

Student Activity and Service Fee Submission Form for Trustee Organizations (all campuses)

Welcome to the 2025-26 SASFAC process. If you need timeline, process, or resources, please visit the TSOS website [here](#).

Organization Contact Information

Display Name

Anderson, Haley

NetID

hra15102

Email

haley.anderson@uconn.edu

Your Organization: *

Student Bar Association

Organization Website *

[Click to visit](#)

Organization Social Media Information * ?

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/uconnlawsba/#>

Please provide your Organization's Mission and a brief history *

Founded in 1959, the Student Bar Association (SBA) is the student government of the University of Connecticut School of Law. Membership consists of students elected annually by the Day, Evening, and LLM Divisions of the Law School. The SBA manages a budget derived from student activities fees to support various student organizations, fund community activities, and to promote the quality of student life. In addition, the SBA selects students to serve on faculty committees, provides feedback to the administration, and is active in a multitude of issues affecting students at the Law School.

Mission

We, the students of The University of Connecticut School of Law, do hereby establish the Student Bar Association and its governing Board, whose purposes shall include:

- The promotion of such activities as may be of interest to the student body;
- The promotion of cordial and effective relations among students, faculty and administration of the Law School, and with the University at large, other law schools and the community; and
- The expression and representation of student opinion on matters pertaining to the law, to the Law School and to the Student Bar Association.

Please upload a PDF of your current Organizational Chart. *

Screenshot 2025-12-12 at 4.24.29 PM.png (141.3 kB)

What are your organization's current goals and how do they align with your mission? *

Goals for the UConn Law Student Bar Association (SBA):

1. Foster Student Engagement and Well-being:

Organize diverse social, cultural, and professional events tailored to the varied interests of the student body.

Establish mentorship programs connecting first-year students with upperclassmen and alumni.

Promote wellness initiatives addressing mental health and academic stress management.

2. Strengthen Relationships within the Law School Community:

Host regular town hall meetings to facilitate open communication between students, faculty, and administrators.

Develop faculty-student mixers and networking events to build stronger personal and professional connections.

Collaborate with other student organizations to create inclusive and dynamic programming.

3. Enhance Outreach and Collaboration Beyond Campus:

Initiate partnerships with local law firms, legal aid organizations, and community groups to promote pro bono opportunities.

Engage in joint events and competitions with other law schools to foster inter-institutional relationships.

Encourage student participation in university-wide initiatives, enhancing UConn Law's presence in the broader academic community.

4. Represent and Advocate for Student Interests:

Actively solicit and communicate student concerns to the administration, ensuring transparency and accountability.

Form specialized committees to address key issues such as diversity, academic policies, and campus facilities.

Advocate for curriculum improvements and support initiatives that reflect evolving legal and societal trends.

5. Promote Professional Development and Legal Discourse:

Organize guest lectures, panels, and workshops featuring legal professionals and thought leaders.

Support student-led legal publications and encourage participation in moot court and mock trial competitions.

Create forums for discussing contemporary legal issues, and promoting critical thinking and informed opinions.

These goals aim to create a vibrant, inclusive, and proactive SBA that truly embodies UConn Law's mission and enriches the student experience.

Activity Participation and Alignment

1) Briefly describe the programs and services you provide for your constituents that serve as the primary focus of your organization. *

1. Student Events and Social Programming:

Organize social events such as networking mixers, seasonal celebrations, and community service days to foster a strong sense of community among students.

Host professional development workshops, career fairs, and guest speaker panels featuring legal professionals.

Get ABA and CBA representation and involvement early on with student experience.

2. Advocacy and Representation:

Act as a liaison between the student body and the administration, advocating for student concerns and academic improvements.

Facilitate open forums and town hall meetings to gather student feedback and communicate institutional updates.

3. Academic and Professional Support:

Provide resources such as exam prep sessions, peer tutoring, and mentorship programs to assist students academically.

Support student participation in moot court, mock trial, and legal writing competitions.

4. Community Engagement and Outreach:

Partner with local organizations to offer volunteer and pro bono opportunities, encouraging community service and practical legal experience.

Collaborate with other law schools and university departments on joint initiatives and events.

5. Wellness and Inclusivity Initiatives:

Promote mental health resources and organize wellness-focused events to support student well-being.

Foster an inclusive environment through diversity and cultural programming, ensuring all students feel represented and supported.

These programs ensure the SBA serves as a hub for student growth, professional development, and community connection at UConn Law.

Who is eligible to participate in your activities? *

please check all that apply

Graduate students of a specific program(s)

Faculty/Staff

Community Members/Guests

Financials

Please note that items 3-5 should total 100%

2) For what purpose do you spend any portion of your budget on the operations of your organization? * ?

n/a

3) What percentage of your budget is to support your organization's operations? * ?

0

Does your Organization pay any elected or appointed student leaders? *

No

Does your Organization pay for any non-student staff? *

No

4) What percentage of your budget is for programs and services for students sponsored by your organization (do not include expenses that are for members only)? *

30

a) How do you determine if these programs and services meet your organizational goal/priorities? b) How do you know if the program, and services you provide meet the needs/expectations of your constituents? *

A board of governors oversees the budget requests from each organization, where then the budget committee meets to review and make their suggestions for fee allocations. The suggestions are then voted on, and the Board of Governors votes on the final budget at a public meeting. Any issues, reallocations, and supplemental requests are then given a period to request money from the CFO and it is then reviewed at their discretion if it is under \$500.

There are bylaws and guidelines with our budget that we follow in order to make sure that groups and programs that need and meet the expectations of the Law school's community have automatic funding or standard applications. Additionally, this Executive board's CFO and President have worked diligently with the Student Affairs, Student Finances, and the DEI office to help alleviate gaps through partnerships with Lexis/Westlaw, and Ignite funds.

5) For groups that fund Tier II student organizations, what percentage of your budget is allocated to them?

70

6) Please explain significant changes in the overall budget (spending plan) for this fiscal year since starting July 1, 2025, when compared to the previous year's budget and this year's original budget. *

The biggest changes are the ideologies behind allocations of the SBA Budget for student interests/needs and the approach of the Executive Board. The proposed solution to mitigate these fluctuations in budget projections, a new Constitution and By-laws provisions are being proposed to require the CFO and President to have been in the SBA for a full year before their position appointment/election. This will hopefully help to align the individuals in the positions to what the president the prior year was and to help with smoother transitions. We also require more notice from events, more collaboration and also have created a storage supply closet to help cut costs

Revenue

7) What is the current Fee amount per semester/year? *

164

Storrs Undergraduate Fees
Regional Undergraduate Fees
GSS Graduate Fees
Law Graduate Fees
SSW Graduate Fees

8) Does your organization receive income from any source other than student fees? * ?

Yes

a) What are the sources of revenue you currently collect and how much is it that you receive? b) Are these sources consistent or variable from year to year? c) How is this revenue reflected in your organization's projected budget? Please explain. *

Sales to Barristers' ball, that offset any additional costs associated with the Ball, that is reflected in our Ball Projections.

Expenses

9) What are the top organization operational expenditures? *

0

10) How are these expenses similar to or different from the previous year? *

n/a

11) What are the top organization expenditures for programs and services that you fund? *

Barrister's Ball

12) How are these expenses similar to or different from the previous year? *

Similar to previous year, but inflation and reservations have increased from 400 students to 550 guests.

13) What are the top expenditures for Tier II organizations (if applicable) that you fund?

Competitions, Conferences, Food and Travel

14) How are these expenses similar to or different from the previous year?

Inflation, ticket prices, we have strategized to be regional, however there are increased fees.

Future Year Spending Plans

15) What are your Organizational priorities, as reflected in your projected budgets, for the next two fiscal years? *

Spent down our reserve, and now are seeking a fee increase

16) Is your Organization seeking a fee increase? *

Yes

What dollar amount are you requesting per semester/year? *

100

What is the rationale for the requested increase (i.e., for what is the additional revenue to be spent?). Please be sure to represent this in the Proposed Budget. *

We are requesting 100 per semester, and 200 a year.

- No history of prior increases to the student activity fee
- Cost of living and inflation have continuously increased
- Higher travel, lodging, registration, and event costs
- Current fee no longer reflects actual program needs
- Result: persistent funding gap

What steps have you taken to reduce expenses and what was the outcome? *

- Centralized supply closet to reduce duplicate purchases
- Significant budget cuts across student organizations
- Ignite fundraising encouraged to offset costs
- Required collaboration events to share expenses

-Expanded partnerships with firms, alumni, and vendors

What steps have you taken to increase revenue and what was the outcome? *

- increased the price of student tickets for ball
- kickstarted more Ignite funding for SBA and for the organizations

What will the outcome/consequence be if you do not receive the fee increase? *

- Potential loss of accreditation
- Demotion in rankings
- Loss of opportunity for students
- Loss of networking and collaboration events
- Loss of morale of students
- Worse student/work/balance
- Loss of potential incoming students
- Worse quality of student life
- Higher burden and burnout of SBA Exec members

What (if any) are the timing anomalies with regard to the reported income/expenditures? * ?

This is our first fee increase in the last 7+ years, and the budget we have is not helping to combat the year over year inflation, cost of living increase, and the competition to keep our top 50 accreditation.

The Student Activity and Service Fee Advisory Committee will be in touch about additional steps and documentation that your Organization will need to provide along with this packet as a result of seeking a fee increase.

Fund Balance

17) If your Organization should carry over funds from one year to the next, what is the ideal (minimum) level of that fund balance and what is the justification for that amount? *

10,000 over the next 3 years, we would like to adhere to our bylaws, but spend down the reserves that students are paying yearly.

18) If your organization is carrying a fund balance above the ideal/minimum level - what planned expenditures are budgeted (in which upcoming fiscal year)with the intention to bring down the fund balance to ideal levels? *

The ideal minimum for the SBA is \$10,000 as it is written in our by-laws. However, the plan is to spend down the excess balance in the account to help facilitate a more efficient means of using the revenue derived from the student fees. Additionally, there are specific events, activities, and organizations that require more allocations of funds than other organizations, however, to be fair and equitable, we allocate fairly across our 50 groups.

Include what your projected balance will be at the end of this year as well as the next two projected years. *

It will vary based on if our fee increase is approved. We have 3 scenarios.

Other

Is there any additional information that the Committee should be aware of when reviewing your Organization's budget documentation?

Every year there is a turnover of the SBA executive board, which is why YoY there are fluctuations in the projected budget allocations.

Financials

Please upload the Fee Increase SASFAC Excel Sheet *

SBA SASFAC Report FY26 - Final.xlsx (226.1 kB)

Advisor & FO Review and Commentary

1. Is the financial document (specifically the columns 'FY25 Actuals' and 'FY26 Updated', including the fund balance), as presented, an accurate record of the organization's financial status? *

Yes

2. Do you have comments regarding the FY27 Updated or FY28 Projected Budgets? *

No

3. Please provide a narrative on the advising and compliance discussions you have had to date with the Org leadership regarding their finances. *

I speak with SBA leadership regularly as their advisor and I understand the constraints they've been under as we try to remain compliant with university policy and balance the adequate funding of Tier II student organizations at the School of Law. SBA has tried interventions such as moratoriums and collective supply closets for Tier II organizations to access, but these measures haven't been enough., This informs the reason for seeking a fee increase.

Any additional comments or suggestions?

Additional Documentation Upload

No file attached

Advisor/FO signature *

Julian M. Torres Rosario

Organization Review and Vote

You've got through and made any necessary edits: *

Yes

Date of formal Organization Budget approval *

December 11, 2025

Please upload a copy of your Organization's meeting minutes reflecting an affirmative SASFAC packet vote. *

Re- Executive Board Approval Request — SASFAC Fee Proposal (UConn Law, FY 2026–2028).eml (10.5 kB)

Workflow History

Dec 12, 2025 - 4:41pm EST
Submitted for Approval

 Submitted - Dec 12, 2025 - 4:41pm EST
Anderson, Haley

Dec 12, 2025 - 4:45pm EST
Task Completed

(Task)

 Signed - Dec 12, 2025 - 4:45pm EST
Torres, Julian M (julian.torres@uconn.edu)

 Task Completed - Dec 12, 2025 - 4:45pm EST
Torres, Julian M

Jan 8, 2026 - 6:55pm EST
Task Completed

(Final Updates)

 Task Completed - Jan 8, 2026 - 6:55pm EST
Anderson, Haley

Jan 8, 2026 - 6:55pm EST
Email Sent

(Notification)

 Notified - Jan 8, 2026 - 6:55pm EST
Clokey, David

In Progress

Generating PDF

(Notification)

Notification
O'Brien, Krista

UConn Law Student Bar Association
2025-2026 SBA Executive Board,
Haley Anderson, President
Sarah Lateer, Vice-President
Carter Brassington, Chief Administrative Officer
Jase Olavarria, Chief Financial Officer
Karus Sabio, Parliamentarian
Nayeli Contreras, ABA Representative

O'Brien, Krista

From: Lateer, Sarah <sarah.lateer@uconn.edu>
Sent: Friday, December 12, 2025 6:16 AM
To: Sabio, Karus; Anderson, Haley; Contreras, Nayeli; Brassington, Carter; Olavarria, Jase
Cc: Torres, Julian M; LAW - Student Bar Association (SBA)
Subject: Re: Executive Board Approval Request — SASFAC Fee Proposal (UConn Law, FY 2026–2028)

J approve!

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From: Sabio, Karus <karus.sabio@uconn.edu>
Sent: Thursday, December 11, 2025 11:28:54 PM
To: Anderson, Haley <haley.anderson@uconn.edu>; Contreras, Nayeli <nayeli.contreras@uconn.edu>; Brassington, Carter <carter.brassington@uconn.edu>; Lateer, Sarah <sarah.lateer@uconn.edu>; Olavarria, Jase <jase.r.olavarria@uconn.edu>
Cc: Torres, Julian M <julian.torres@uconn.edu>; LAW - Student Bar Association (SBA) <sba@uconn.edu>
Subject: Re: Executive Board Approval Request — SASFAC Fee Proposal (UConn Law, FY 2026–2028)

I approve!

Thanks,
Karus

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From: Anderson, Haley <haley.anderson@uconn.edu>
Sent: Thursday, December 11, 2025 10:25:23 PM
To: Contreras, Nayeli <nayeli.contreras@uconn.edu>; Brassington, Carter <carter.brassington@uconn.edu>; Lateer, Sarah <sarah.lateer@uconn.edu>; Olavarria, Jase <jase.r.olavarria@uconn.edu>; Sabio, Karus <karus.sabio@uconn.edu>; Anderson, Haley <haley.anderson@uconn.edu>
Cc: Torres, Julian M <julian.torres@uconn.edu>; LAW - Student Bar Association (SBA) <sba@uconn.edu>
Subject: Executive Board Approval Request — SASFAC Fee Proposal (UConn Law, FY 2026–2028)

Dear Members of the Executive Board,

On behalf of the UConn School of Law student body at large, I am writing to request the Executive Board's review and approval of the School of Law SASFAC submission for fiscal years **2026–2028**, including the **proposed Student Activity Fee adjustment from \$82 to \$100**.

This request is intended to responsibly close the existing funding gap and ensure sustainable support for essential student programming, institutional representation, and accreditation-related obligations. Over the past several years, student leadership has made substantial efforts to mitigate costs and minimize reliance on fee increases, including:

- Establishing and expanding a **shared supply closet** to reduce recurring event expenses
- Implementing **significant budget reductions** and tighter purchasing controls
- Encouraging student organizations to utilize **Ignite fundraising** opportunities
- Requiring **collaboration events and increased partnerships** to share costs and avoid duplication

Despite these measures, the current fee level no longer reflects the realities of rising operational costs. There has been **no recent history of a comparable Student Activity Fee increase**, while inflation, cost-of-living increases, and vendor pricing have continued to rise. Additionally, funding for **competitions and conferences required for accreditation and external representation** has increasingly been supplemented by SBA funds, creating structural strain on student-led budgets.

Approval of this proposal would allow the School of Law to:

- Maintain equitable and predictable funding for student activities and organizations
- Properly support **accreditation-related competitions and conference participation**
- Reduce reliance on ad hoc fundraising and emergency budget reallocations

Accordingly, I respectfully request that the Executive Board approve the SASFAC proposal for FY 2026–2028 with the updated **\$100 Student Activity Fee recommendation**, allowing the request to proceed through the university review process.

Thank you for your consideration and continued support of the UConn Law student experience. I am happy to provide additional financial data, historical context, or programmatic impact summaries as needed.

Respectfully,

Haley Anderson

President, Student Bar Association
University of Connecticut School of Law