

Delaware

College Affordability Profile 2018

The socioeconomic future of SREB states depends in large part on substantially increasing the number of residents with postsecondary credentials of value. As the population of SREB states become more diversified, Delaware faces a critical challenge to help more people succeed in postsecondary education and earn a living wage. This 2018 college affordability profile illustrates how affordable different public institutions are for Delaware families at various income levels.

What Percentage of Average Family Income Is Required to Attend College Full Time?

In 2015-16, families in Delaware needed on average nearly 31 percent of their income to pay for educational expenses for a full-time student at the public category 1 institution and 40 percent at the public category 2 institution. These percentages were much higher than they were in 2010-11. While the percentage needed at the category 1 institution was almost the same as SREB and national averages in 2015-16, the percentage needed at the category 2 institution was much higher.

For a full-time student at the public two-year institution, families in Delaware needed to pay, on average, 17 percent of their income in 2015-16 to cover educational expenses. This was somewhat lower than the 18 percent needed in 2010-11 and close to the SREB and national averages in 2015-16.

	Delaware, 2010-11	Delaware, 2015-16	SREB Average, 2015-16	U.S. Average, 2015-16
Public Four-Year Category 1	26.1%	30.5%	30.5%	30.8%
Public Four-Year Category 2	28.1%	40.1%	28.8%	27.9%
Public Two-Year	18.4%	17.3%	17.0%	18.2%

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Directory files 2010 and 2015, Student Financial Aid files and 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity files 2011 and 2016; American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples 2010 and 2015. Institutional sectors are based on SREB-State Data Exchange categories.

How Much Is Spent Per Student on Financial Aid?

Delaware spent \$392 on average per full-time-equivalent student on need-based aid in 2015-16 compared to \$393 in 2010-11. The SREB average was \$343 and the national average was \$376 in 2015-16. The state spent \$213, on average per FTE, for merit-based aid in 2015-16, much less than the SREB average at \$416 but more than the national average of \$168.

Financial Aid Category	Delaware, 2010-11	Delaware, 2015-16	SREB Average, 2015-16	U.S. Average, 2015-16
Need Only	\$393	\$392	\$343	\$376
Need and Merit	\$1	\$22	\$135	\$214
Merit Only	\$131	\$213	\$416	\$168
Special Purpose	\$7	\$2	\$64	\$39
Uncategorized	\$22	\$28	\$18	\$7

Sources: National Association of State Student Grant & Aid Programs 2011 and 2016 annual surveys (results for public institutions only); U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity files, 2011 and 2016, and Directory files, 2010 and 2015.

For Families Making Less Than \$30,000, What Percentage of Income Is Required for Tuition at Lowest-Priced Colleges?

Eighteen percent of families in Delaware made less than \$30,000 in 2015. For these families, the cost of tuition and fees at the lowest-priced public institutions was 16 percent of income that year, compared to 14 percent in 2010-11. These percentages were similar to the SREB and national averages in 2010-11 and 2015-16

	2010-11	2015-16
Percentage of Families Earning Less than \$30,000 Annually	18%	18%
Tuition and Fees at Lowest-Priced Public Colleges	\$2,598	\$2,841
Average Income of Delaware Families Earning Less than \$30,000 Annually	\$18,198	\$17,361
Percentage of Income Needed for Tuition and Fees at the Lower-Priced Public Institutions	14%	16%
SREB Average	13%	17%
U.S. Average	15%	18%

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Student Charges files and Directory files 2010 and 2015, 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity files 2011 and 2016; American Community Survey Public Use Micro Sample files 2010 and 2015.

How Much Do Graduates Borrow?

Graduates who sought a degree or certificate from the public four-year category 1 university in Delaware in 2015-16 borrowed, on average, \$24,203, and graduates of the four-year category 2 institution borrowed \$28,500, on average. These amounts were noticeably higher than average amounts borrowed in 2010-11 and higher than SREB and national averages in 2015-16.

Students at the public two-year college borrowed, on average, \$5,000 in 2015-16, less than the average amount borrowed in 2010-11 and nearly one-half of SREB and national averages.

	Delaware, 2010-11	Delaware, 2015-16	SREB Average, 2015-16	U.S. Average, 2015-16
Public Four-Year Category 1	\$19,250	\$24,203	\$21,703	\$21,505
Public Four-Year Category 2	\$26,344	\$28,500	\$22,391	\$19,893
Public Two-Year	\$6,543	\$5,000	\$9,829	\$9,655

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, College Scorecard, 2010 and 2015; Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity files 2011 and 2016 and Directory files 2010 and 2015. Institutional sectors are based on SREB State Data Exchange categories.

A Closer Look at Family Ability to Pay

SREB’s Commission on College Affordability defined affordability as the relationship of the price required to attend higher education — or the net price — to family income.

Net price is the sum of tuition and required fees, plus room and board, books and other expenses, minus grant aid students receive from the federal or state government or the institution.

Net Price as a Percentage of Income, Public Four-Year Category 1 Institutions

At Delaware’s public four-year category 1 institutions, families making less than \$30,000 in 2015 needed close to 68 percent of their income for educational expenses. In 2010, that percentage was 54 percent. Families making between \$30,000 and \$48,000 needed nearly 31 percent of their income for a full-time student in 2015-16; these families needed 26 percent of their income in 2010-11 to cover educational expenses.

Family Income	Average in This Income Level, 2015	Percentage of Families in This Income Level, 2015	Net Price, 2015-16	Percentage of 2010 Income Needed	Percentage of 2015 Income Needed
Income \$0 - \$30,000	\$17,361	18%	\$11,750	54%	68%
Income \$30,000 - \$48,000	\$39,407	14%	\$12,038	26%	31%
Income \$48,000 - \$75,000	\$60,919	21%	\$13,909	21%	23%
Income \$75,000 - \$110,000	\$91,205	21%	\$17,736	19%	19%
Income \$110,000 and above	\$183,080	26%	\$22,307	11%	12%

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Directory files 2010 and 2015, Student Financial Aid files and 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity files 2011 and 2016; American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, 2010 and 2015. Institutional sectors are based on SREB-State Data Exchange categories.

Net Price as a Percentage of Income, Public Four-Year Category 2 Institutions

At the public four-year category 2 institution in Delaware, families making less than \$30,000 in 2015 needed 91 percent of their income for educational expenses compared to 59 percent in 2010. Families making between \$30,000 and \$48,000 needed 43 percent of their income in 2015 compared to 33 percent in 2010-11 for a full-time student.

Family Income	Average in This Income Level, 2015	Percentage of Families in This Income Level, 2015	Net Price, 2015-16	Percentage of 2010 Income Needed	Percentage of 2015 Income Needed
Income \$0 - \$30,000	\$17,361	18%	\$15,762	59%	91%
Income \$30,000 - \$48,000	\$39,407	14%	\$16,921	33%	43%
Income \$48,000 - \$75,000	\$60,919	21%	\$19,624	22%	32%
Income \$75,000 - \$110,000	\$91,205	21%	\$20,950	17%	23%
Income \$110,000 and above	\$183,080	26%	\$21,177	9%	12%

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Directory files 2010 and 2015, Student Financial Aid files and 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity files 2011 and 2016; American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, 2010 and 2015. Institutional sectors are based on SREB-State Data Exchange categories.

Net Price as a Percentage of Income, Public Two-Year Institutions

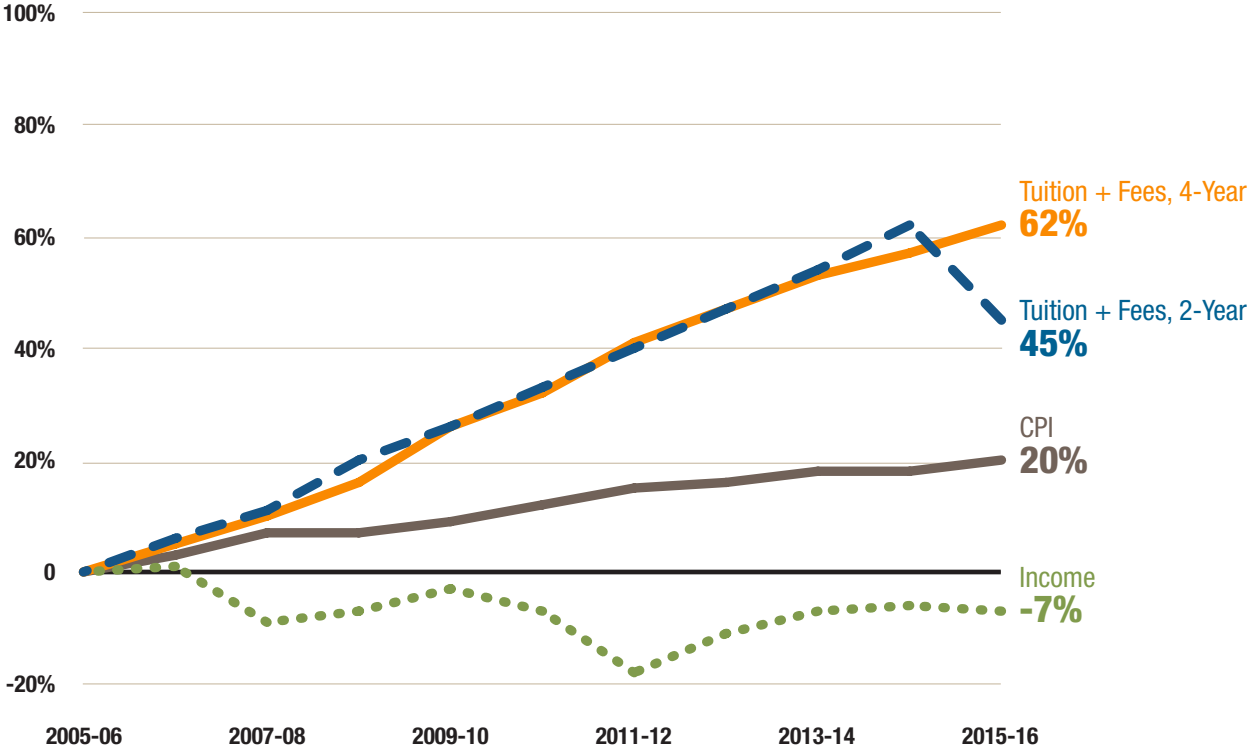
At the public two-year institution in Delaware, families making less than \$30,000 in 2015 needed 38 percent of their income for educational expenses compared to 24 percent in 2010. Families making between \$30,000 and \$48,000 in 2015 needed 19 percent of their income for a full-time student, only slightly higher than the 18 percent needed in 2010.

Family Income	Average in This Income Level, 2015	Percentage of Families in This Income Level, 2015	Net Price, 2015-16	Percentage of 2010 Income Needed	Percentage of 2015 Income Needed
Income \$0 - \$30,000	\$17,361	18%	\$6,597	24%	38%
Income \$30,000 - \$48,000	\$39,407	14%	\$7,331	18%	19%
Income \$48,000 - \$75,000	\$60,919	21%	\$8,397	13%	14%
Income \$75,000 - \$110,000	\$91,205	21%	\$9,813	NA	11%
Income \$110,000 and above	\$183,080	26%	\$10,189	NA	6%

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Directory files 2010 and 2015, Student Financial Aid files and 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity Files 2011 and 2016; American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, 2010 and 2015. Institutional sectors are based on SREB-State Data Exchange categories.

Changes in Tuition and Fees, CPI, and Income

Compared to the Consumer Price Index and household income, tuition and fees at Delaware public colleges and universities increased substantially between 2006 and 2016. Over that decade, the CPI increased by 20 percent while household income declined by 7 percent, while tuition and fees at four-year institutions increased by 62 percent and by 45 percent at two-year campuses.

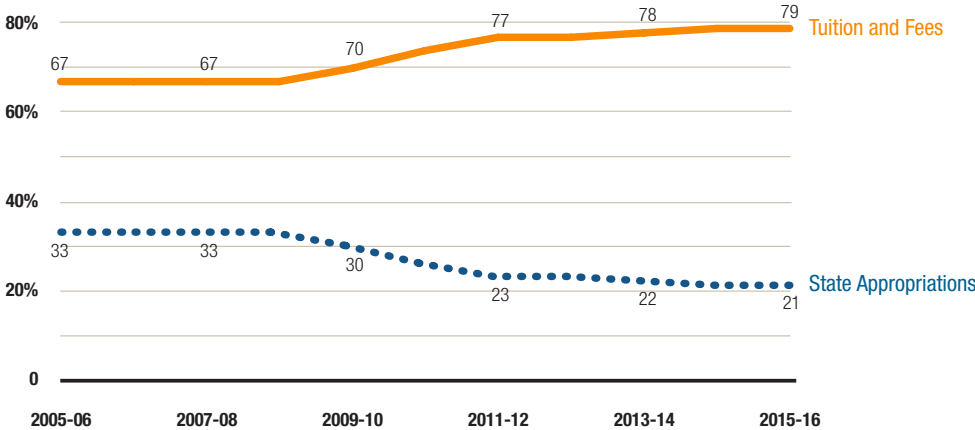


Sources: Consumer Price Index retrieved from FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; Bureau of Labor Statistics, South urban area, 2016. Tuition and fees retrieved from the U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Institutional Characteristics files, 2005 to 2015. Median household income retrieved from FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplements, South region, 2018.

Ratio of State Appropriations and Tuition and Fee Revenues

Public Four-Year Institutions

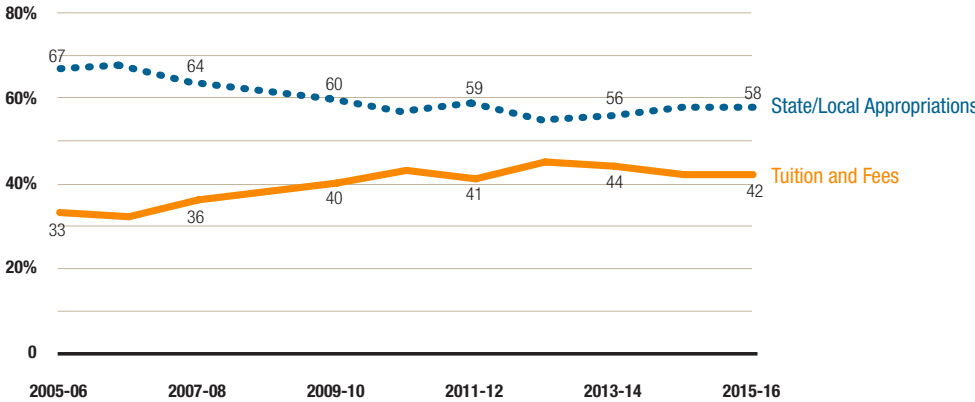
In 2015-16, net tuition and fees at Delaware’s four-year institutions made up 79 percent of total funds available for operations of the state’s public institutions, while state appropriations supplied the remaining 21 percent. In comparison, state appropriations provided 33 percent in 2005-06.



Source: SREB-State Data Exchange.

Public Two-Year Institutions

Since 2005-06, Delaware’s two-year college funding sources for operational revenue have shifted more to tuition and fees and away from state and local appropriations. Although appropriations provided 67 percent of revenues in 2005-06, that share had dropped to 58 percent by 2015-16; tuition and fees made up 42 percent of revenues that year compared to 33 percent in 2005-06.



Source: SREB-State Data Exchange.

Additional Context

Attainment — In 2016, 43 percent of Delaware’s working adult population between ages 25 and 64 had a postsecondary credential of value. Delaware does not currently have a statewide educational attainment goal.

Poverty — In 2016, 17 percent of children in Delaware were living in poverty. This was down from 2010, when 19 percent were living in poverty. The SREB region and the nation saw overall declines in this rate from 26 to 23 percent and from 22 to 20 percent during this time period, respectively.

FAFSA — Through June 2018, approximately 69 percent of Delaware’s 2017-18 12th grade class had completed a FAFSA application, a one-year increase of almost 3 percent. Nationwide, the FAFSA completion rate was nearly 61 percent.

Enrollment — In 2015-16, 59 percent of students in Delaware were enrolled in the public four-year category 1 institution, 12 percent were enrolled at the public four-year category 2 institution and nearly 29 percent were enrolled in the public two-year college.

Automation — A recent study has found that individuals face a reduced risk of job automation if they have achieved a higher level of educational attainment and that “Artificial Intelligence puts more low-skilled jobs at risk than previous waves of technological progress.” According to this study, approximately 10 percent of the jobs in the United States can be considered at high risk of automation (in that they have an over 70 percent probability of being automated), with roughly an additional 25 percent of jobs at risk of significant change due to automation.

Sources: Educational attainment: State higher education master plans and Lumina Foundation, “A Stronger Nation,” 2017. Children in poverty: U.S. Census Bureau. FAFSA completion: National College Access Network. Enrollment: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data Systems, 2016. Automation: Nedelkoska, L. and G. Quintini, “Automation, skills use and training,” OECD, 2018

Delaware Institutions by Type

Public Four-Year Category 1

The University of Delaware

Public Four-Year Category 2

Delaware State University

Public Two-Year

Delaware Technical Community College-Terry

Notes and Sources

Category 1 four-year institutions award at least 30 doctoral degrees in five different areas. **Category 2** includes all other four-year institutions. The **public two-year category** includes institutions that primarily award associate degrees; the list may include two-year institutions that award bachelor's degrees.

Institutions are listed as they were categorized in the 2015-16 Data Exchange Survey and if they submitted the data required for this profile.

This profile is based on data reported to IPEDS by institutions during the 2010-11 and 2015-16 academic years. Some IPEDS surveys collect data for the prior academic year; for instance, the 2015-16 Student Financial Aid survey reports data for 2014-15.

Institutions or states may update data that were previously reported to an organization or adjust the methodology to calculate a statistic. As a result, some data reported in past Affordability Profiles may differ from data in the current profile, even though the data are for the same time period.

See the technical guide at SREB.org/Affordability for detailed sources and explanatory notes.

SREB College Affordability Profiles detail data and trends specific to each SREB state to assist policymakers with decisions on postsecondary affordability and attainment. For additional resources, including recommendations of the Commission on College Affordability in the South and the SREB Fact Book on Higher Education, visit SREB.org/Affordability.