THE SGA’S FUNDING
WHERE AND HOW WE GET OUR MONEY

Full-time students pay $100 per semester to Rider University in the form of the Mandatory Student Activity Fee (“SAF”). This money is received and held by the University.

The SBT and Assistant Dean of Students discuss how much of the SAF they want to withdrawal at the beginning of the semester. Normally, they request a check for $37k-$38k, leaving a safety-buffer of $2k-$3k with the University to adjust for possible enrollment drops. This way, if more students leave the school than join, the SGA won’t have to return any of the money.

The $37k-$38k check is deposited in the SGA’s Checking Account at a local bank. Halfway through the semester (after the enrollment numbers are finalized), the SGA will receive the remaining funds from the SAF. If it has not left a large enough buffer, it may have to return some of the SAF to the University.

At the end of every fiscal year, the SGA’s accountant audits the financial records.

There are several things that are commonly misunderstood:

1.) If the SGA does not spend money, the University cannot “take it back”. The money belongs to the student body and can be spent, saved, invested or burned at its whim.

2.) Organization budgets are reset at the end of every semester. Approved budgets do not carry over unless specifically approved by the Student Finance Board.

3.) Despite the title (“Student Activity Fee”), the SAF can be used for any purpose seen fit by the student body. On the Lawrenceville campus, this fee is used to pay for the gym and offset the pub’s losses. The only restrictions in effect are those espoused by the Student Finance Board.