



Funding development, alumni engagement, and donor stewardship at the College of Charleston:

The College of Charleston is committed to being accountable to donors and the campus community by providing timely gift receipts, accurate records, expert management of funds, and efficient disbursement of funds to students, faculty and programs. These efforts are funded through a combination of direct support from the College, earnings on funds invested with the CofC Foundation, and gift management and administrative fees managed by the CofC Foundation.

What are the College of Charleston Foundation's fees?

Gift Reinvestment Fee – 5% on all gifts to restricted and endowed funds

Financial Management Fee – 1.25% annually on all fund balances

Why does the College of Charleston Foundation have administrative fees?

The fees provide the necessary resources to grow relationships with alumni, donors and volunteer leaders through events, programs, stewardship activities, networking opportunities, and publications; to manage the funds donors contribute to benefit the College by collaborating with expert fund managers; and to expand support to the College through meaningful campaigns and fundraising strategies. By assessing fees on restricted and endowed gifts and fund balances, the College of Charleston can grow resources necessary to sustain and enhance the College experience.

The Foundation reinvests the 5% fee to support increased outreach, which will ultimately expand the amount of private support directed toward the College. The 1.25% fee supports the Foundation's management of 1,200+ funds – much like private financial advisors charge to manage retirement accounts or other assets.

What about support from the state?

As a public institution, the College receives less than 10 percent of its total budget from the State of South Carolina. A majority of the College's budget is sourced from tuition and fees, federal and state grants and contracts, federal student aid, and revenue from sales and services. Administrative fees allow the College's Division of Institutional Advancement to reduce its reliance on direct funding for its operations from the College, thus freeing College funds for educational purposes.

Will the administrative fees generate all of the resources necessary to build capacity?

No. The administrative fees will generate some of what the College will need to realize the potential of its fundraising, alumni and outreach operations. As fundraising efforts reach more alumni and friends,

the Foundation will be able to invest more in Institutional Advancement while at the same time build the College's endowment.

Do other similar organizations charge administrative fees?

Administrative fees are common throughout the country. Several organizations in South Carolina as well as many across the country use administrative fees to fund their advancement efforts. The Foundation conducted careful research and benchmarked against several out-of-state universities, donor advised funds and community foundations to make sure the College of Charleston is following accepted industry practices.