

THE BROWN UNIVERSITY CLASS COORDINATING BOARD

Funding Transparency

Class Coordinating Board (CCB)'s mission is to create a better Brown student experience by conceptualizing and executing campus-wide events to foster community and build tradition among undergraduates. As a branch of student government, our organization is uniquely structured to best support individual class years as well as the entire undergraduate population.

Individual Class Boards: Class Specific Events

Class Board is composed of annually elected representatives, broken into four sub-boards by class. Each board works throughout the year to plan events, activities, trips, and study breaks for its respective class. Some examples of past events include Apple Picking, Fall Formal, Ice Skating, and Dave & Busters Night. Each board gets an annual lump-sum with differing amounts to support their programming. Here's a breakdown of lump-sum amounts:

- First-Year CCB: \$3,000.
- Sophomore CCB: \$6,000.
- Junior CCB: \$11,000.
- Senior CCB: \$15,000.

It's important to note that this model is a pilot program recently launched in Fall 2019 with the advisement of the Undergraduate Finance Board (UFB). If this model is successful, this will become a permanent funding mechanism. For more information on this model, check out the lump-sum policies <u>here</u>! Previously, each individual class board received funding from UFB through annual/supplemental budgeting like other CAT III groups. You can find a breakdown of this historical funding on UFB's <u>website</u>.

CCB General Body: Undergraduate Wide Events

Together, all four boards make up the general body of Class Coordinating Board (CCB). As a general body, we work together to put on large-scale events to promote a greater sense of belonging and community for the entire undergraduate community. These events include A Night on College Hill (ANOCH)*, Gala, Gigs on the Grass, Treat Yourself Week, and Breakfast at Midnight. It's also important to note that any funding that is not used by CCB gets returned to UFB every semester. This historically is on average around \$8,671.

Our events are completely free, with the exception of Gala. For this event, we work with the Dean of the College for Financial Advising to offer FULL financial aid. For the past two years, every single request for financial aid has been met. Through UFB annual budgeting, CCB receives on average around \$77,780 every year to support these events. Any revenue collected from Gala is returned to UFB. Historically, this return has been on average \$30,000 every year.

*The only undergraduate-wide event that is not funded by UFB is A Night on College Hill (ANOCH). This event is funded by the Student Activities Office (SAO) directly. Specifically, ANOCH is allocated \$12,000 every year through an SAO-ANOCH fund.

CCB Senior: Senior Week

Besides planning individual class events and general undergraduate events, CCB is also the organization responsible for planning, coordinating, and managing Senior Week. Senior Week is the week between finals and commencement that exists to celebrate seniors and their experiences and achievements throughout their past four years. The Senior Class Board is responsible for programming this entire week (twenty-two activities in the span of five days), managing the budget, hiring staff members, negotiating contracts for vendors, and working with university partners to ensure student safety and well-being throughout the entire week. CCB works closely with vendors and partners to get the best prices and ensure cost minimization. However, even with that, the cost of the week is around \$280,000. To help fund this event and be as financially inclusive as possible, CCB goes through a laborious process of fundraising within the university. Through donations from the Undergraduate Finance Board, President's Office, and the Office of Advancement, CCB is able to cover some of the costs. Specifically from UFB, CCB historically receives on average around \$19,443. However, to ensure all event costs are met CCB is still required to sell packages at \$210.

This price covers the entire package which includes access to ALL venues and events. We realize that this is a lot of money and we do our best to see how we can provide financial aid as well as accommodate the most people. In the past, our budget only allowed us to discount the package price by 50%. With that being said, we acknowledge that the discounted cost of \$105 is still quite a considerable amount and might be a barrier for buying the package (and attending all events). For this reason, we also provide the ability for seniors to buy tickets for specific events — in this way, seniors will be allowed to attend events that they choose and can pay-per-event.

For senior week to be more accessible, we have also included more events (over the past couple of years) that are completely free. This includes events such as Brown's Finest, Screen on the Green, Unit Wars, etc. We are actively working to continually bring down costs and make Senior Week as accessible as possible to all students. Since financial inclusion is a priority for this year's Senior Board, we've also asked various funding sources including UFB to provide more funding to be able to support 100% financial aid for the highest need students. With that being said, if you have any suggestions or questions regarding senior week, please email <u>seniorweek@brown.edu</u>.

Conclusion

We hope that we've provided some more insight and transparency into our funding mechanisms. Understandably, Class Board's structure is complicated due to our position as a branch of student government but also being treated as a singular umbrella student group made up of four individual groups. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to <u>classboard@brown.edu</u> or anonymously fill out our feedback form <u>here</u>!