

Texas

College Affordability Profile

College affordability continues to be a concern for students and their families in Texas, 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 Texas families at various income levels.

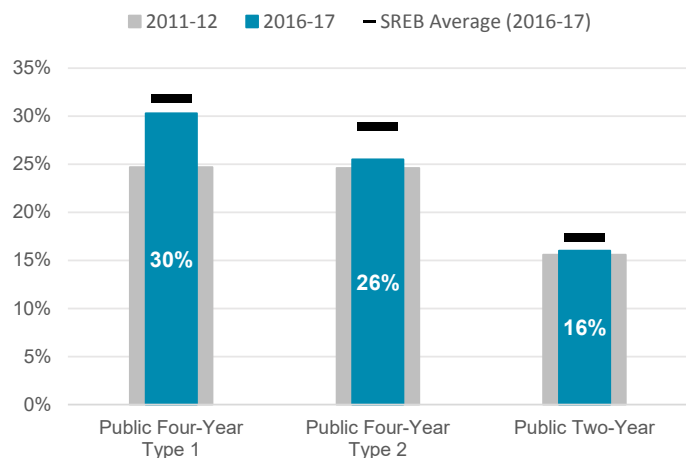
Percentage of Average Family Income Required to Attend College Full Time

In 2016-17, the percentage of family income required to pay for college in Texas was **slightly lower than the SREB averages** for **four-year and two-year institutions**.

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

Families in Texas needed, on average, 30% of their income in 2016-17 to pay for educational expenses for a full-time student at four-year Type 1 institutions and 26% at four-year Type 2 institutions.

In 2016-17, Texas families needed to pay, on average, 16% of their income to cover educational expenses at two-year institutions.

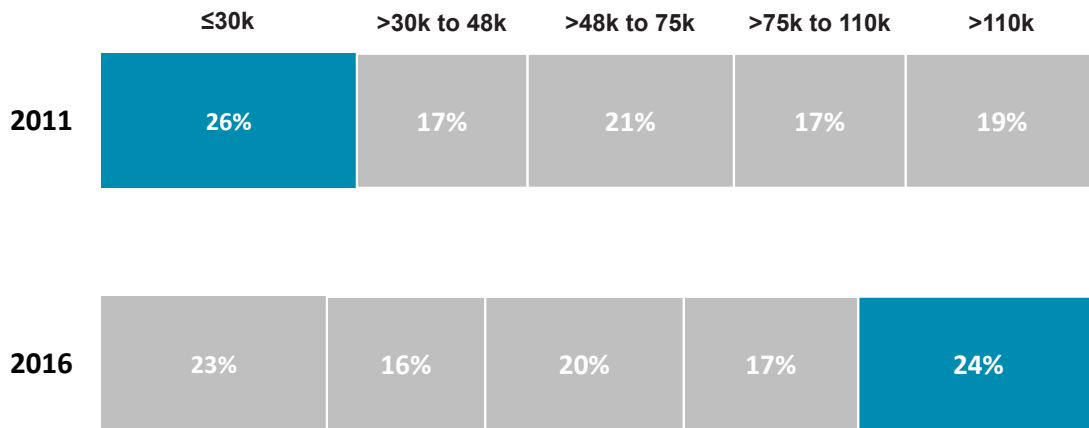


U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Student Financial Aid Files and Directory Files 2011 and 2016, 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity Files 2012 and 2017. American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples 2011 and 2016. Institutional types based on SREB-State Data Exchange categories.

SREB College Affordability Profiles detail data and trends specific to each SREB state to assist policy-makers 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>.

Distribution of Average Family Income

Data on cost of attendance are collected using five income categories. In Texas, students from families that **made less than \$30,000** accounted for **the largest percentage of families in 2011** and families that **made over \$110,000** accounted for **the largest percentage of families in 2016**.



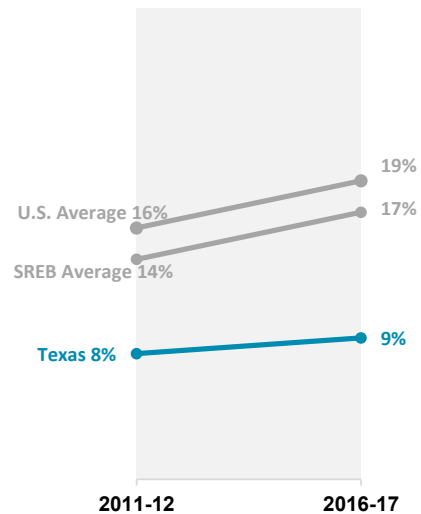
Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Student Financial Aid Files and Directory Files 2011 and 2016.

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 Texas 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 9% of income in 2016-17, compared to 8% in 2011-12.

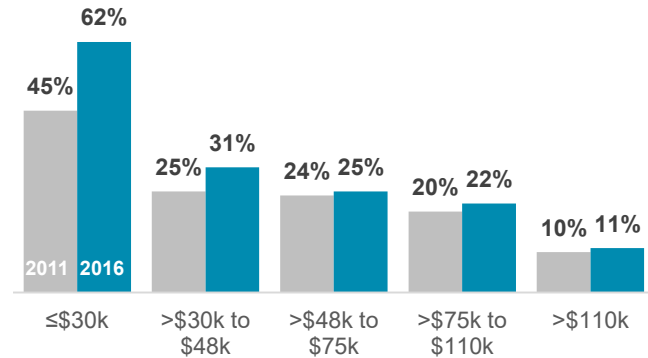
The percentage of income for Texas families making less than \$30,000 was lower than the SREB and national averages in 2011-12 and 2016-17.



U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Student Charges Data Files and Directory Files 2010 and 2015, 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity Data Files 2012 and 2017. American Community Survey Public Use Micro Sample Files 2011 and 2016.

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

Texas 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 Texas was much larger for families making less than \$30,000 than for any other income category.

Families making less than \$30,000 in 2011 needed 45% of their income to pay for educational expenses. In 2016 it was 62%.

Families making over \$110,000 only needed 10% of their income in 2011 and 11% in 2016 to cover expenses at these institutions.

U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Student Financial Aid Files and Directory Files 2011 and 2016, 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity Files 2012 and 2017. American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, 2011 and 2016. Institutional types based on SREB-State Data Exchange categories.

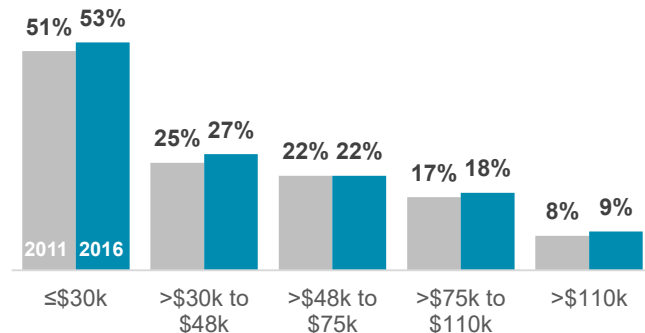
Net Price as a Percentage of Income, Public Four-Year Type 2 Institutions

Texas families in the **two lowest income categories** were the **most affected** by the 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 Texas was larger for families making \$48,000 or less than for other income categories.

Families making less than \$30,000 in 2011 needed 51% of their income to pay for educational expenses. In 2016 it was 53%.

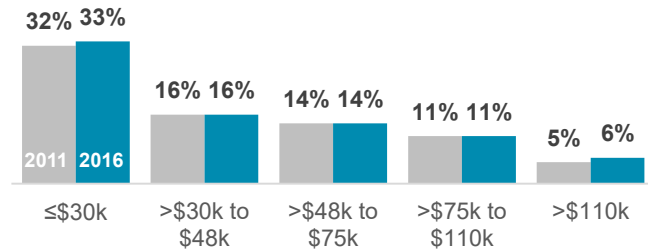
Families making over \$110,000 only needed 8% of their income in 2011 and 9% in 2016 to cover expenses at these institutions.



U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Student Financial Aid Files and Directory Files 2011 and 2016, 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity Files 2012 and 2017. American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, 2011 and 2016. Institutional types based on SREB-State Data Exchange categories.

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

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



U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Student Financial Aid Files and Directory Files 2011 and 2016, 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity Files 2012 and 2017. American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, 2011 and 2016. Institutional types based on SREB-State Data Exchange categories.

There was little or no change in the percentage of income needed to pay for two-year institutions in Texas for families in all income categories.

At Texas's two-year institutions, families making less than \$30,000 in 2011 needed 32% of their income to pay for educational expenses. In 2016 it was 33%.

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

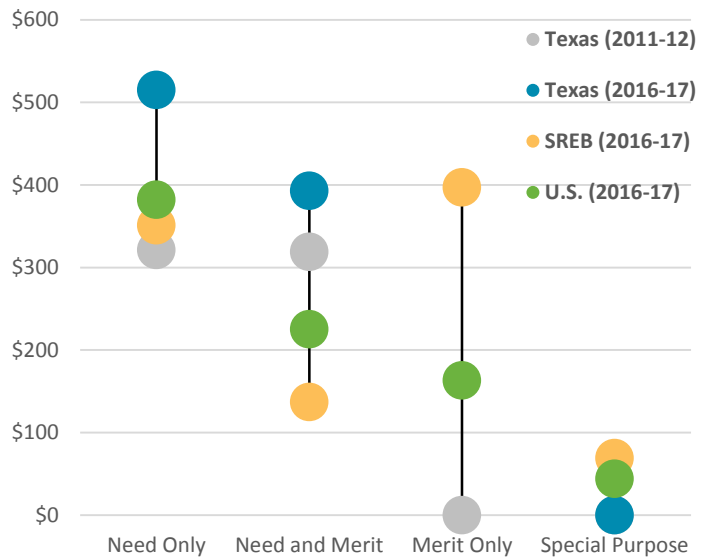
State Financial Aid Per Student

Texas awarded **more need-based aid in 2016-17** per full-time-equivalent (FTE) student than the SREB and national averages. **Need-based aid also increased** from 2011-12 to 2016-17.

	Need Only	Need and Merit	Merit Only	Special Purpose
Texas (2011-12)	\$321	\$319	\$0	\$0
Texas (2016-17)	\$515	\$393	NA	\$0
SREB Average (2016-17)	\$351	\$137	\$397	\$69
U.S. Average (2016-17)	\$382	\$225	\$163	\$44

The state spent \$321 on average per undergraduate FTE student on need-based aid in 2011-12 compared to \$515 in 2016-17. The SREB average in 2016-17 was \$351 and the national average was \$382.

Texas spent \$393, on average, per FTE for financial aid that had need and merit criteria in 2016-17, much more than the SREB average for need and merit-based aid of \$137 and the national average of \$225.



National Association of State Student Grant & Aid Programs 2012 and 2017 annual survey (results for public institutions only). U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System Instructional Activity File, 2012 and 2017, and Directory File, 2011 and 2016.

Student Borrowing at Public Institutions

In 2016-17, Texas graduates **borrowed less than the national average** to earn degrees at **all public institutions**.

	Texas 2011-12	Texas 2016-17	SREB Average 2016-17	US Average 2016-17
Four-Year Type 1	\$18,661	\$19,823	\$21,546	\$21,139
Four-Year Type 2	\$17,808	\$19,095	\$22,198	\$19,115
Two-Year	\$6,838	\$8,329	\$9,693	\$9,356

U.S. Department of Education, College Scorecard, 2011 and 2016. U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, 12-Month Enrollment Instructional Activity Data Files 2012 and 2017 and Directory Files 2011 and 2016.

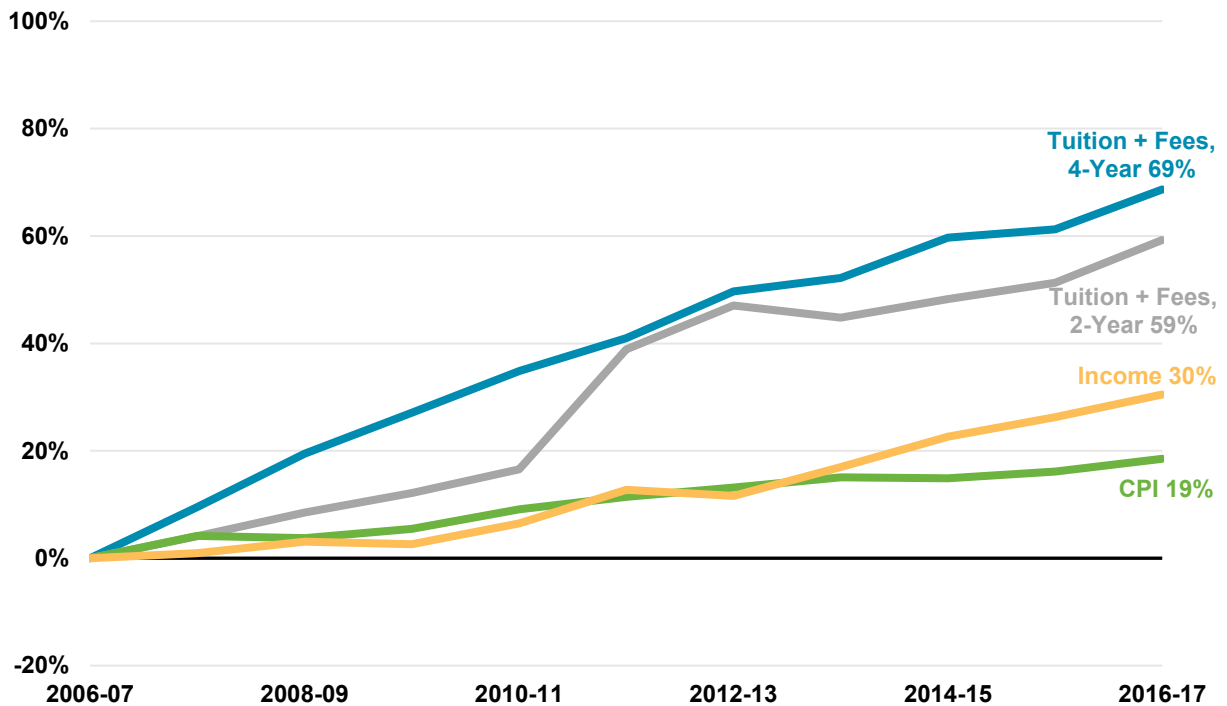
Graduates who sought a degree or certificate from four-year Type 1 universities in Texas in 2016-17 borrowed, on average, \$19,823 and graduates of four-year Type 2 institutions borrowed \$19,095. These amounts were higher than average amounts borrowed in 2011-12, but lower than the SREB and national averages in 2016-17.

Students at public two-year colleges borrowed, on average, \$8,329 in 2016-17, much more than the average amount in 2011-12 but less 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 Texas public colleges and universities **increased at a faster rate** between 2006-07 and 2016-17.

Over that decade, the CPI increased by 19% and median household income in Texas increased by 30%, while tuition and fees increased by 69% at four-year institutions and 59% at two-year institutions.

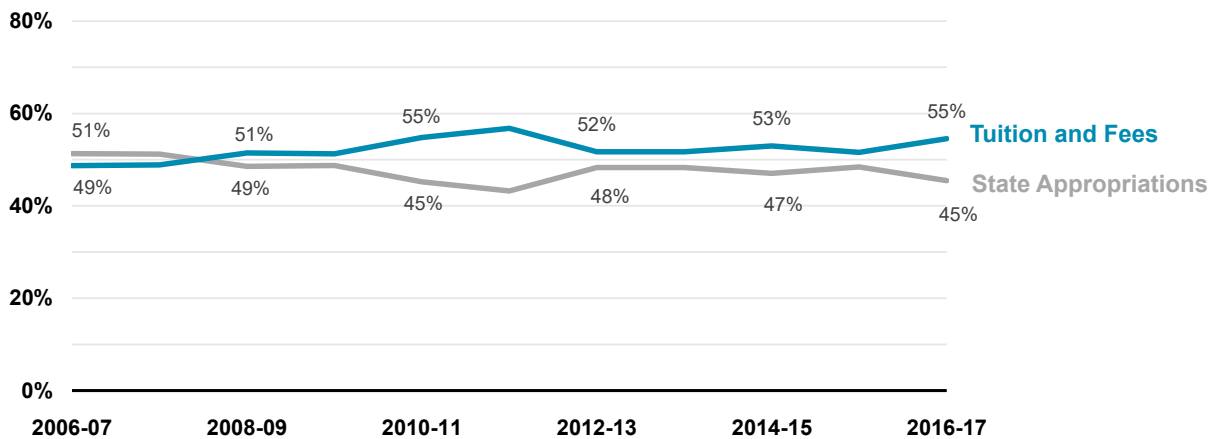


Sources: Consumer Price Index retrieved from FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; Bureau of Labor Statistics, South urban area, 2017. Tuition and fees retrieved from the U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Institutional Characteristics Files, 2006 to 2016. Median household income in current dollars retrieved from FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplements, South region, 2019.

State Appropriations vs. Tuition and Fees: Share of Funding

Operating expenses at Texas’s public four-year institutions consisted mostly of tuition and fees in 2016-17.

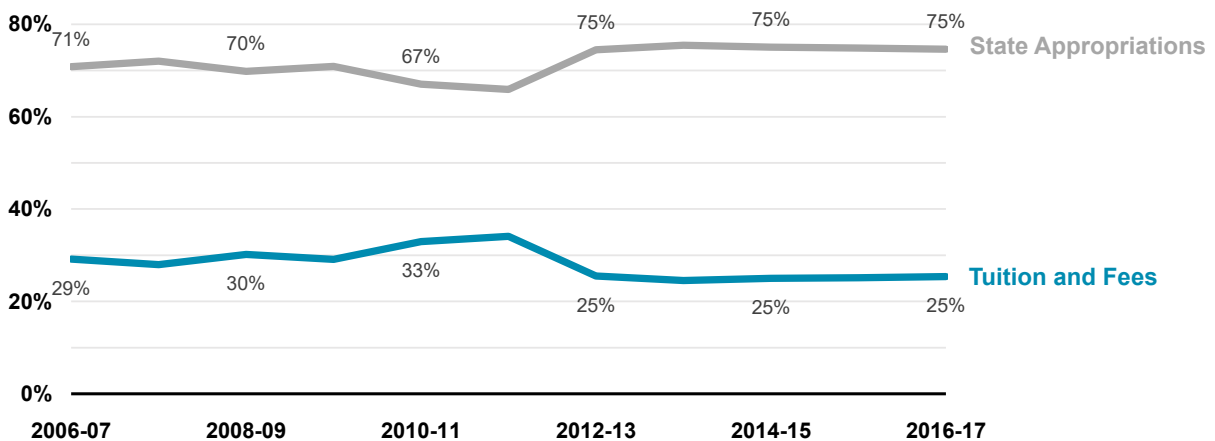
In 2016-17, net tuition and fees at Texas’s four-year institutions made up 55% of total funds available for operations of the state’s public institutions, while state appropriations supplied the remaining 45%. In comparison, state appropriations provided 51% in 2006-07. The shift in who pays for majority of operating expenses at public four-year institutions occurred after 2007-08.



Source: SREB-State Data Exchange

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

In 2016-17, state appropriations at Texas’s four-year institutions made up 75% of total funds available for operations of the state’s public institutions, while net tuition and fees supplied the remaining 25%. In comparison, state appropriations provided 71% in 2006-07.



Source: SREB-State Data Exchange

Additional State Context

Postsecondary Enrollment. In 2016-17, 31% of students in Texas were enrolled in public four-year Type 1 institutions, 17% were enrolled at public four-year Type 2 institutions, and 51% were enrolled in public two-year colleges.

First-Year Retention. For the fall 2016 cohort, 90% of students attending public four-year Type 1 institutions in Texas were still enrolled one year later, 82% were retained after the first year in public four-year Type 2 institutions, and 68% were retained at public two-year colleges.

Pell Grants. In 2016-17, 18% of the average cost of attendance in public four-year Type 1 institutions in Texas was covered by the average Pell Grant award. The average grant amount covered 21% of costs in public four-year Type 2 institutions and 28% of costs in public two-year colleges.

Education Attainment. In 2017, 43% of Texas's working adult population between ages 25 and 64 had a postsecondary credential of value. The state's educational attainment goal is to reach 60% by 2030.

Student Debt. In Texas, 56% of the class of 2018 graduated with debt, owing an average of \$27,293.

Sources: Enrollment: U.S. Department of Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data Systems, 2016. Retention: SREB-State Data Exchange. Pell: U.S. Department of Education: 2016-2017 Award Year Grant Volume by School (2018) and SREB analysis of National Center for Education Statistics student financial aid survey, 2016-17. Educational attainment: State Higher Education Master Plans and Lumina Foundation, "A Stronger Nation," 2019. Student debt: The Institute for College Access & Success, "Student Debt and the Class of 2018" (2019).

Texas Institutions by Type

Public Four-Year Type 1

University of Houston
University of North Texas
Texas State University
Texas A&M University-College Station
The University of Texas at Arlington
The University of Texas at Austin
The University of Texas at Dallas
The University of Texas at El Paso
The University of Texas at San Antonio
Texas Tech University
Texas Woman's University

Public Four-Year Type 2

Angelo State University
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
Texas A&M University-Texarkana
Texas A&M University-Commerce
University of Houston-Clear Lake
University of Houston-Downtown
University of Houston-Victoria

Lamar University
Texas A&M International University
Midwestern State University
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
Prairie View A&M University
Sam Houston State University
Stephen F. Austin State University
Sul Ross State University
Tarleton State University
Texas A&M University-Kingsville
The University of Texas at Tyler
The University of Texas of the Permian Basin
Texas Southern University
West Texas A&M University
Texas A&M University-San Antonio
Texas A&M University-Central Texas

Public Two-Year

Alvin Community College
Amarillo College
Angelina College

Austin Community College District
Coastal Bend College
Blinn College
Brazosport College
Brookhaven College
Cedar Valley College
Central Texas College
Cisco College
Clarendon College
North Central Texas College
Del Mar College
Eastfield College
El Centro College
El Paso Community College
Frank Phillips College
Galveston College
Grayson College
Trinity Valley Community College
Hill College
Houston Community College
Howard College
Kilgore College
Lamar State College-Orange
Lamar State College-Port Arthur
Laredo Community College
Lee College
College of the Mainland
McLennan Community College
Midland College
Mountain View College
Navarro College

Lone Star College System
North Lake College
Northeast Texas Community College
Odessa College
Texas Southmost College
Panola College
Paris Junior College
Ranger College
Richland College
St Philip's College
San Antonio College
San Jacinto Community College
South Plains College
Southwest Texas Junior College
Tarrant County College District
Temple College
Texarkana College
Tyler Junior College
Vernon College
Victoria College
Weatherford College
Western Texas College
Wharton County Junior College
Palo Alto College
Collin County Community College District
Southwest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf
South Texas College
Northwest Vista College
Lamar Institute of Technology
Texas State Technical College

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.