Textbook Affordability: What Are Students Saying?

Results of the 2016 Textbook and Course Materials Survey

Survey Audience: 22,000 students from all of Florida’s public higher education institutions

**TEXTBOOK COSTS TO STUDENTS**

How much are students spending on textbooks?

- **45%** under $300
- **35%** $301-500
- **18%** over $500
- **2%** Other

How are they dealing with the costs?*

- **64%** Buy books from a source other than the campus bookstore
- **49%** Buy used copies from the campus bookstore
- **47%** Rent printed textbooks
- **30%** Rent digital textbooks

Only **21%** of respondents said financial aid covered ALL their textbooks.

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Office of Distance Learning & Student Services

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IMPACT OF TEXTBOOK COSTS ON STUDENT PROGRESS
The high cost of textbooks is negatively impacting students’ academic progress.

How are they coping?*

67% Don’t buy required books
48% Take fewer courses
46% Don’t register for a course
26% Drop course
21% Withdraw from course

How are these choices impacting their learning?

38% Earn a poor grade
20% Fail a course

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

2.6 required textbooks

average number purchased but NEVER used

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

College University
56% 51%

$300 SPENT OVER ON TEXTBOOKS
$300 SPENT OVER ON ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Notes
* More than one answer may apply.
Source: 2016 Student Textbook and Course Materials Survey Results and Findings. To view the full report, visit www.dlss.flvc.org.

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