

2018

REFORM
REINVEST
RETAIN



LEADMN
COLLEGE STUDENTS
CONNECTING FOR CHANGE

State Legislative Agenda



LEADMN

COLLEGE STUDENTS
CONNECTING FOR CHANGE

College students are highly susceptible to unexpected costs and changes in the price of tuition, fees, and textbooks. Even a \$100 textbook could mean the difference between success and not graduating on time. The students who can most benefit from a postsecondary education are often the ones who are most likely to drop out due to unexpected or rising costs.

That's why LeadMN supports efforts to improve transparency around the true cost of college and further remove unnecessary cost barriers to students.

REFORM

Open Educational Resources

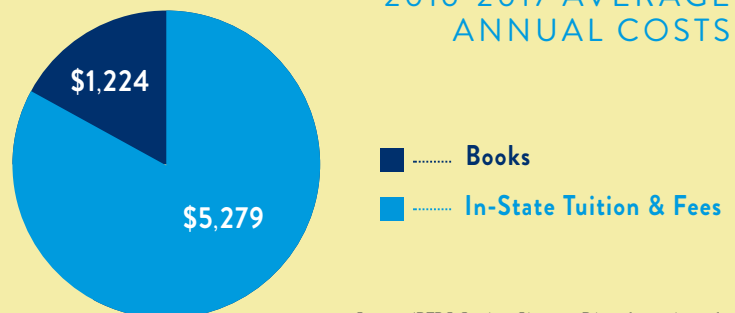
After tuition and fees, textbooks are one of the greatest postsecondary costs to students. On average, Minnesota State community and technical college students pay \$1,200 a year for textbooks.

Open educational resources (OER) are freely accessible, openly licensed text, media, and other digital assets that are useful for teaching, learning, and assessing as well as for research purposes.

After receiving funding from the legislature to promote and help faculty switch to OER, Minnesota State has already helped students save hundreds of thousands of dollars. While progress has been made in this area, **LeadMN supports requiring fifteen percent of all Minnesota State courses to utilize textbooks and OER costing \$40 or less by the year 2020.** By setting this benchmark, we will ensure that the progress on OER continues to make college more affordable for students.

OER not only save students money, but also put the power to determine content back into the hands of the faculty, instead of with publishers. This flexibility allows the faculty to tailor their course materials to match their curriculum more accurately and provide an improved learning experience.

MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES: 2016-2017 AVERAGE ANNUAL COSTS



Source: IPEDS Student Charges: Price of attendance for full-time, first-time undergraduate students, 2016-2017

Textbook Cost Disclosure & OER Information

When students are choosing which courses to enroll in, they do not see the cost of the textbooks for the course. Only after enrolling in the course are they informed of how much they will pay. This can lead to students dropping the class when they are surprised by unexpected textbook prices. **LeadMN supports disclosing the cost of textbooks on the individual course registration pages.** This will provide students the ability to make informed decisions about which courses are most affordable and help prevent unexpected surprises.

REINVEST

NextGen: Student Record System Update

Student needs today are significantly different than the students of twenty years ago. When students attend a Minnesota State campus they should have technology systems that can support 21st century educational needs. The student experience needs to be mobile, provide services like online academic advising, and provide students better tools to plan their degrees and track their progress.

21
MILLION

This is why LeadMN supports \$21 million in funding for replacing the current Integrated Statewide Record System (ISRS) with NextGen.

NextGen will ensure that Minnesota State can continue to improve its services and protect the information of the nearly 400,000 students, staff, and faculty who currently utilize ISRS. As a system that supports students from prospect to graduation, NextGen is essential to a 21st century campus.

Minnesota State Bonding Proposal

224.5
MILLION

Minnesota State is requesting a total of \$224.5 million in project support for crucial infrastructure projects and repair for campuses across the state.

130
MILLION

This request includes \$130 million for critical Higher Education Asset Preservation and Replacement (HEAPR) funds. Asset preservation is critical to keeping our students warm, safe, and dry, ensuring that they can focus on completing their degree.

94.5
MILLION

Minnesota State is also requesting \$94.5 million dollars in funding for capital projects at 13 colleges. These projects will provide students with updated educational facilities, impacting over 230 classrooms and labs. The funding provided will also improve collaborative learning environments, provide industry standard training spaces for high demand fields, and ensure students have educational facilities that prepare them for life and work in the 21st century.

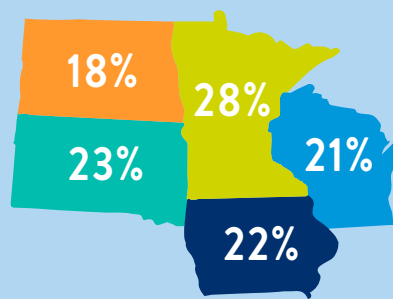
LeadMN supports Minnesota State's full request of \$224.5 million for bonding projects and asset preservation.

RETAIN

True Cost of College

When students decide to pursue a postsecondary education they should know exactly how much they are going to pay, and if the financial aid and loans they receive will cover those costs. If students are presented with unexpected increases in the cost of attendance, they are often forced to make a decision about remaining enrolled. Unexpected costs can have a significant negative impact on the retention and completion of students.

MINNESOTA STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES SHOULD EXPECT TO CONTRIBUTE 28% OF THEIR HOUSEHOLD INCOME TO ATTEND A PUBLIC TWO-YEAR COLLEGE FULL TIME.



Nationally, Minnesota students and their families contribute the 4th highest percentage of their household income to attend a two-year public college.

Source: University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education: College Affordability Diagnosis <https://rhe.gse.upenn.edu/diagnosis>

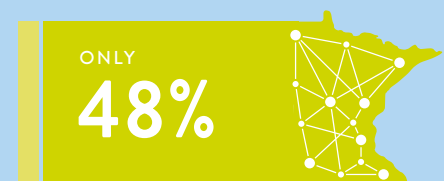
Improved Financial Aid Award Letter

After applying to college, students and their families need to be provided with a realistic picture of the true cost of their college education. This picture can often be incomplete due to the lack of information provided on award letters. **LeadMN supports the creation of an improved financial aid award letter that will provide students with a greater understanding of the true cost of college attendance for one year, and also help to increase their financial literacy around the loans they are disbursed.**

BY THE YEAR 2020



Source: University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education: College Affordability Diagnosis <https://rhe.gse.upenn.edu/diagnosis>





LeadMN is a statewide association for students at Minnesota’s public two-year community and technical colleges. Our mission is to ensure quality, affordable, and accessible higher education, while providing students with representation, leadership development, and communication across the state.

RETAIN

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QUESTIONS? CONTACT US!



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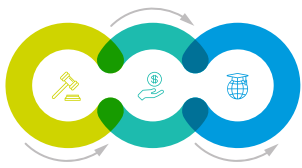
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MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES: FINANCIAL AID AWARD LETTER

SAMPLE

Estimated Cost of Attendance 2018-2019 ACADEMIC YEAR

Direct Costs (costs that are payable to the school):

- TUITION AND FEES.....\$6,503

Indirect Costs (estimates for expenses that you may incur for living and other educationally-related expenses):

- BOOKS AND SUPPLIES\$1,200
- ROOM AND BOARD.....\$5,000
- TRANSPORTATION\$1,000
- MISCELLANEOUS\$1,200

Total Cost of Attendance:\$14,903

Grants & Scholarships Offered ESTIMATED GIFT AID

(Aid is subject to change based on verification and enrollment confirmation)

- FEDERAL PELL GRANT\$3,000
- MINNESOTA STATE GRANT.....\$1,000

Total Grants and Scholarships (NO REPAYMENT REQUIRED):.....\$4,000

Estimated Remaining Cost

Direct Costs After Grants and Scholarships (MUST BE PAID TO ATTEND):.....\$2,503 (\$6,503 - \$4,000)

Estimated Cost of Attendance After Grants and Scholarships:.....\$11,903 (\$14,903 - \$4,000)

Options to Pay Remaining Cost

Student Loans (REPAYMENT REQUIRED):

- FEDERAL DIRECT UNSUBSIDIZED LOAN \$_____
- EXPECTED MONTHLY REPAYMENT AMOUNT AFTER GRADUATION
(Assuming a 10 year repayment plan) \$_____

Work-Study:

- FEDERAL WORK-STUDY \$_____
- STATE WORK-STUDY \$_____

Other Options:

- PRIVATE PAYMENT PLAN OFFERED BY THE COLLEGE
- MILITARY AND/OR NATIONAL SERVICE BENEFITS
- PRIVATE EDUCATION LOANS
- FEDERAL DIRECT PLUS PARENT LOAN

Students at the Institution
Who Take Out Student Loans

85%

OF STUDENTS TAKE OUT LOANS
TO COVER COLLEGE COSTS

Employment in Degree Field,
One-year After Graduation

36%

OF STUDENTS WHO GRADUATE
ARE EMPLOYED IN THEIR DEGREE
FIELD WITHIN ONE YEAR

On Time Graduation Rate

25%

OF STUDENTS GRADUATE ON TIME

Freshmen to Sophomore
Retention Rate

45%

OF FIRST TIME STUDENTS CONTINUE
TO THEIR SOPHOMORE YEAR

Loan Default Rate

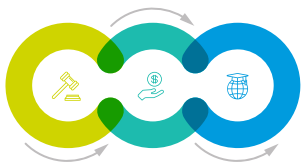
8%

OF BORROWERS ENTERING
REPAYMENT DEFAULT ON
THEIR LOANS

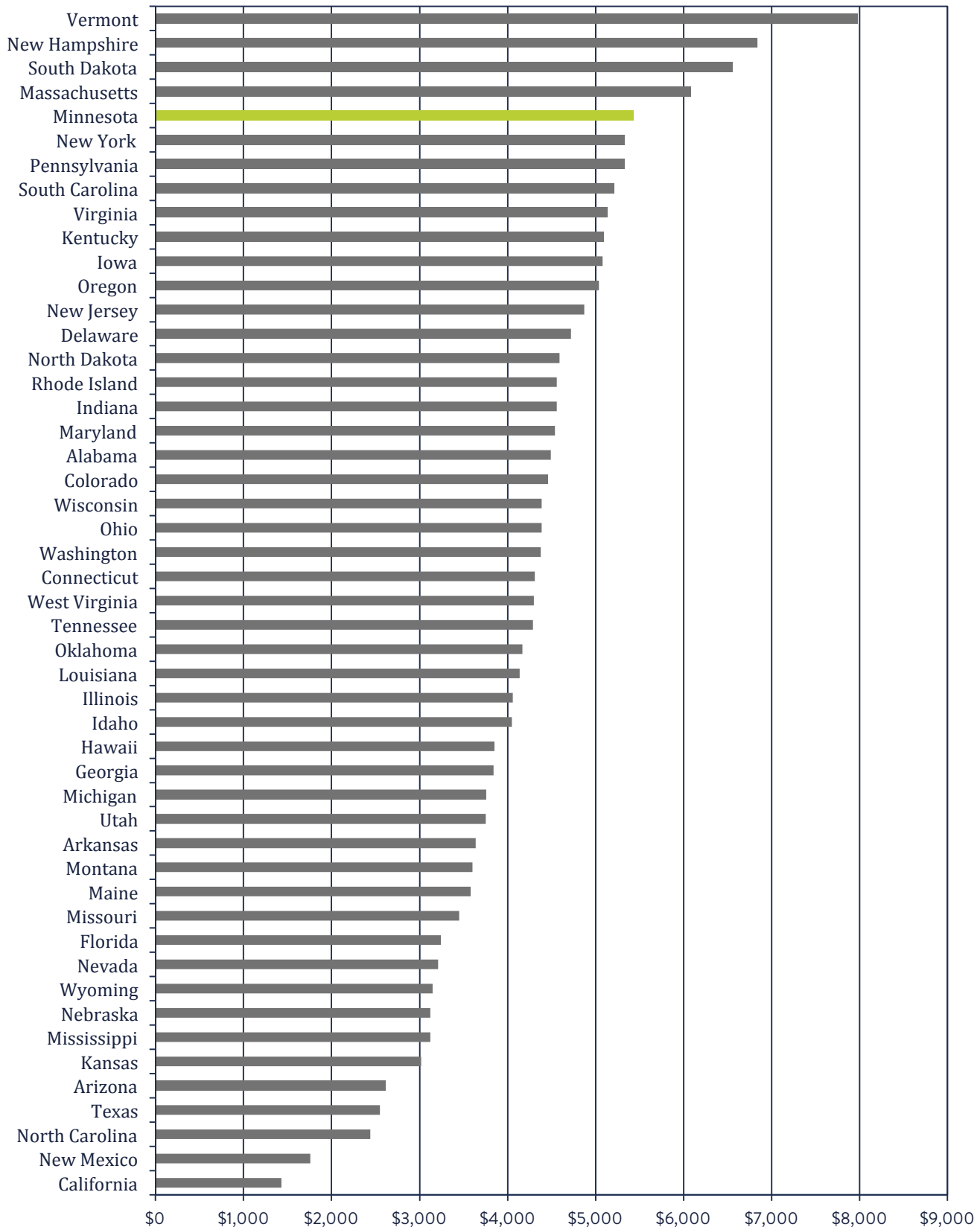
For More Information:

CAMPUS FINANCIAL AID
WEBSITE LINK

**DEADLINE TO ACCEPT
FINANCIAL AID:
AUGUST 31, 2019**



TUITION AND FEES RANKINGS FOR PUBLIC 2-YEAR INSTITUTIONS



NOTE: ALASKA IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE ABOVE BECAUSE IT DOES NOT HAVE A SEPARATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM.

SOURCES: COLLEGE BOARD, ANNUAL SURVEY OF COLLEGES; NCES, IPEDS FALL 2015 ENROLLMENT DATA. PREPARED 10/2017