

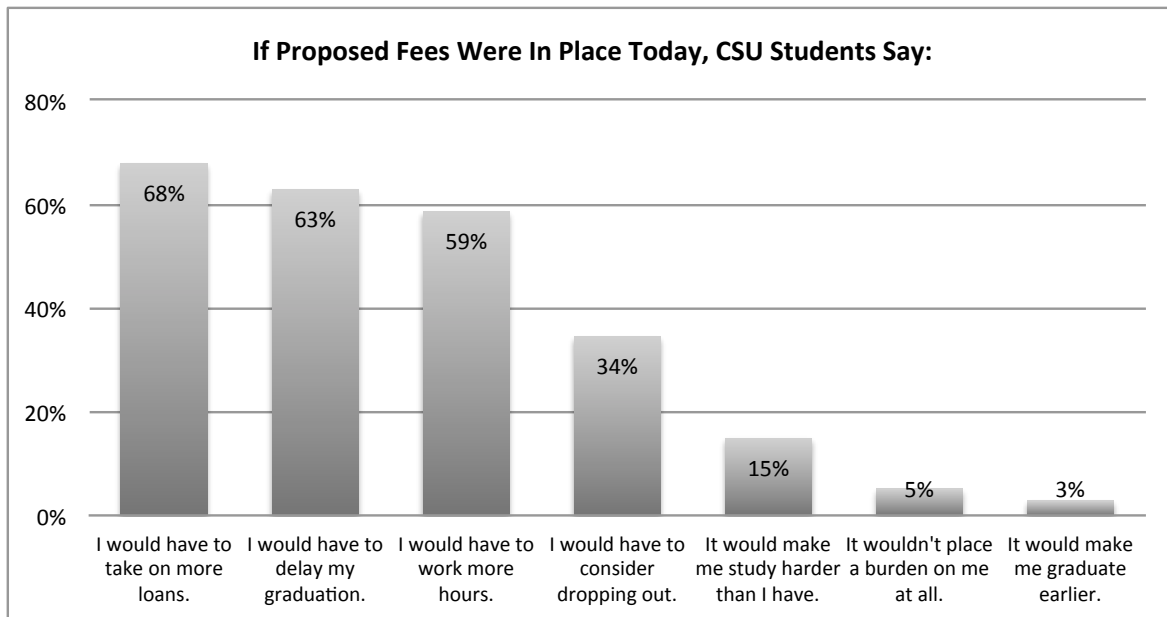


SURVEY ON CSU STUDENTS' OBSTACLES TO GRADUATING: SUMMARY OF PRELIMINARY RESULTS

note: Students are still completing surveys and data from more than a thousand additional surveys are still being entered and analyzed. This preliminary analysis is based on almost 2,400 surveys of CSU students who have taken the survey online or on campus between October 22 and November 9, 2012. (N=2388)

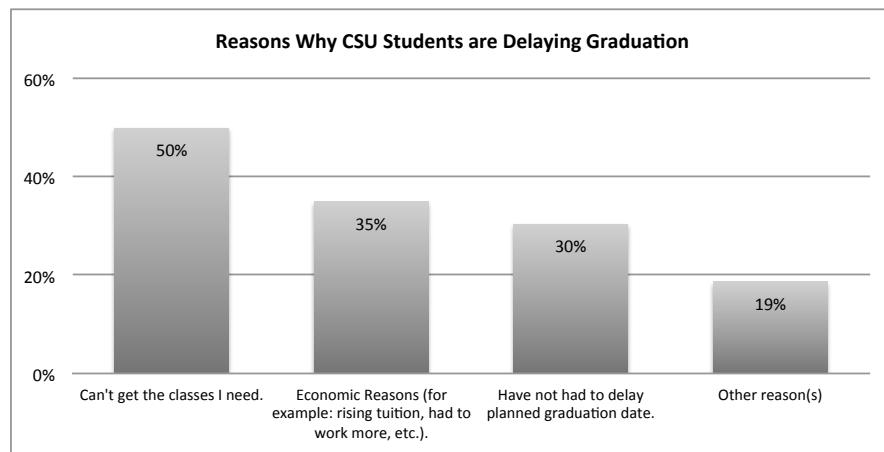
CSU Chancellor gets it wrong: higher fees will not cause students to graduate faster. Almost two-thirds of respondents say the proposed fees would have caused them to delay their graduation even more. Survey results suggest the fees will have the opposite of the intended effect.

- 68% of respondents say the additional fees would cause them to take on more loans.
- 63% say the higher costs would delay their graduation date.
- 59% say they would need to work more hours.
- 34% say they would have to consider dropping out if the fees were already in place.
- *Only 3% say the higher fees would make them graduate sooner.*



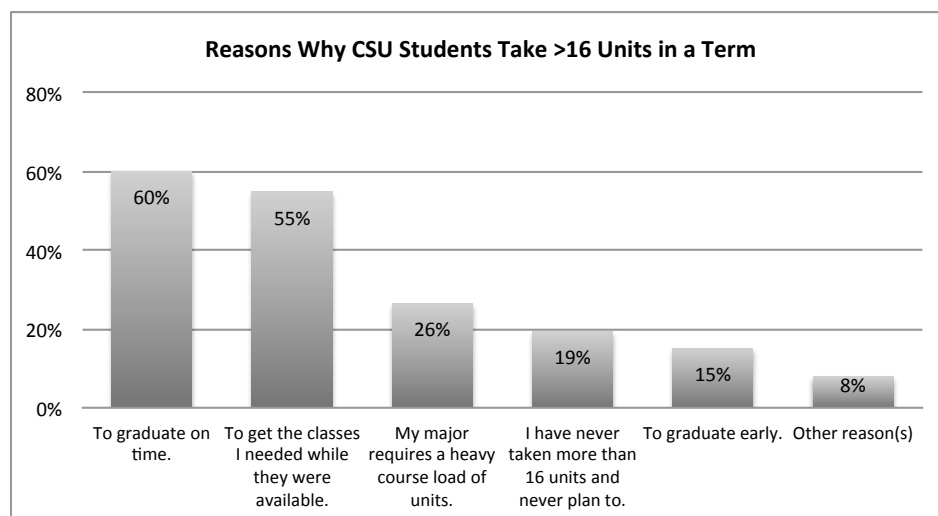
CSU students want to graduate. They don't need higher tuition as an incentive to graduate, they just can't get classes they need. Students say they will need more than four years to graduate because they can't get classes and because of their personal economic situation, not because they are taking too many classes and prefer to stay in school longer.

- 70% of respondents have had to delay their planned graduation date.
- Half of the students who took the survey said the delay is because they can't get classes they need.
- 35% said the delay is because of economic reasons, such as rising tuition or having to work more.



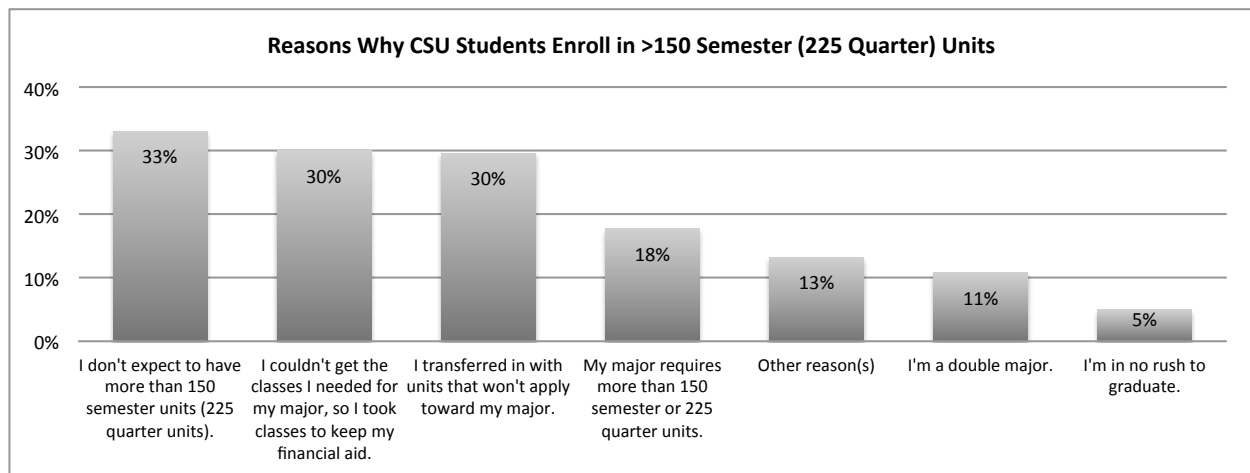
CSU students who take extra units do so in order to graduate on time and get courses they need -- not to extend their time in college. A new "third-tier" fee would affect a large majority of the students who responded to the survey.

- 4 out of 5 of respondents say they have taken (or intend to take at some point) more than 16 units in a term.
- 60% of respondents enroll in 16+ units in order to graduate on time.
- 55% say they do this to get the classes they need when they are available.
- Only 15% are taking high unit course loads in order to graduate early.



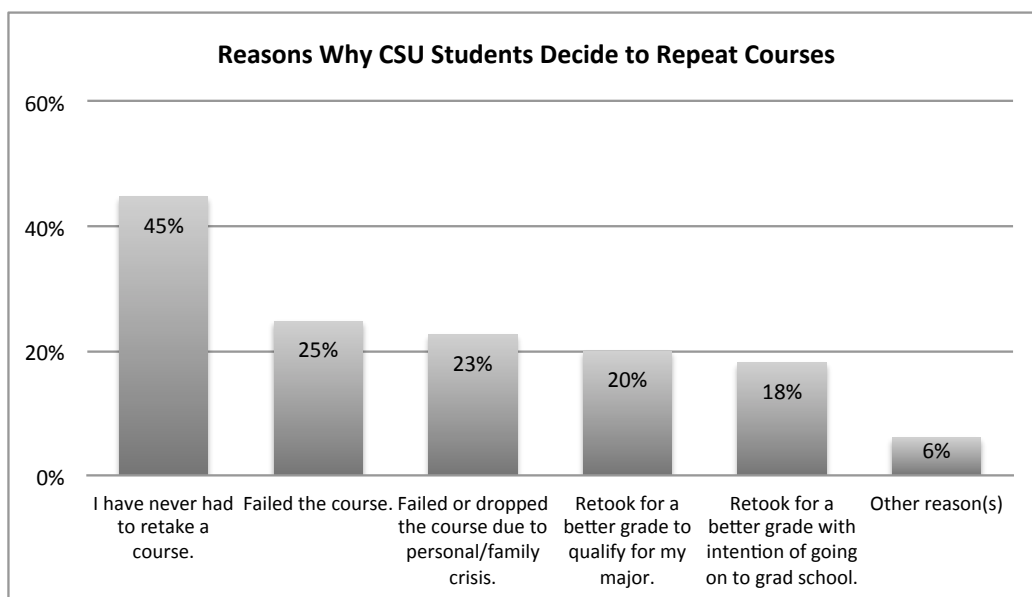
The new “graduation incentive” fees could affect a majority of CSU students, with two-thirds of the students who completed the survey expecting to have more than 150 units (or 225 quarter units) by the time they graduate.

- 30% say this is because they transferred to CSU with units that didn’t count towards their major.
- 30% have taken classes they didn’t need to in order to keep their financial aid.
- 18% have majors that require more than 150 units.
- 11% are double majors.



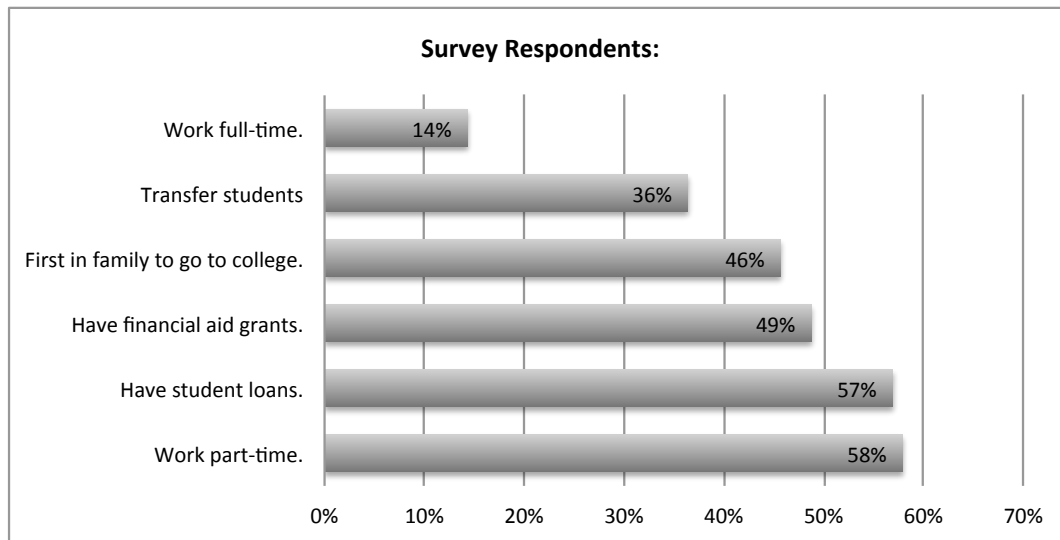
Many CSU students need to repeat courses for a variety of reasons but they are not trying to “game the system” by re-taking courses. More than half of the respondents have never re-taken a course.

- 38% of respondents say they retook a course in order to improve their grade, either to qualify for their major or to improve chances to get accepted in graduate school.
- 23% of respondents repeated courses because of personal or family crises.
- Many students also cited family emergencies such as deaths in the family and caretaking for family members and challenges related to working many hours while being enrolled in college.



SURVEY RESPONDENTS

Respondents to SQE's survey include students from all 23 campuses. Though data are still being analyzed, the results summarized above come from respondents who are predominantly juniors (30%) and seniors (43%) with several years of experience in college on which to base their answers. Like the CSU student population as a whole, survey respondents are overwhelmingly working students, with 14% working full-time while attending college. Most already have student loans and about half depend on financial aid grants. Many are first-generation college students and more than a third have transferred to the CSU from another college or university.



More detailed data is reported below.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS (PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS)

Have you had to delay your planned graduation date? Why? Check all that apply.	Response Percent	Response Count
Can't get the classes I need.	50.0%	1181
Economic Reasons (for example: rising tuition, had to work more, etc.).	35.1%	828
Have not had to delay planned graduation date.	30.4%	718
Other reason(s)	18.7%	441
<i>answered question</i>		2361
<i>skipped question</i>		27

Do you have or do you expect to have more than 150 semester units (or 225 quarter units) by the time you graduate? If so, what are the circumstances that led you to have this many units? Check all that apply.	Response Percent	Response Count
I don't expect to have more than 150 semester units (225 quarter units).	33.2%	781
I couldn't get the classes I needed for my major, so I took classes to keep my financial aid.	30.0%	707
I transferred in with units that won't apply toward my major.	29.7%	698
My major requires more than 150 semester or 225 quarter units.	17.8%	418
Other reason(s)	13.2%	311
I'm a double major.	10.8%	254
I'm in no rush to graduate.	5.0%	117
<i>answered question</i>		2354
<i>skipped question</i>		34

Have you ever had to retake a course? If so, why did you retake it? Check all that apply.	Response Percent	Response Count
I have never had to retake a course.	44.7%	1051
Failed the course.	24.8%	582
Failed or dropped the course due to personal/family crisis.	22.6%	530
Retook for a better grade to qualify for my major.	19.9%	468
Retook for a better grade with intention of going on to grad school.	18.1%	425
Other reason(s)	6.1%	143
<i>answered question</i>		2350
<i>skipped question</i>		38

Have you, or do you, ever intend to take more than 16 units in a term? If so, why? Check all that apply.	Response Percent	Response Count
To graduate on time.	60.1%	1402
To get the classes I needed while they were available.	54.8%	1280
My major requires a heavy course load of units.	26.5%	618
I have never taken more than 16 units and never plan to.	19.3%	450
To graduate early.	15.2%	354
Other reason(s)	7.8%	183
<i>answered question</i>		2334
<i>skipped question</i>		54

If any of these three fees were already in place, how would the additional fees affect you? Check all that apply.	Response Percent	Response Count
I would have to take on more loans.	67.8%	1577
I would have to delay my graduation.	62.7%	1458
I would have to work more hours.	58.5%	1361
I would have to consider dropping out.	34.4%	800
It would make me study harder than I have.	14.8%	344
Other reason(s)	9.1%	211
It wouldn't place a burden on me at all.	5.1%	119
It would make me graduate earlier.	2.8%	66
<i>answered question</i>		2325
<i>skipped question</i>		63

I am a	Response Percent	Response Count
freshman	8.0%	169
sophomore	17.5%	369
junior	29.9%	630
senior	43.5%	916
Other	9.8%	207
<i>answered question</i>		2106
<i>skipped question</i>		282

Please select all that apply:	Response Percent	Response Count
I work part-time.	57.9%	1265
I have student loans.	56.9%	1243
I have grants.	48.8%	1065
I am the first in my family to go to college.	45.7%	998
I am a transfer student.	36.4%	795
I work full-time.	14.3%	313
<i>answered question</i>		2184
<i>skipped question</i>		204

For more information about this survey and the campaign to stop these proposed fees, please visit Students for Quality Education's website at www.csusqe.org