$82,000 next year due to a necessary pay adjustment for student workers, and graduate students now contributing their share to the Sustainability Fee, covering 58% of the cost, and
9. **WHEREAS** a carveout of the pre-existing fee that maintains the current cost (\$30 for full-time students, \$15 for part-time students) allocates \$1.21 and \$0.62, respectively to help maintain the Pantry's operations would help provide 59,155.28 lbs of food per year for students ([Addendum B](#)), and
10. **WHEREAS** this carveout still leaves over \$1,045,092 for sustainability grants, \$71,000 *more* than last year,
11. **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that RHA approves \$1.21 and \$0.62 carve out of the

Student Sustainability fee proposal for fiscal year 2026.

Authored by:  
Michelle Ameyaw  
Vice President  
Residence Hall Association

Presented by:  
Claire Bushar  
North Hill Area Council Senator  
Residence Hall Association

**Addenda:**

Addendum A:  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OiKiVwfXm0GvyTSvB\\_Ig3RdymxxGmEePJX6aVatSdIY/edit?tab=t.0](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OiKiVwfXm0GvyTSvB_Ig3RdymxxGmEePJX6aVatSdIY/edit?tab=t.0)

Addendum B:  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Hqa9zSCVEVtXP238ITLaKsP9bsHNtaQc2SpwF0YXLU8/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.qdotebjtdwf2>

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TO BE COMPLETED BY RHA Vice President:

Date Received: December 19, 2024  
Vote by Senate: 13 (Yes) - 0 (No) - 1 (Abstain)  
Action by Senate: PASS

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Michelle Ameyaw  
Vice President

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Date

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Samantha Briggs  
President

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Date

University of Maryland  
Residence Hall Association  
CVB001F  
December 19th, 2024