

We would like to make you aware of a change in our debit and credit card practice beginning this summer. Along with receiving this email, a letter was sent to your home.

On July 1, 2012, the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University will begin working with a third-party service provider (TouchNet/Pay Path) to process credit card and debit card payments to *student billing accounts*. Beginning July 1st, all billing account payments using a credit card or debit card will be processed by TouchNet. Payments can be made online through our eBilling system using MasterCard, Discover, or American Express credit cards or debit cards (VISA has chosen not to participate). TouchNet will assess a 2.75% fee on each transaction (with a minimum service charge of \$3.00). We will continue to offer other payment methods, including cash, paper checks, and electronic check payments (ACH), which carry no additional charge. We will no longer accept credit card or debit card payments over the telephone or at the cashier stations in the Student Accounts offices. However, we will provide a computer station in the Student Accounts Offices for use by students and parents.

Only student billing account payments are subject to the transaction fee. Other areas on campus will continue to accept credit cards and debit cards (including VISA) without an additional fee, including the Bookstores on each campus, Culinary Services at CSB, Dining Services at SJU, Sexton Commons at SJU, the Hill Museum and Manuscript Library Gift Shop, the Saint John's Liturgical Press and athletic events on both campuses.

Below we have addressed some of the most common questions associated with this change.

Why are you making this change?

While credit card and debit card payments offer convenience, the cost to the two colleges to accept billing account payments totals more than \$700,000 for the 2011-2012 academic year. In an effort to control the rising costs, the colleges are no longer able to absorb these fees. The College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University will not receive any part of the service fee assessed by TouchNet.

We will continue to offer other payment methods, including cash, paper checks, and electronic check payments (ACH), which carry no additional charge.

Do other campuses charge for credit card and debit card payments?

Most private and public colleges in Minnesota have a similar third-party arrangement for credit card and debit card payments and charge a similar or higher fee.

Why don't you accept VISA for tuition payment?

VISA will not permit our vendor to charge a service fee exclusive to credit card or debit card payments. VISA's policy would require us to assess the same convenience fee for families using electronic checking or savings payments. We chose not to change our current practice of providing those services at no cost.

Is there a charge for using a credit card or debit card at other campus departments or offices?

No. Only payments to Student Accounts for your student billing account are subject to the new credit card and debit card policy and fee.

If you have further questions regarding this change, please contact Student Accounts at Saint John's University at (320) 363-2193.