College affordability continues to be a concern for students and their families in Florida, particularly those in lower income groups. This, along with declining birth rates and other factors, makes maintaining enrollment challenging for postsecondary institutions. Decreasing or stagnant enrollment will, in turn, make reaching state education attainment goals and improving students’ employment outcomes more difficult. This 2019 college affordability profile provides updated data on how affordable different types of public institutions are for Florida families at various income levels.

**Percentage of Average Family Income Required to Attend College Full Time**

In 2016-17, the percentage of family income required to pay for college in Florida was lower than the SREB average for four-year Type 1 and Type 2 institutions.

Families in Florida paid a higher percentage of their family income in 2016-17 for a full-time student to attend four-year and technical institutions than in 2011-12.

Families in Florida needed, on average, 25% of their income in 2016-17 to pay for educational expenses for a full-time student at four-year Type 1 and at four-year Type 2 institutions.

In 2016-17 families in Florida needed to pay, on average, 17% and 30% of their income in 2016-17 to cover educational expenses at two-year and technical institutions, respectively.

*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 https://www.sreb.org/AffordabilityProfiles.*
%Income Distribution of Average Family Income

Data on cost of attendance are collected using five income categories. In Florida, students from families that made less than $30,000 accounted for the largest percentage of families in 2011 and 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Range</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≤$30k</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;$30k to $48k</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;$48k to $75k</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;$75k to $110k</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;$110k</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Percentage of Income Required for Tuition at Lowest-Priced Colleges for Families Making Less Than $30,000

The percentage of income required for tuition and fees at the lowest-priced public institutions remained stable from 2011-12 to 2016-17 for Florida families making less than $30,000.

For families making less than $30,000, the cost of tuition and fees at the lowest-priced public institutions averaged 12% of income in 2011-12 and 2016-17.

The percentage of income for Florida families making less than $30,000 was lower than the SREB and national averages in 2011-12 and 2016-17.

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

Florida families in the **lowest income category** were the **most affected** by the increase in net price at **four-year Type 1 institutions**.

The increase in the percentage of income needed to pay for four-year Type 1 institutions in Florida was larger for families making less than $30,000 than for any other income category.

Families making less than $30,000 in 2011 needed 49% of their income to pay for educational expenses. In 2016 it was 52%.

Families making over $110,000 only needed 8% of their income in 2011 and 9% in 2016 to cover expenses at these institutions.

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

Florida families making less than $30,000 were the **most affected by the rising cost of attendance** at **four-year Type 2 institutions**.

The increase in the percentage of income needed to pay for four-year Type 2 institutions in Florida was larger for families making less than $30,000 than for any other income category.

Families making less than $30,000 in 2011 needed 41% of their income to pay for educational expenses. In 2016 it was 54%.

Families making over $110,000 only needed 8% of their income in 2011 and 9% of their income in 2016 to cover expenses at these institutions.
Net Price as a Percentage of Income, Public Two-Year Institutions

The **percentage of income** that Florida families needed to pay for educational expenses at two-year institutions **decreased** from 2011 to 2016.

The percentage of income needed to pay for two-year institutions in Florida was larger for families making less than $30,000 than for any other income category.

At Florida’s two-year institutions, families making less than $30,000 in 2011 needed 43% of their income to pay for educational expenses. In 2016 it was 34%.

Families making over $110,000 only needed 6% of their income in 2011 and 5% in 2016 to cover expenses at these institutions.

**Net Price as a Percentage of Income, Public Technical Institutions**

Florida’s **technical institutions** required a **higher percentage of family income** to pay for education expenses in 2016 than 2011.

The increase in the percentage of income needed to pay for technical institutions in Florida was larger for families making less than $30,000 than for any other income category.

At Florida’s technical institutions, families making less than $30,000 in 2011 needed 44% of their income to pay for educational expenses. In 2016 it was 58%.

Families making over $75,000 needed 17% of their income in 2011 and 11% in 2016 to cover expenses at these institutions.
**State Financial Aid Per Student**

Florida awarded less need-based aid in 2016-17 per full-time-equivalent (FTE) student than the SREB and national averages. However, need-based aid increased from 2011-12 to 2016-17.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Need Only</th>
<th>Need and Merit</th>
<th>Merit Only</th>
<th>Special Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Florida (2011-12)</td>
<td>$170</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$473</td>
<td>$23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida (2016-17)</td>
<td>$204</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$310</td>
<td>$45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SREB Average (2016-17)</td>
<td>$351</td>
<td>$137</td>
<td>$397</td>
<td>$69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Average (2016-17)</td>
<td>$382</td>
<td>$225</td>
<td>$163</td>
<td>$44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The state spent $170 on average per undergraduate FTE student on need-based aid in 2011-12 compared to $204 in 2016-17. The SREB average in 2016-17 was $351 and the national average was $382.

Florida spent $310, on average, per FTE for merit-based financial aid in 2016-17, close to the SREB average of $397 but more than the national average of $163.
Student Borrowing at Public Institutions

In 2016-17, Florida graduates borrowed less than the SREB and national averages to earn degrees at public four-year Type 1 and two-year institutions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Florida 2011-12</th>
<th>Florida 2016-17</th>
<th>SREB Average 2016-17</th>
<th>US Average 2016-17</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Four-Year Type 1</td>
<td>$15,183</td>
<td>$17,934</td>
<td>$21,546</td>
<td>$21,139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four-Year Type 2</td>
<td>$16,412</td>
<td>$19,389</td>
<td>$22,198</td>
<td>$19,115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two-Year</td>
<td>$6,556</td>
<td>$8,277</td>
<td>$9,693</td>
<td>$9,356</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graduates who sought a degree or certificate from four-year Type 1 universities in Florida in 2016-17 borrowed, on average, $17,934 and graduates of four-year Type 2 institutions borrowed $19,389. These amounts were noticeably higher than average amounts borrowed in 2011-12, but lower than the SREB averages in 2016-17.

Students at public two-year colleges borrowed, on average, $8,277 in 2016-17, much more than the average amount in 2011-12 but lower than the SREB and national averages in 2016-17.
Changes in Tuition and Fees, CPI, and Household Income

Compared to the Consumer Price Index and household income, tuition and fees at Florida public four-year colleges and universities increased substantially between 2006-07 and 2016-17.

Over that decade, the CPI increased by 19% and median household income in Florida increased by 16%, while tuition and fees increased by 95% at four-year institutions and 30% at two-year institutions.

State Appropriations vs. Tuition and Fees: Share of Funding

Operational funds consisted mostly of state appropriations for Florida’s public four-year institutions in 2016-17.

In 2016-17, state appropriations at Florida’s four-year institutions made up 58% of total funds available for operations of the state’s public institutions, while net tuition and fees supplied the remaining 42%. In comparison, state appropriations provided 71% in 2006-07.

Operational funds consisted mostly of state appropriations for Florida’s public two-year institutions in 2016-17.

State appropriations dropped slightly from 62% in 2006-07 to 60% in 2016-17. Net tuition and fees made up 38% of revenues in 2006-07 compared to 40% in 2016-17.
Additional State Context

Postsecondary Enrollment. In 2016-17, 34% of students in Florida were enrolled in public four-year Type 1 institutions, 8% were enrolled at public four-year Type 2 institutions, almost 54% were enrolled in public two-year colleges, and 4% were enrolled in public technical colleges.

First-Year Retention. For the fall 2016 cohort, 91% of students attending public four-year Type 1 institutions in Florida were still enrolled one year later, 80% were retained after the first year in public four-year Type 2 institutions, and 74% were retained at public two-year colleges.*

Pell Grants. In 2016-17, 19% of the average cost of attendance in public four-year Type 1 institutions in Florida was covered by the average Pell Grant award. The average grant amount covered 20% of costs in public four-year Type 2 institutions and 29% of costs in public two-year colleges.

Education Attainment. In 2017, over 49% of Florida’s working adult population between ages 25 and 64 had a postsecondary credential of value. The state’s educational attainment goal is to reach 55% by 2025.

Student Debt. In Florida, 44% of the class of 2018 graduated with debt, owing an average of $24,428.


*The SREB-State Data Exchange does not collect retention data from Florida technical colleges.

Florida Institutions by Type

Public Four-Year Type
University of Central Florida
Florida Atlantic University
Florida International University
Florida State University
University of Florida
University of South Florida-Main Campus

Public Four-Year Type 2
Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
University of North Florida
The University of West Florida
New College of Florida
Florida Gulf Coast University
University of South Florida-St Petersburg
University of South Florida-Sarasota-Manatee
Florida Polytechnic University
University of Florida-Online

Public Two-Year
Eastern Florida State College
Broward College
College of Central Florida
Chipola College
Daytona State College
Florida SouthWestern State College
Florida State College at Jacksonville
Florida Keys Community College
Gulf Coast State College
Hillsborough Community College
Indian River State College
Florida Gateway College
Lake Sumter State College
State College of Florida-Manatee-Sarasota
Miami Dade College
North Florida Community College
Northwest Florida State College
10
Palm Beach State College
Pasco-Hernando State College
Pensacola State College
Polk State College
St Petersburg College
Santa Fe College
Seminole State College of Florida
Saint Johns River State College
South Florida State College
Tallahassee Community College
Valencia College

**Technical Colleges**
Atlantic Technical College
Bradford-Union Technical Center
Charlotte Technical College
Lorenzo Walker Technical College
George Stone Technical Center
George T. Baker Aviation Technical College
Lake Technical College
Fort Myers Technical College
Lively Technical Center
Lindsey Hopkins Technical College
Manatee Technical College
Traviss Technical College
Miami Lakes Educational Center and Technical College
Orange Technical College-Mid Florida Campus
Orange Technical College-Orlando Campus
Pinellas Technical College-Clearwater
Radford M. Locklin Technical Center
Ridge Technical College
Robert Morgan Educational Center and Technical College
First Coast Technical College
Pinellas Technical College-St. Petersburg
Suncoast Technical College
Sheridan Technical College
RIVEROAK Technical College
Taylor Technical Institute
Tom P. Haney Technical Center
Florida Panhandle Technical College
Orange Technical College-Westside Campus
William T. McFatter Technical College
Orange Technical College-Winter Park Campus
Withlacoochee Technical College
Brewster Technical College
Erwin Technical College
Marion Technical College
Technical Education Center-Osceola
Cape Coral Technical College
Okaloosa Technical College
M-DCPS The English Center
Emerald Coast Technical College
Immokalee Technical College
Marchman Technical Education Center
Flagler Technical Institute
D. A. Dorsey Technical College
Aparicio-Levy Technical College
Fred D. Learey Technical College
School District of Indian River County-Technical Center for Career and Adult Education
South Dade Technical College-South Dade Skills Center Campus
Notes

**Type 1** four-year institutions award at least 30 doctoral degrees in five different areas. **Type 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. The **technical college category** includes postsecondary institutions that offer programs of less than two years duration below the baccalaureate level and occupational and vocational schools with programs that do not exceed 1800 contact hours. This profile does not report data for the technical college category if less than 3% of students are enrolled in this sector.

Institutions are listed as they were categorized in the 2016-17 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 2016-17 academic year. Some IPEDS surveys collect data for the prior academic year; for instance, the 2016-17 Student Financial Aid survey collected data for 2015-16.

Institutions or states may have updated data previously reported, or adjusted methodology to calculate a statistic. As a result, some data in the current profile may differ from data reported in past Affordability Profiles for the same time period.

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