



WASHINGTON FINANCIAL AID ASSOCIATION 2016-2017 Student Budgets

Proposed to WFAA membership for approval October 2015

	Dependent, living with parent	Independent, living with parent	Not living with parent	High-cost regions*
Tuition & Fees				
Books & Supplies	\$825	\$825	\$825	\$825
Room & Board	\$3,165	\$7,634	\$9,583	\$10,140
Transportation	\$1,140	\$1,485	\$1,125	\$1,140
Misc./Personal	\$1,810	\$1,867	\$2,055	\$2,271
Total	\$6,940	\$11,811	\$13,588	\$14,376

Purpose of WFAA Student Budgets

WFAA student budgets are intended to serve as benchmarks for assessing student costs within the state and are not intended to replace or supplant student expense studies or budget development at the institutional level.

Annual Budgets

The student budgets listed above are based on a nine month academic year. Amounts were rounded to the nearest dollar that is divisible by two and three to accommodate institutions on the quarter and semester system. Aid administrators should include tuition and fees for their respective institutions and evaluate the remaining line items to adjust for costs and conditions as determined at the institutional level.

Student Surveys and analysis of data

In partnership with the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC), the budgets were developed using results from a statewide student budget survey which was conducted in spring 2015. The 27-question survey was delivered electronically using SurveyMonkey. More than 7,000 survey responses were received from students across all geographic regions of the state. The survey data was evaluated by data analysts at WSAC. Results indicated a reduction in total student expenditures compared to the prior year and budgets were developed to reflect this trend.

***High-cost Regions**

To account for student expenditures in high-cost regions, the committee developed an additional budget. According to 2015 survey data, the high-cost counties are identified as: **Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, King, Kitsap, Lewis, and Snohomish.**