



The True Cost of College



College is Expensive

Average Tuition



\$9,970
Public 4 year college

\$34,740
Private 4 year college

Average Room & Board



\$10,800
Public 4 year college

\$12,210
Private 4 year college

Average "Other" Expenses



\$2,100
Public 4 year college

\$1,700
Private 4 year college

Tuition and fees are 39% of the overall budget at a 4 year public college and 68% at a 4 year private college.¹

Good News!

Students spent \$579 on college course materials in the 2016/2017 academic year.²

That's \$23 less than the average of \$602 in 2015/2016.³



Education companies and publishers are offering students opportunities to save on course materials with Inclusive Access programs, digital resources, textbooks, ebooks and book rentals.

Textbook Spending in Perspective

Students spent an average of \$66 per textbook in the 2016/2017 academic year.⁴

When students spend \$579 on course materials, that's just 1-2% of the overall budget for college students at 4 year public and 4 year private schools.⁵

1. Calculations using College Board: Average Estimated Undergraduate Budgets, 2017-2018 (totals include transportation) <https://trends.collegeboard.org/college-pricing/figures-tables/average-estimated-undergraduate-budgets-2017-18>

2. National Association of College Stores: Highlights from Student Watch Attitudes and Behaviors toward Course Materials 2016-2017 Report <http://www.nacs.org/research/studentwatchfindings.aspx>

3. Ibid

4. Student Monitor <https://presspage-production-content.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/1508/studentmonitorslides.pdf?10000>

5. College Board: Average Estimated Undergraduate Budgets, 2017-2018