

# Cost of Attendance and Federally-Mandated Adjustments

Financial Aid and Scholarships



*The rising STAR of Texas*

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# Overview

- Cost of Attendance
- Types of Aid
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# Cost of Attendance

- Cost of Attendance (COA) establishes the maximum amount of aid a student can receive.
- The COA is an average of the educational expenses incurred by students.
- The COA is comprised of the following components:
  - Tuition and fees
  - Books and supplies
  - Room and board
  - Personal items
  - Transportation



## Types of Aid

The types of financial aid that count toward the Cost of Attendance (i.e., student's aid limit) include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Scholarships
- Federal, state and other grants
- Work study
- Student and parent educational loans
- Tuition adjustments and waivers
- AmeriCorps
- Fellowships
- McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program
- And more ...



## U.S. Department of Education Requirements Related to Enrollment and Cost of Attendance (COA)

- Tax-payer funded financial aid is to cover only educationally-related costs incurred by the student.
- A student cannot receive aid in excess of their COA.
- Schools must adjust each student's COA as changes in enrollment occur through the semester's census date.
- Adjusting the COA to reflect actual costs (e.g., actual tuition and fees) prevents students from receiving tax-payer funds for course costs they are not incurring.



# Cost of Attendance Adjustment Full-Time and Half-Time Enrollment Undergraduate

2017-2018 Cost of Attendance for 1 <sup>st</sup> Baccalaureate, Resident Students		
	Full-time (12+ Hours)	Half-time (6 to 8 Hours)
Tuition and Fees	\$10,620	\$6,140
Books and Supplies	\$770	\$384
Room and Board	\$9,490	\$9,490
Personal Items	\$1,570	\$1,570
Transportation	\$810	\$810
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$23,260</b>	<b>\$18,394</b>

# Cost of Attendance Adjustment Full-Time and Half-Time Enrollment Graduate

2017-2018 Cost of Attendance for Graduate, Resident Students		
	Full-time (9+ Hours)	Half-time (5 or 6 Hours)
Tuition and Fees	\$8,220	\$5,220
Books and Supplies	\$770	\$384
Room and Board	\$9,490	\$9,490
Personal Items	\$1,570	\$1,570
Transportation	\$810	\$810
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$20,860</b>	<b>\$17,474</b>

## **U.S. Department of Education Requirements Related to Room and Board and Cost of Attendance (COA)**

- Tax-payer funded financial aid is to cover only educationally-related costs incurred by the student.
- Student cannot receive aid in excess of their COA.
- Schools must adjust a student's COA when receiving room and board at no cost (e.g., resident assistants).
- Adjusting the COA to reflect actual costs (e.g., having no room and board expenses) prevents students from receiving tax-payer funds for costs they are not incurring.





# Cost of Attendance Adjustment No Room and Board Costs

2017-2018 Cost of Attendance for Full-time 1 <sup>st</sup> Baccalaureate, Resident Students		
	With Room and Board Costs	Without Room and Board Costs
Tuition and Fees	\$10,620	\$10,620
Books and Supplies	\$770	\$770
Room and Board	\$9,490	---
Personal Items	\$1,570	\$1,570
Transportation	\$810	\$810
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$23,260</b>	<b>\$13,770</b>

# Federal Resources

2017-2018 Federal Student Aid Handbook

- Volume 3 – Calculating Awards & Packaging
  - Chapter 2 – Cost of Attendance (Budget)

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