



Who is Paying for a Florida Student's Education?

Does tuition pay the full cost of a Florida student's undergraduate education at a state university?

No. For students attending a public university and paying Florida resident tuition, the cost of an education is much higher than the amount paid by the student in tuition. These other costs are borne by the State of Florida.

How much does the State contribute for an undergraduate Florida student?

For 2004-2005, it is estimated that the state will pay 69% of the cost of education, with the student paying the remaining 31%, assuming the student did not receive any state-funded financial aid.

If state-funded financial aid (such as Bright Futures and need-based aid) is taken into account, resident undergraduates will pay even less for their education. Thus, for those students receiving a full Bright Futures Scholarship, the state will pay 100% of their cost of education.

By comparison, for 2003-2004 the State of Texas average per credit hour cost was \$281, with the average undergraduate resident student paying \$91.90 per credit hour. Thus, Texas undergraduate students are contributing approximately 33% of their cost of education.

Pursuant to the Washington Higher Education Board's annual survey, Florida ranked 49th in undergraduate resident tuition and fees for the 2003-2004 school year for public flagship institutions. Only Nevada was lower than Florida.

How much did the state contribute in financial assistance?

In addition to the state's general funding of higher education, the state is providing roughly \$208 million in Bright Futures Scholarships, \$34 million in Florida Student Assistance Grants, and \$20.2 million in Student Financial Aid for Florida students to attend state universities in 2004-2005.

What activities are included in calculating the cost of education?

The calculation used for determining the cost of education does not capture all the costs involved in operating a university. The largest activity included in the calculation is classroom instruction. Other activities include student advising, libraries, student services, university support, physical plant upkeep and management, academic administration, and financial aid.

Other operating costs at the institution such as research, public service, institutes and research centers, radio and TV stations, museums, and art galleries provide numerous educational opportunities and experiences for students, but are not included in calculating the direct cost of a student's undergraduate education.

What about the other fees paid by students?

Students do pay other standard fees, such as Athletic, Health, Activity & Service, Building, and Capital Improvement. These fees fund a specific activity or service and do not contribute towards the cost of the student's general undergraduate education.

For detailed calculations, see the following.

Estimated State and Student Share of Education Costs, Florida Undergraduates, 2004-05		
<u>Without Financial Aid (Bright Futures, Need-Based Aid, etc.)</u>		
Total cost per student assuming 30 credit hours:	\$6,623	100.0%
Resident student's tuition (\$68.16 times 30 credit hours):	\$2,045	30.9%
State's contribution:	\$4,578	69.1%
<u>With a Bright Futures Academic Scholars Award (pays 100% of the tuition)</u>		
Total cost per student assuming 30 credit hours:	\$6,623	100.0%
Resident student's tuition:	\$0	0%
State's contribution:	\$6,623	100%
<u>With a Bright Futures Medallion Scholars Award (pays 75% of the tuition)</u>		
Total cost per student assuming 30 credit hours:	\$6,623	100.0%
Resident student's tuition:	\$511	7.7%
State's contribution:	\$6,112	92.3%

2004-2005 Estimated Calculations:

System calculation:

1. Total undergraduate expenditures:	\$ 1,329,243,831
2. Total undergraduate student credit hours (SCH):	6,021,317
3. Total expenditures per SCH (line 1 / line 2):	\$220.76
4. Resident student tuition per SCH:	\$68.16

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