



COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY IN OHIO

Over the past 10 years, the State of Ohio has disinvested in its public colleges and its highest need students. Ohio ranks 45th in the nation on key affordability metrics.

State Disinvestment in Public Higher Education

Ohio's State Share of Instruction, the primary public funding source for 2-year and 4-year public colleges, has remained flat since FY08. This amounts to a decline of \$1,073 (15%) per college student from 2008-2017.

Source: Policy Matters Ohio

Large Student Loan Debt Loads

62% of Ohioans graduate with debt – the 10th highest rate in the nation. On average, Ohio's students graduate with \$30,629, the 17th highest debt load in the nation.

Source: The Institute for College Access and Success

Rising College Costs

Tuition and fees at 2-year and 4-year public colleges have grown over the past 10 years by 15% and 8% respectively. This keeps costs at 2-year and 4-year public colleges higher than national averages by 8% and 7% respectively.

Source: The College Board

OHIO'S HIGH COST OF COLLEGE HAS MAJOR ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES:

1. Keeps talented low- and middle-income students from pursuing or completing education beyond high school, resulting in untapped human potential.
2. Widens the skills gap where jobs remain unfilled due to a lack of qualified workers.
3. Limits the State's ability to attract and/or retain employers who have concerns regarding the availability of a skilled workforce.

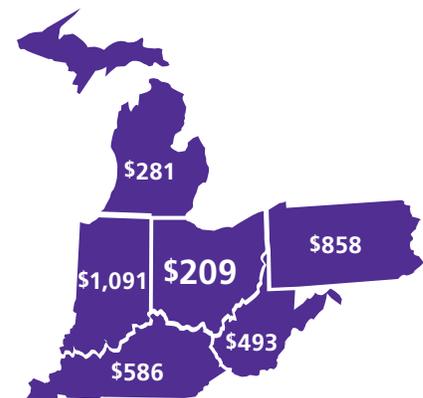
Major Declines to Need-Based Aid

Ohio's only need-based aid program, the Ohio College Opportunity Grant, has dropped from its peak of \$223 million in FY08 to \$101 million in FY19 – a decline of 54%.

Source: Ohio Legislative Services Commission

Ohio: Last in the Region

Students, on average, receive \$209 annually through the Ohio College Opportunity Grant.



National average is \$624; dollars are per undergraduate full-time equivalent enrollment, 2016-2017.

Source: NASSGAP

TO REDUCE THE COST OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND CREATE A STRONGER MORE SKILLED WORKFORCE OHIO MUST:

1. Fund the Ohio College Opportunity Grant at pre-recession levels, \$245 million (after inflation).
2. Increase the State Share of Instruction by a minimum of \$180 million annually.
3. Continue to mandate modest tuition and fee caps at public colleges and universities.
4. Impose tighter restrictions regarding State-facilitated student loan debt collections.