Textbook Affordability: What Are Students Saying?

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?

- **2016**
  - Under $300: 45%
  - $301-$500: 35%
  - Over $500: 18%

- **2018**
  - Under $300: 56%
  - $301-$500: 30%
  - Over $500: 14%

Textbook costs decreased in 2018 survey

**How are they dealing with the costs?**

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

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?*

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

How are these choices impacting their learning?

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

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

3.6 required textbooks purchased but never used

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

- College: 44%
- University: 44%

SPENT OVER $300 ON TEXTBOOKS

- College: 11%
- University: 9%

SPENT OVER $300 ON ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

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.fvc.org.