Cost of Attendance and Federally-Mandated Adjustments

Financial Aid and Scholarships

Texas State University

The rising STAR of Texas
Overview

- Cost of Attendance
- Types of Aid
- U.S. Department of Education Requirements
- Cost of Attendance Adjustment
- Federal Resources
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Full-time</th>
<th>Half-time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(12+ Hours)</td>
<td>(6 to 8 Hrs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>$11,860</td>
<td>$6,820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books and Supplies</td>
<td>$790</td>
<td>$394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room and Board</td>
<td>$11,460</td>
<td>$11,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Items</td>
<td>$2,270</td>
<td>$2,270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>$1,340</td>
<td>$1,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td><strong>$27,720</strong></td>
<td><strong>$22,284</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Cost of Attendance Adjustment
Full-Time and Half-Time Enrollment Graduate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Full-time (9+ Hours)</th>
<th>Half-time (5 or 6 Hours)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>$8,260</td>
<td>$5,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books and Supplies</td>
<td>$790</td>
<td>$394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room and Board</td>
<td>$11,460</td>
<td>$11,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Items</td>
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<td>$2,270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>$1,340</td>
<td>$1,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$24,120</strong></td>
<td><strong>$21,204</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Federal Resources

2020-2021 Federal Student Aid Handbook

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