



Ombuds Services
Focus on fairness.

Carleton University Ancillary Fee Referenda – Writ of Election (2025)

Issued by: Melanie Chapman, University Ombudsperson and Chief Electoral Officer (CEO)

Important note: this question is being posed to undergraduate students.

Carleton University Students' Association (CUSA) represents and advocates for the needs of undergraduate students by providing essential services, programming, and opportunities for involvement. CUSA currently operates six service centres, the Unified Support Centre, and student-run businesses such as Ollie's, Rooster's, and The Wing. Additionally, CUSA administers the Health and Dental Plan and provides funding for over 275 certified undergraduate clubs.

Currently, the CUSA fee is one of the lowest student union fees in the province. The existing fee is no longer sufficient to maintain current services and programming levels due to rising costs from inflation and operational expenses. Without a levy increase, there will be further reductions in CUSA's services such as free printing, service centers, subsidized prices at student run businesses, and funding for student run initiatives. CUSA is proposing a \$22.68 increase to the student levy fee to ensure CUSA's services can continue to support you.

Question:

To ensure CUSA's services continue without further reductions, do you support an increase of \$22.68 per term of the CUSA student levy (pro-rated for part-time students), indexed to Consumer Price Index, starting in fall 2025.

Undergraduate Graduate Students
<p>YES and NO vote:</p> <p>A YES vote <u>supports</u> the increase to the CUSA student levy, starting in fall of 2025.</p> <p>A NO vote <u>does not support</u> the increase to the CUSA student levy, starting in fall of 2025.</p> <p>Budget:</p>

Per the University's referendum protocol, there shall be only one YES committee and one NO committee. The CEO will grant each committee a credit allowance up to the maximum of \$400.

Each committee must prepare a final, complete, and accurate report of all expenditures made, including all receipts, and other evidence of expenditures to be submitted to the CEO before the polls close on March 12, 2025.

Campaign Period:

The campaign period will begin on Monday, February 24, 2025 at noon (12:00pm), with the last day of campaigning ending on Monday, March 10, 2025 at 11:59pm.

Voting Days:

Voting days will be held on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, and Wednesday, March 12, 2025.

Polling:

Voting will be held online. All ballots will be conducted electronically and sent to students' University-issued email account.

Further Information:

All enquiries or concerns regarding the referendum, campaigning, polling process, and conduct should be referred to the CEO via e-mail: melaniechapman@cunet.carleton.ca.

Campaign rules and referendum protocol will be posted on the website (see below) prior to the commencement of the campaign period.

Website:

Please visit the referendum website for additional information. The site will be updated with details as they become available.

<https://students.carleton.ca/referendum>