

Did you know...?

According to federal data, graduates of two-year, for-profit career training programs average a loan debt of \$23,590. By contrast, most community college graduates owe nothing.

(Source: New York Times Editorial Board)

Reining in predatory schools

Predatory institutions are gaming the federal financial aid system to line the pockets of their investors and CEOs by luring unsophisticated students to take out exorbitant student loans to attend programs whose credits do not transfer and that do not lead to gainful employment. Students end up with broken dreams and a lifetime of debt.

Senator Tom Harkin (Iowa) and Dick Durbin (Illinois) and Representative Elijah Cummings (Maryland) are leading efforts in the United States Congress to hold these schools accountable.

The Department of Education has been attempting to promulgate common sense regulations that would protect student consumers from the for-profit's predatory practices. But the for-profit sector is waging a multi-million dollar lobbying effort to derail these efforts and protect their huge profit margins.

Last week the New York Times editorial board urged the Obama administration weighed in urging the Obama administration to resist these lobbying efforts and pass strong student protections. Read the article here: <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/17/opinion/reining-in-predatory-schools.html>

State and local money for higher education increased slightly in 2013

The latest report on state financing of higher education shows a glimmer of good news for public colleges. But it's also a reminder of how much has changed for public higher education since the start of the recession, in 2008.

Read the complete *Chronicle of Higher Education* article, attached.

In Oregon, the Community College Support Fund (CCSF) received a significant increase in the 2013 legislative session with funding going from \$395.5 million in 2011-13 to \$465 million for the 2013-15 biennium.

Closing the gaps in college attainment

The Lumina Foundation has released its report about higher education attainment rates of the U.S. and every state, showing how rates have changed since last year's report. Oregon highlights begin on page 157, and you can read the full report here:

http://www.luminafoundation.org/publications/A_stronger_nation_through_higher_education-2014.pdf

The Mission of the Oregon Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development is to contribute leadership and resources to increase the skills, knowledge and career opportunities of Oregonians.

<http://www.oregon.gov/CCWD/> 503-947-2401

Past editions of the CCWD Brief are located on the website: <http://www.oregon.gov/CCWD/>

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

April 22, 2014

State and Local Money for Higher Education Increased Slightly in 2013

By Eric Kelderman

The latest report on state financing of higher education shows a glimmer of good news for public colleges. But it's also a reminder of how much has changed for public higher education since the start of the recession, in 2008.

State and local dollars for higher education increased by 0.7 percent from the 2012 to the 2013 fiscal years, according to the State Higher Education Executive Officers. At the same time, enrollment at the nation's public colleges dropped by 2.4 percent, according to the association's "State Higher Education Finance" report.

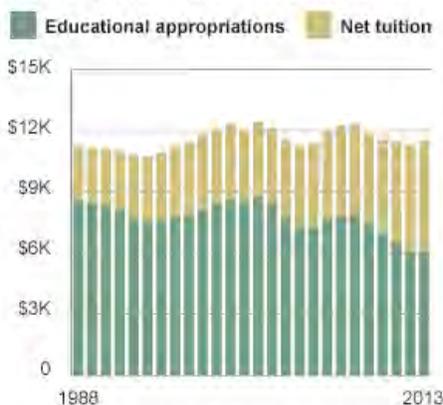
Net tuition—gross tuition minus state and institutional financial aid—increased by 3.5 percent from 2012 to 2013, according to the report, "suggesting that tuition does not increase only in response to state funding cuts" but also because of inflation and the need to increase salaries after years of pay freezes.

The increasing state and local appropriations are a sign of the slowly recovering economy, but the larger picture for higher education remains mixed.

Educational revenues, per full-time student, are still more than 6 percent less than they were in 2008, the report says.

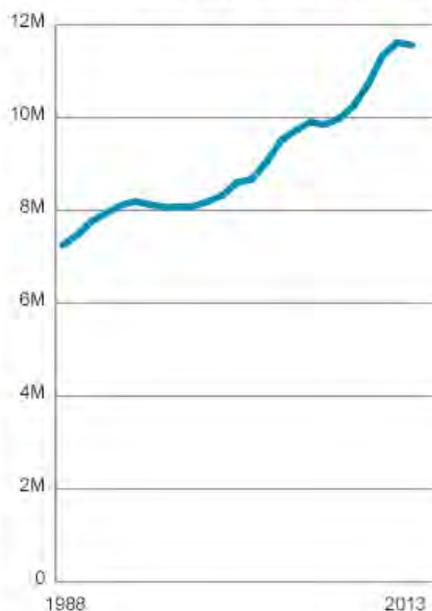
Changing Share of State Support and Public-College Tuition, per Full-Time Student, 1988-2013

Over a quarter-century, state budget cuts and enrollment increases have diminished the amount of tax money spent per full-time-equivalent enrollment. From 1988 to 2013, state and local appropriations have shrunk from 76 percent of educational revenue per full-time student to 53 percent.



Note: Figures are in constant 2013 dollars, adjusted for inflation.

Enrollment of Full-Time Students at Public Colleges, 1988-2013



Source: State Higher Education Executive Officers

The national figures mask the much deeper financial problems for public higher education in many individual states since 2008 as a result of a combination of enrollment increases and state budget cuts. Educational appropriations per full-time student have fallen more than 50 percent in New Hampshire and more than 40 percent in both Florida and Louisiana. More than 20 other states have seen declines exceeding 25 percent in appropriations per full-time student.

Only four states increased tax dollars for public higher education from 2008 to 2013: Alaska, Illinois, North Dakota, and Wyoming. Illinois also did so, but most of the increase in that state resulted from its efforts to shore up its public pensions, the report notes.