Average Net Price: Public Two-Year

On average, full-time students at public two-year colleges receive enough grant aid and tax benefits to cover their tuition and fees, but the estimated $400 they have available to put toward other expenses in 2019-20 is a decline from almost $1,000 in 2010-11.

- In 2019-20, full-time students at public two-year colleges must cover an average of about $8,600 in room and board after grant aid and tax benefits, in addition to paying for books and supplies and other living expenses.
- Between 1999-00 and 2009-10, average grant aid and tax benefits to public two-year college students rose about $600 more than tuition and fees, reducing net prices.
- Between 2009-10 and 2019-20, the average published tuition and fees at public two-year colleges increased by $670 in 2019 dollars. Average estimated grant aid and tax benefits increased by less than $500 over the decade.

**FIGURE 8** Average Published and Net Prices in 2019 Dollars, Full-Time In-District Undergraduate Students at Public Two-Year Institutions, 1999-00 to 2019-20

- California, which has the lowest public two-year tuition and fees in the nation, enrolls about 19% of the sector’s full-time students. Excluding California would raise both the average published prices and the average estimated net prices.
- The estimated average Pell Grant funding per full-time public two-year college student was about $390 lower (in 2019 dollars) in 2019-20 than in 2010-11.

**ALSO IMPORTANT:**

- California, which has the lowest public two-year tuition and fees in the nation, enrolls about 19% of the sector’s full-time students. Excluding California would raise both the average published prices and the average estimated net prices.
- The estimated average Pell Grant funding per full-time public two-year college student was about $390 lower (in 2019 dollars) in 2019-20 than in 2010-11.
Average Net Price: Public Four-Year

Between 2009-10 and 2019-20, the increase in average grant aid and tax benefits covered only about $300 (15%) of the $2,000 increase in published tuition and fees for full-time in-state students at public four-year colleges and universities.

Between 1999-00 and 2009-10, the increase in average grant aid and tax benefits covered about $2,900 (90%) of the $3,300 tuition and fee increase.

Financial aid grew slightly more while tuition grew much more slowly between 2014-15 and 2019-20 than over the previous five years. As a result, average net price at public four-year institutions rose by about $400 (in 2019 dollars) between 2014-15 and 2019-20, compared with about $1,300 over the first half of the decade.

In 2019-20, full-time in-state students at public four-year colleges must cover an average of about $15,400 in tuition and fees and room and board after grant aid and tax benefits, in addition to paying for books and supplies and other living expenses.

**ALSO IMPORTANT:**

- In 2015-16, 13% of full-time students at public four-year institutions were residents of other states. As reported in Table 1, out-of-state students face much higher tuition prices than in-state students. In 2015-16, full-time out-of-state students received on average $1,500 more grant aid per student than in-state students. (NPSAS, 2016)

- About 85% of the increase in grant aid per student at public four-year colleges and universities between 2009-10 and 2019-20 came from increases in institutional grant aid.

### Average Published and Net Prices and Average Grant Aid and Tax Benefits per Student in 2019 Dollars, Full-Time In-State Undergraduate Students at Public Four-Year Institutions, 1999-00 to 2019-20, Selected Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>99-00</th>
<th>04-05</th>
<th>09-10</th>
<th>14-15</th>
<th>15-16</th>
<th>16-17</th>
<th>17-18</th>
<th>18-19</th>
<th>19-20 (preliminary)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Published Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>$5,170</td>
<td>$6,950</td>
<td>$8,420</td>
<td>$9,850</td>
<td>$10,140</td>
<td>$10,310</td>
<td>$10,460</td>
<td>$10,390</td>
<td>$10,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Published Tuition and Fees and Room and Board (TFRB)</td>
<td>$12,440</td>
<td>$15,420</td>
<td>$18,160</td>
<td>$20,390</td>
<td>$21,040</td>
<td>$21,480</td>
<td>$21,790</td>
<td>$21,790</td>
<td>$21,950</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>$1,800</td>
<td>$2,690</td>
<td>$2,140</td>
<td>$3,450</td>
<td>$3,690</td>
<td>$3,950</td>
<td>$3,880</td>
<td>$3,820</td>
<td>$3,870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net TFRB</td>
<td>$9,070</td>
<td>$11,160</td>
<td>$11,880</td>
<td>$13,990</td>
<td>$14,590</td>
<td>$15,120</td>
<td>$15,210</td>
<td>$15,220</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant Aid and Tax Benefits per Student</td>
<td>$3,370</td>
<td>$4,260</td>
<td>$6,280</td>
<td>$6,400</td>
<td>$6,450</td>
<td>$6,360</td>
<td>$6,580</td>
<td>$6,570</td>
<td>$6,570</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTES:** Estimates of net price exclude military/veterans’ aid, which awards relatively large amounts to a small number of students. Because information on grant aid and education tax benefits for 2019-20 is not yet available, the net price for 2019-20 is estimated based on 2018-19 financial aid data.

**SOURCES:** College Board, Annual Survey of Colleges; Trends in Student Aid 2019; NCES, IPEDS Fall Enrollment and Student Financial Aid data.
The average net tuition and fee price paid by full-time students enrolled in private nonprofit four-year institutions increased from about $13,400 (in 2019 dollars) in 2011-12 to an estimated $14,400 in 2019-20; this net price remains below its level from 2001-02 through 2008-09.

### FIGURE 10
Average Published and Net Prices in 2019 Dollars, Full-Time Undergraduate Students at Private Nonprofit Four-Year Institutions, 1999-00 to 2019-20

- In 2019-20, full-time students at private nonprofit four-year colleges must cover an average of about $27,400 in tuition and fees and room and board after grant aid and tax benefits, in addition to paying for books and supplies and other living expenses.
- Between 2009-10 and 2019-20, the average published tuition and fees at private nonprofit four-year colleges and universities increased by $6,200 in 2019 dollars; average grant aid and tax benefits per student increased by about $5,800. The average net tuition and fee price declined from about $14,000 in 2009-10 to $13,600 in 2014-15 before rising to an estimated $14,400 in 2019-20.
- The share of tuition and fees covered by average grant aid from all sources and federal education tax benefits rose from 44% in 1999-00 to 54% in 2009-10 and to 61% in 2019-20.

### ALSO IMPORTANT:
- In 2019-20, about 70% of the $22,500 in grant aid and tax benefits per student that lowers net prices for full-time students in the private nonprofit four-year sector comes from colleges and universities in the form of discounts from their published prices.
- In 2015-16, 75% of full-time students at private nonprofit four-year institutions received grant aid from their institutions. Thirty-six percent received federal grant aid and 22% received state grant aid. (NPSAS, 2016)

### Average Published and Net Prices and Average Grant Aid and Tax Benefits per Student in 2019 Dollars, Full-Time Undergraduate Students at Private Nonprofit Four-Year Institutions, 1999-00 to 2019-20, Selected Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>99-00</th>
<th>04-05</th>
<th>09-10</th>
<th>14-15</th>
<th>15-16</th>
<th>16-17</th>
<th>17-18</th>
<th>18-19</th>
<th>19-20 (preliminary)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Published Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>$23,890</td>
<td>$27,160</td>
<td>$30,670</td>
<td>$33,690</td>
<td>$34,770</td>
<td>$35,720</td>
<td>$36,380</td>
<td>$36,330</td>
<td>$36,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Published Tuition and Fees and Room and Board (TFRB)</td>
<td>$33,060</td>
<td>$37,210</td>
<td>$41,780</td>
<td>$45,710</td>
<td>$47,170</td>
<td>$48,350</td>
<td>$49,020</td>
<td>$49,160</td>
<td>$49,870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>$13,430</td>
<td>$15,390</td>
<td>$13,960</td>
<td>$13,600</td>
<td>$14,070</td>
<td>$14,400</td>
<td>$14,250</td>
<td>$13,830</td>
<td>$14,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net TFRB</td>
<td>$22,600</td>
<td>$25,440</td>
<td>$25,070</td>
<td>$25,620</td>
<td>$26,470</td>
<td>$27,030</td>
<td>$26,890</td>
<td>$26,660</td>
<td>$27,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Aid and Tax Benefits per Student</td>
<td>$10,460</td>
<td>$11,770</td>
<td>$16,710</td>
<td>$20,090</td>
<td>$20,700</td>
<td>$21,320</td>
<td>$22,130</td>
<td>$22,500</td>
<td>$22,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTES:** Estimates of net price exclude military/veterans’ aid, which awards relatively large amounts to a small number of students. Because information on grant aid and education tax benefits for 2019-20 is not yet available, the net price for 2019-20 is estimated based on 2018-19 financial aid data.

**SOURCES:** College Board, Annual Survey of Colleges; *Trends in Student Aid* 2019; NCES, IPEDS Fall Enrollment and Student Financial Aid data.