LSMSA is a state-funded residential public high school. The State of Louisiana through direct appropriation pays the majority of the costs of operation. However, several kinds of fees have been established as the result of legislation, board policy, and administrative directive. Additionally, provisions have been made for consideration of a family's financial situation and ability to pay such fees. Except for the Security Deposit Fee, required fees are non-refundable after the first day of classes.

Required Fees

ROOM AND BOARD FEE

State law requires that students attending the school pay a room-and-board fee. The Board of Directors has established the amount of that fee at $1000 per year. This fee may be paid in two installments, with $500 due August 1 for the fall semester and $500 due December 1 for the spring semester.

Alternate payment schedules may be arranged through the Business Office, 318/357.2500, **in advance** of the August 1 / December 1 deadlines. However, the Room and Board Fee must be paid in full by November 1 for the fall semester, and by March 1 for the spring semester.

The law also provides for reductions and exemptions of that fee based upon a family's financial situation and ability to pay such fee. The Board of Directors has established criteria for reduction/exemption of the fee based upon family income and number of persons in the family, similar to the federal "Free and Reduced Lunch Program." To apply for a reduction/exemption, contact the Business Office for an application form – 318/357.2500 or cblade@lsmsa.edu.

SECURITY DEPOSIT FEE

The Security Deposit Fee is a deposit against damages and losses. When damages occur (e.g., a broken window, damage to a room or furniture, or a book left in the rain), and such damage is attributable to a particular student, then that student is assessed an amount for the costs of repairs or replacement. If a student loses a book, room key, or other school property assigned to the student, that student is assessed an amount for the cost of replacement. The Security Deposit Fee is $140 and is due August 1. There is no provision for reduction, exemption, or extended payment of this fee.

The Security Deposit Fee is held in trust by the school and will be used to pay such damages only when the student refuses to pay the cost of damages or losses. Generally, damages, if any, will be determined and assessed by school staff during room inspection and at semester and year-end book return.

Security Deposit Collection and Final Disposition:

The Security Deposit Fee is initially collected at the beginning of the enrollment in the school and is held until the student graduates or otherwise leaves the school permanently. At that time, the remaining Security Deposit Fee, less any costs of damages, and any other financial obligations will be refunded to the student, or the parent may designate such amount to be contributed in that student's name to the LSMSA Foundation.

If any damages assessed to a student exceed the amount remaining in such student's Security Deposit Fee, then the student shall pay the costs of such damages directly to the school.

FACILITY USE FEE

An annual fee of $10 shall be assigned to help defray costs of general wear and tear, or damages that are no attributable to a particular student. This fee is due August 1. There is no provision for reduction, exemption, or extended payment of this fee.

COMPUTER USE FEE

Pursuant to state law, the Board of Directors has established a Computer Use Fee of $25 per year. This fee is due August 1 and is used for purchases and repairs to the school's instructional computer systems. There is no provision for reduction, exemption, or extended payment of this fee.

SCIENCE LABORATORY FEE

Pursuant to state law, the Board of Directors has established a Science Laboratory Fee of $25 per year. This fee is due August 1 and is used for supplies in the school's science laboratories. There is no provision for reduction, exemption, or extended payment of this fee.

FEES FOR SPECIAL CLASSES

Supply fees are charged for some classes. Payment of these fees is limited to those students enrolled in the class. However, payment must be made within the first week of the semester. **Students who fail to pay the required fees by the deadline will not be permitted to attend class until such fees are paid. Such absences will be counted as unexcused absences**. (see "Unexcused Absences" page 33) These classes are primarily in the Visual Arts and are noted in the description of each course. There is no provision for reduction, exemption, or extended payment of this fee.

Non-Refundable Nature of Fees

All required fees, except the Security Deposit Fee **are non-refundable after the first day of classes each semester**. Checks or money orders for required fees are to be made out to the Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts.

Consequence of Non-Payment

If (1) the Security Deposit Fee, Computer Use Fee, and Science Laboratory Fee have not been paid by August 1 and (2) the Room and Board Fee is not paid by August 1 / December 1, or a payment schedule has been approved by the Business Office, or a reduction/waiver has been granted, **the student will not be allowed to move into the residence hall and will be dropped from enrollment in the school.**

Failure to follow an approved payment schedule for the Room and Board Fee will result in a student's required withdrawal from the school during the school term.

Fines and Penalties

Textbooks

LSMSA issues textbooks and related instructional materials to its students. Failure to return such books and materials to the school at the appointed time will result in fines up to and

including the cost of replacement of such books and materials. Students are issued a book with a particular number. That number must match the record when books are returned. Students who share their books will be held responsible for the particular book issued to them.

The Business Office will assess all fines dealing with textbooks and related instructional material for students.

Library Books

Students at LSMSA are allowed to use Northwestern State University's Watson Memorial Library. Students may check out books, periodicals and other materials. Failure to return such materials promptly will result in the university's levying of fines up to and including the cost of replacement of such items. Privileges will be limited until fines are settled.

Non-Sufficient Funds

A fine of $15 per check may be levied for any non-sufficient funds (NSF) checks written to LSMSA. Privileges may be limited until obligations have been met.