Textbook Affordability: What Are Students Saying?

Results of the 2018 Textbook and Course Materials Survey

Survey Audience: 21,400 students from all of Florida’s public higher education institutions

TEXTBOOK COSTS TO STUDENTS

How much are students spending on textbooks?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNDER $300</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$301-500</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OVER $500</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Textbook costs decreased in 2018 survey

How are they dealing with the costs?*

- Buy books from a source other than the campus bookstore: 66%
- Buy used copies from the campus bookstore: 53%
- Rent printed textbooks: 48%
- Rent digital textbooks: 41%

Only 23% of respondents said financial aid covered ALL their textbooks.

Office of Distance Learning & Student Services
www.dlss.flvc.org
IMPACT OF TEXTBOOK COSTS ON STUDENT PROGRESS

The high cost of textbooks is negatively impacting students’ academic progress.

How are they coping?*

- Don’t buy required books: 64%
- Take fewer courses: 43%
- Don’t register for a course: 41%
- Drop a course: 23%

How are these choices impacting their learning?

- Earn a poor grade: 36%
- Fail a course: 20%

Are all required books used at some point in an academic career?

3.6 required textbooks wasted on average purchased but never used.

Who spends more on books and materials, college or university students?

College: 44% (Spent over $300 on textbooks)
University: 44% (Spent over $300 on additional materials)

College: 11%
University: 9%

Notes

* More than one answer may apply.
Source: 2018 Student Textbook and Course Materials Survey Results and Findings. To view the full report, visit www.dlss.flvc.org.