



Rockford Lutheran School

*The provider of an exceptional college preparatory
education in a challenging and inspiring Christian environment.*

Igniting Minds and Souls



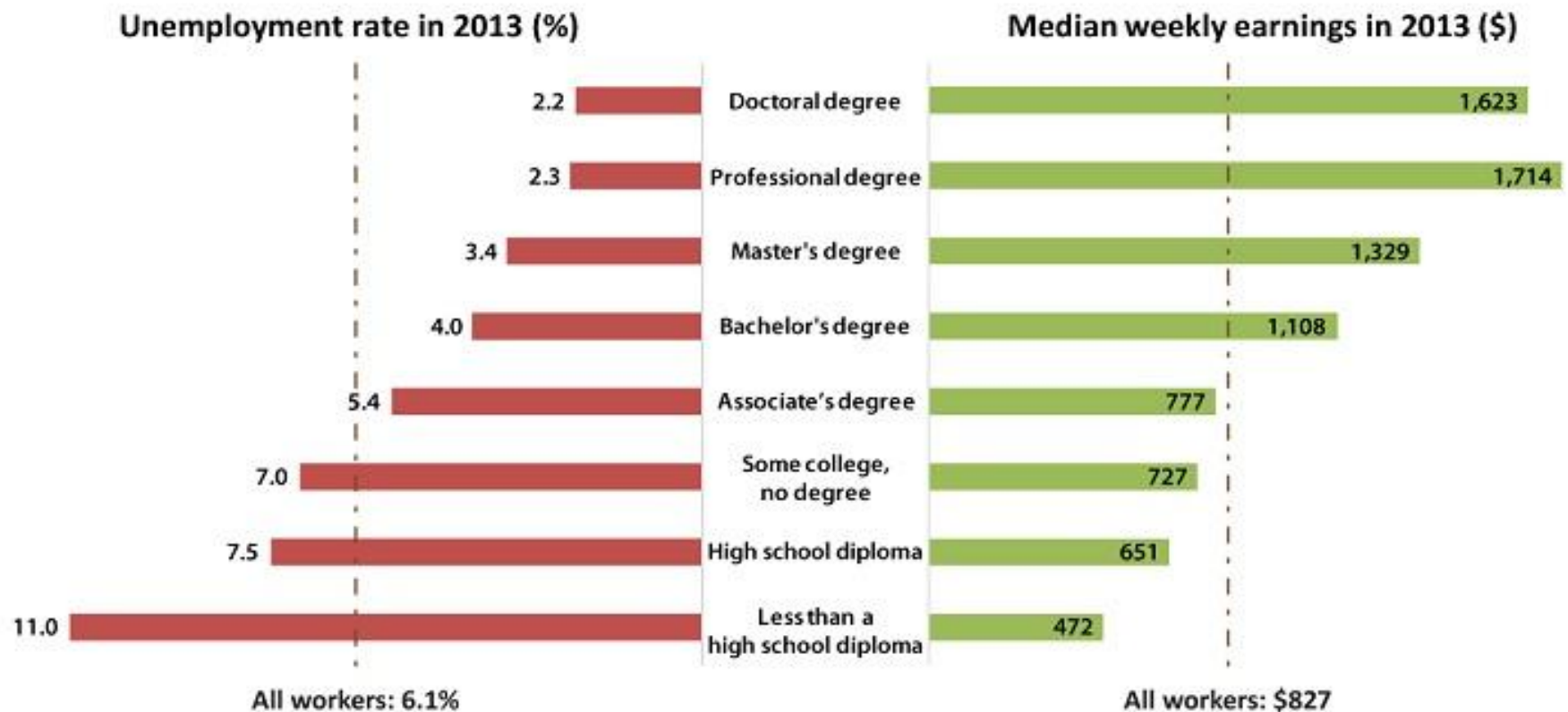
Junior College Night

- Why College?
- 2 year vs. 4 year
- Graduation Rates
- What are colleges looking for?
- What do special programs require?
- Financial Aid
- College visits
- Resources



Education Pays

Earnings and unemployment rates by educational attainment



Note: Data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.
Source: Current Population Survey, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor



What are colleges looking for?

1. Graduates.
2. Grade point average (G.P.A.)
3. What classes did you take?
4. Standardized test scores
5. What did you do outside the classroom? (Start your resume)



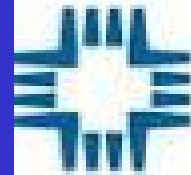
ACT Results 2016

SCHOOL	ENGLISH	MATH	READING	SCIENCE	COMPOSITE
RLS (2016)	22.2	21.4	23.1	22.2	22.9 (24.4/27.5)
Illinois	20.0	20.6	20.5	20.4	20.5
205 (2015)	17.4	18.4	18.6	18.4	18.3
National	20.1	20.6	21.3	20.8	20.8
Boylan					22.9



2 or 4 Year School?

**Rock
Valley
College**



**CONCORDIA
UNIVERSITY
NEBRASKA**



Pros and Cons of a 2 year School

SOURCE: Scholarships.com

Pros

- **Cost of Tuition**
- **Flexible Schedule**
- **Transitional**

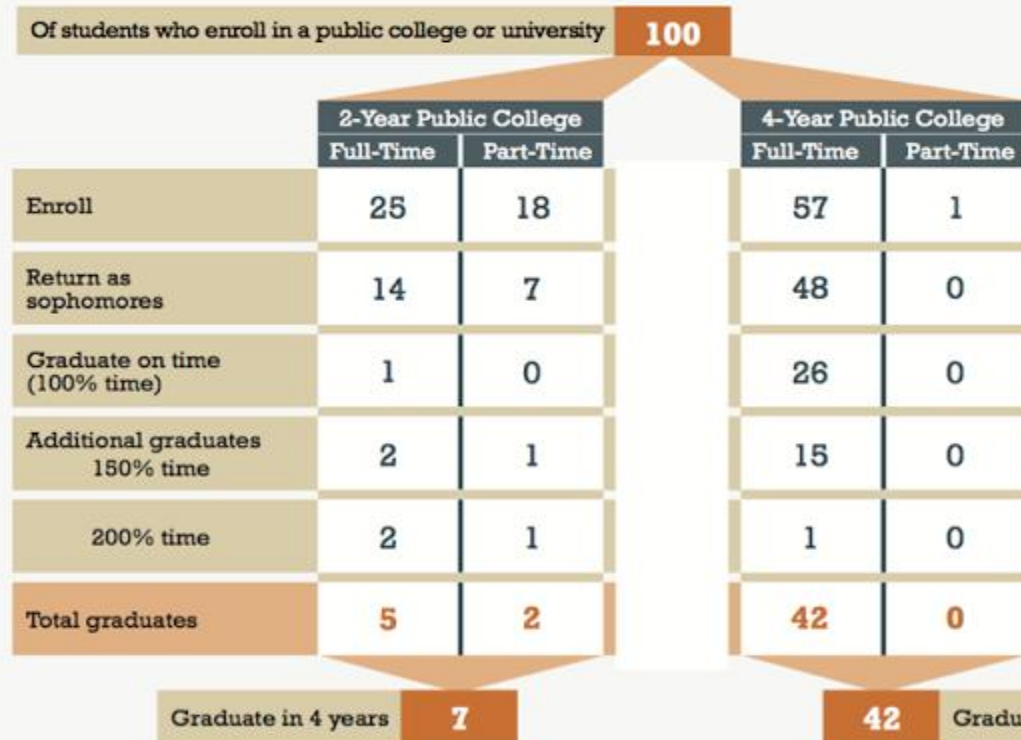
Cons

- **Limited Curriculum**
- **Lighter Workload**
- **Uninvolved Students**
- **Campus life (or lack thereof)**



Too few make it on time...

Too few students make it through college.



Key to measuring time	Associate	Bachelor's
100% time	2 years	4 years
180% time	3 years	6 years
200% time	4 years	8 years

Source: Complete College America, 2011

Data: 2-year cohort started in fall 2004; 4-year cohort started in fall 2002



College Visits

- Start Now (Applications due in October)
- Take an (un)official tour
- Talk to whoever does the teaching
- Talk to students
- See the facilities where you will spend your time
- Speak to Financial Aid people (Need blind?)
- Research program details-
Placement/Acceptance Rates
- Be ok with distance-it alone is transformational



What to look for

- Culture of the campus
- Campus size and location
- Affordability
- Chances of being accepted
- Personality of the school
- Majors offered



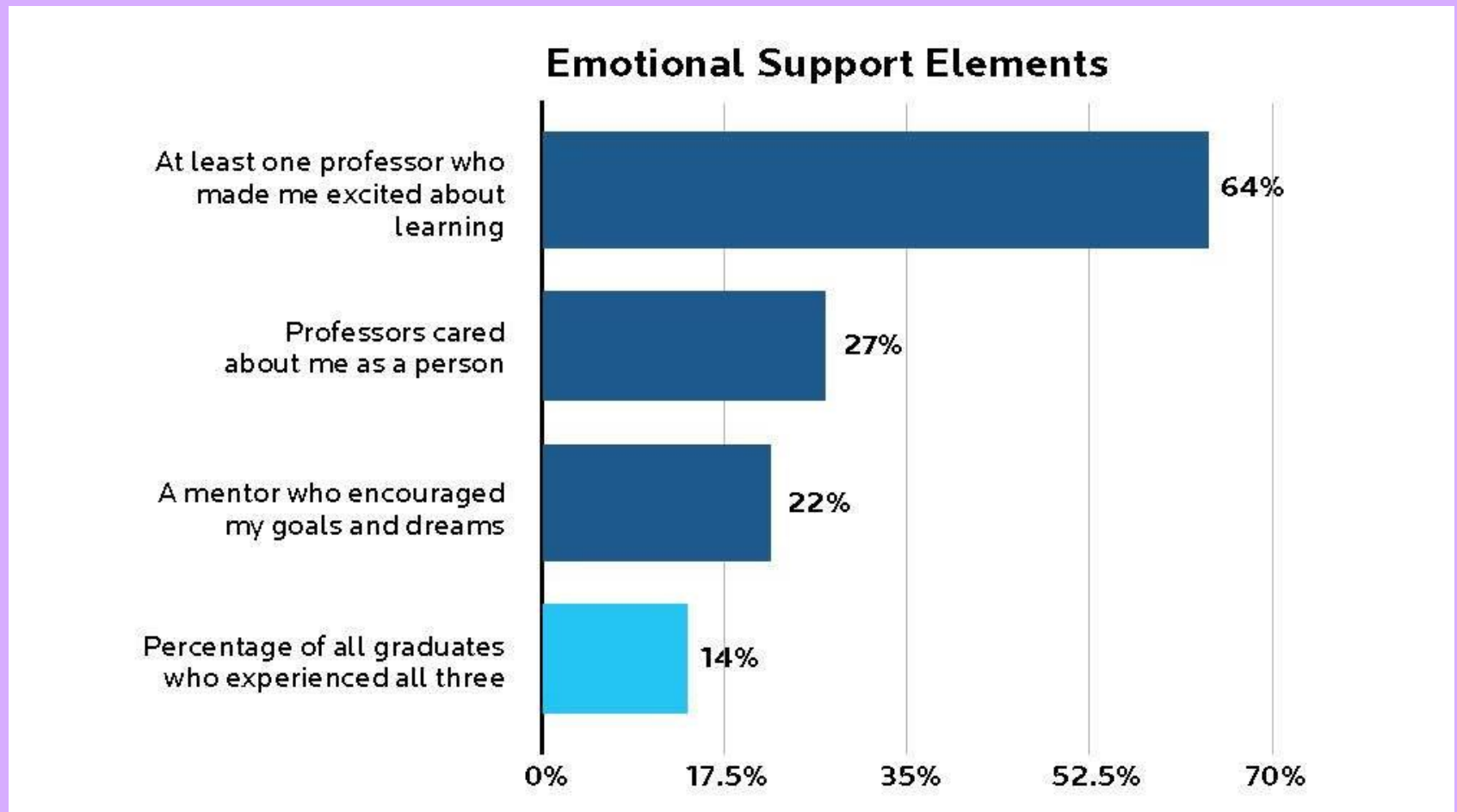
Five Essential Elements of Well-Being: What Does a "Great Life" Look Like? (Gallup)

- **Purpose:** How you occupy your time; liking what you do each day
- **Social:** Relationships and love in your life
- **Financial:** Managing your economic life to reduce stress and increase security
- **Community:** Engagement and involvement in the area where you live
- **Physical Well-Being:** Good health and enough energy to get things done daily

The REAL Data Revolution, By Brandon Busted, July/August, 2016
<https://www.agb.org/trusteeship/2016/julyaugust/the-real-data-revolution>
Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges

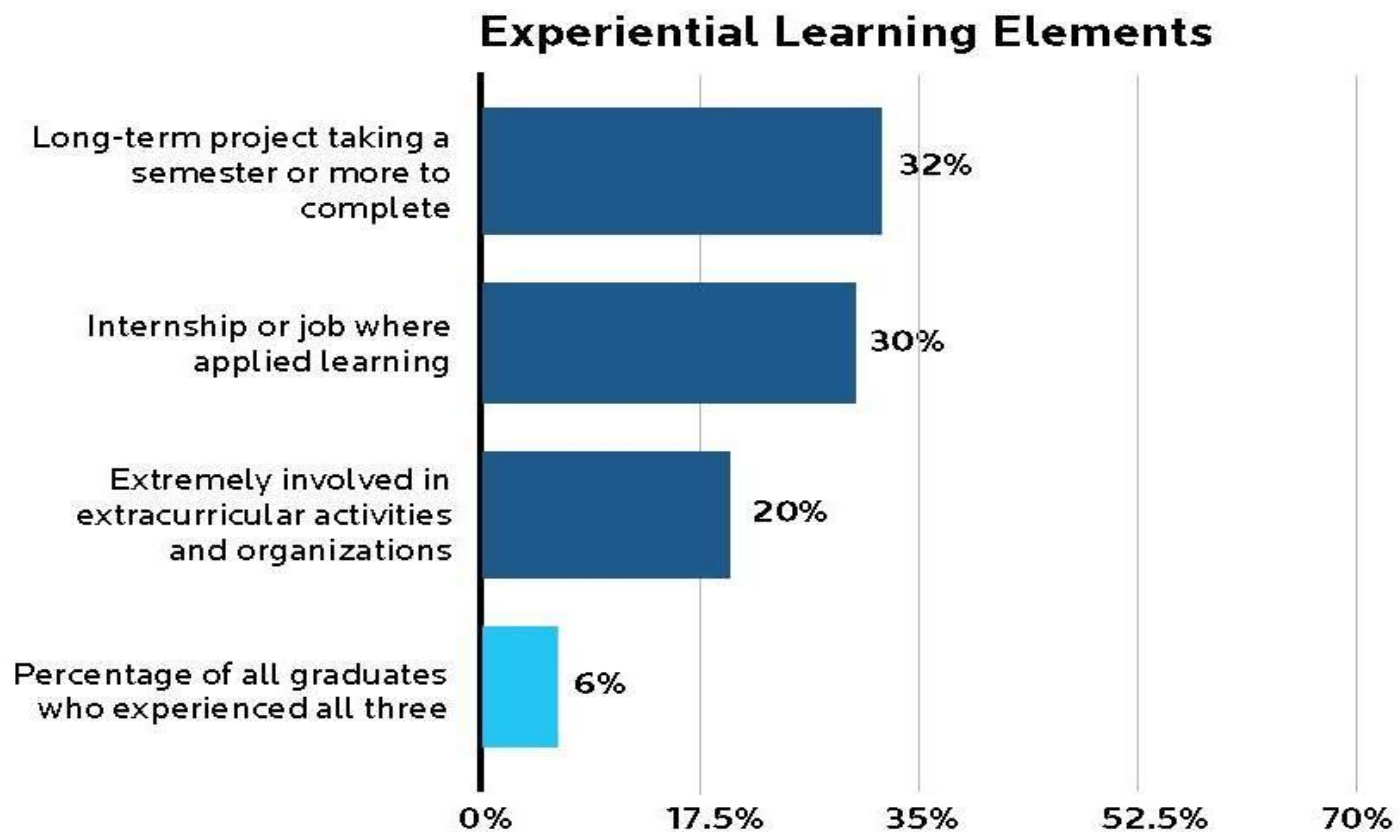


Gallup-Purdue index of six key indicators: Emotional Support Elements





Gallup-Purdue index of six key indicators: Experiential Learning Elements





A college experience is not a commodity.

- A commodity is a marketable item used to satisfy wants and needs. Your students' college educations should be transforming, not transactional. Seek college professors who will engage and challenge students as they seek to discern their vocations and, at the same time, make a difference in the world in which we live.



School Culture-It will change you.

- View the comparison study of alumni from Lutheran Universities and flagship public universities conducted by the Lutheran Educational Conference of North America. www.lutherancolleges.org
- Consider the intangible benefits you considered for your student when you choose Rockford Lutheran.
- Weigh the importance of all aspects of the collegiate experience, not just the name recognition on the diploma.



A great college rests on its faculty

- A recent survey of our graduates reveals that:
- 86% of Lutheran college alumni felt faculty members were interested in students personally as well as academically. (vs 44% for flagship university alumni)
- 67% had conversations with professors outside of class. (vs 34% for flagship university alumni)
- 70% of Lutheran college alumni had a professor who was a mentor in college. (vs 48% for flagship university alumni)

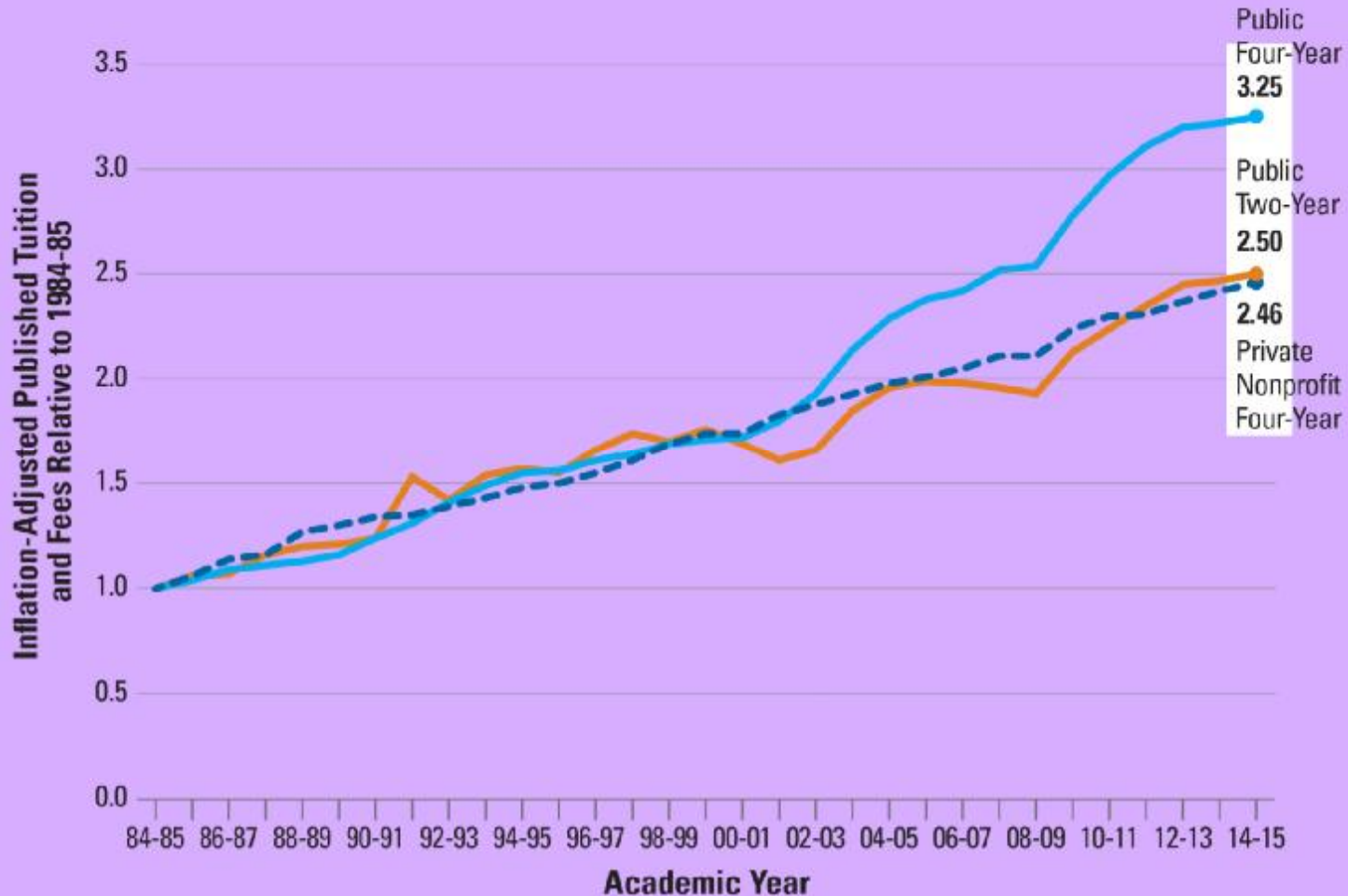


How do I pay for it?





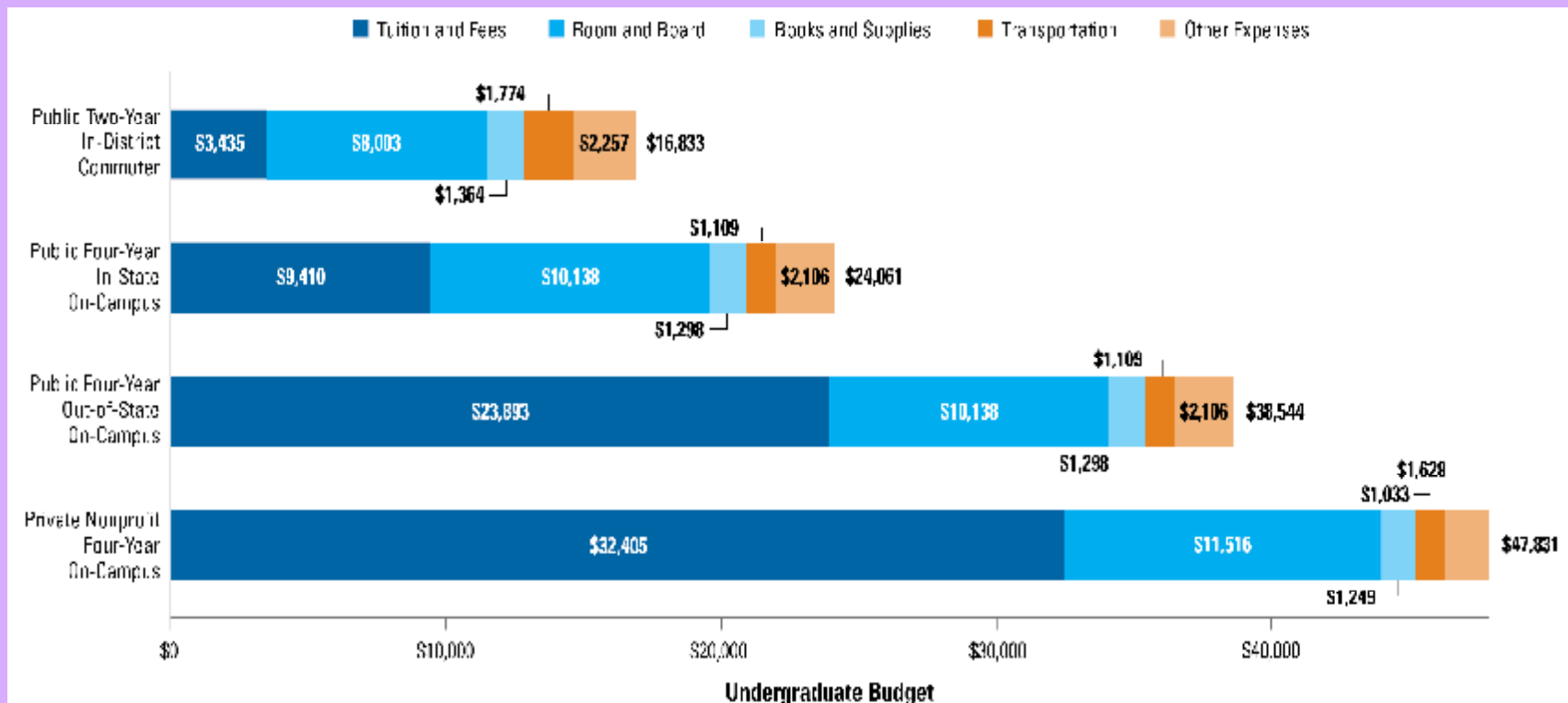
Inflation-Adjusted Published Tuition and Fees Relative to 1984-85, 1984-85 to 2014-15 (1984-85 = 1.0)



SOURCE: The College Board, *Trends in College Pricing 2014*, Figure 6



Average Estimated Full-Time Undergraduate Budgets by Sector, 2015-16 (Enrollment-Weighted)



SOURCE: The College Board, *Trends in College Pricing 2014*, Figure 1



FAFSA





You can start filling out the FAFSA on October 1

- Fafsa.gov
- Studentaid.ed.gov
- Draft registration: sss.gov
- EFC - Expected Family Contribution
- SAR - Student Aid Report



Two Types of Scholarships

NEED BASED

- This category of scholarships is available to help students who don't have the finances available to attend college.

MERIT BASED

- These awards are based on a student's academic, artistic, athletic or other abilities, and often factor in an applicant's extracurricular activities and community service record.



Free Money

Scholarships

- 3% of all financial aid comes from private scholarships.
- 97% comes from the school

Grants

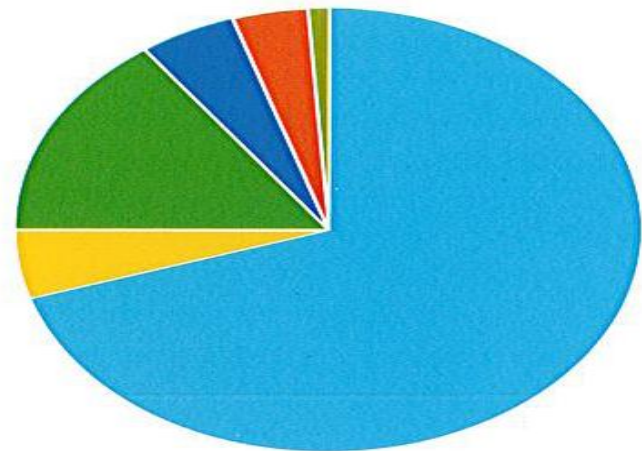
- Federal Grants
- Pell Grants- is money the federal government provides for students financial need, who have not earned their first bachelor's degree or who are not enrolled in certain post-baccalaureate programs.
- State Grants

TYPES OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Augustana students qualify for many different types of financial assistance including state, federal, private and institutional (awarded by Augustana).

Types of financial assistance received by incoming first-year students (2010-11)

Augustana Grants & Scholarships	70%
College Work Study	5%
Student Loans	15%
State Grants	5%
Federal Grants	4%
Private Scholarships & Grants	1%



RANGE OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The chart below is based on the 2010-11 incoming class and indicates the range of financial assistance for which students may qualify, based on their families' income range. (Note: awards will vary based on a number of factors, including academic performance, family size, number of children in college and student/parent assets.)

Range of financial assistance received by incoming first-year students (2010-11)



Transcripts

- Mrs. Woolbright handles all transcripts
 1. Request transcripts in person or on line
 2. Official transcripts require a 1 week lead time.
- Most transcripts are now being send electronically through Parchment or other online providers.



Resources

- Iicis.intocareers.org
- Collegeboard.org/quickstart
- Bigfuture.collegeboard.org
- Fastweb.com
- Mymajors.com
- Gocollege.com
- Cfnil.org/scholarships
- Fafsa.gov
- ACT.org (Students register)



How Do We Stay Connected for College Planning and Scholarships?

- Visit our webpage: Counselor's Corner
- <http://rockfordlutheran.org/academics/counselor-s-corner>
- Visit our Facebook page: Rockford Lutheran Guidance Dept.
- <https://www.facebook.com/rlsguidance/>



How Do We Stay Connected for College Planning and Scholarships?

- Remind.com
- Text to: 81010 Message: @purple2018
- or
- rmd.at/purple2018

- Illinois Career Information System (Including ACT Test Prep)
- <https://ilcis.intocareers.org/materials/portal/home.html>
- Login: firstname.lastname
- Password: RIhs2017