Still a great deal

The average in-state tuition and fees at community colleges for 2018-19 is $3,660, which is the lowest cost among all higher education sectors.

Average estimated undergraduate budget, full-time attendance, 2018-19


In 2018-19, the average estimated tuition and fees based on full-time, in-district enrollment at a community college was $3,660 compared to $10,230 for in-state students at public four-year institutions, $26,290 for out-of-state students at public four-year institutions, and $35,830 for students at private, nonprofit four-year institutions. Additional average expenses for community college students, who generally live off campus, include $8,660 for room and board, $1,440 for books and supplies, $1,800 for transportation and $2,370 for other expenses. The total budget for a community college student ($17,930), is 69 percent of a total annual cost ($25,890) for in-state students living on campus at public four-year institutions. Community colleges continue to offer an affordable and lower-price postsecondary education than any other higher education sector.

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