

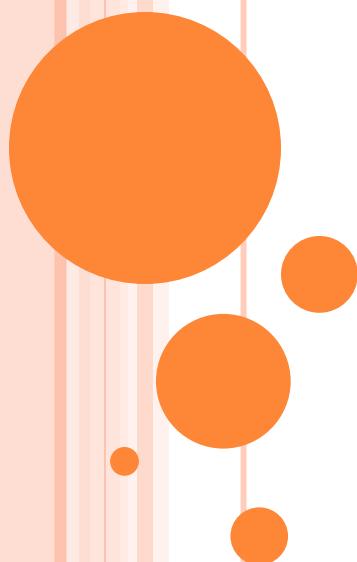


# FREE COMMUNITY COLLEGE? PATHWAYS TO THE PROMISE

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Vice President

The Institute for College Access & Success

Rural Community College Alliance Conference  
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# THE INSTITUTE FOR COLLEGE ACCESS & SUCCESS

In California and nationally, TICAS works to:

- Increase awareness and reduce the burden of student loan debt
- Improve access to available aid
- Strengthen need-based grant programs
- Protect students, borrowers, and taxpayers

# The Rural Higher-Education Crisis

When it comes to college enrollment, students in Middle America—many of them white—face an uphill battle against economic and cultural deterrents.

JON MARCUS AND MATT KRUPNICK

SEP 27, 2017

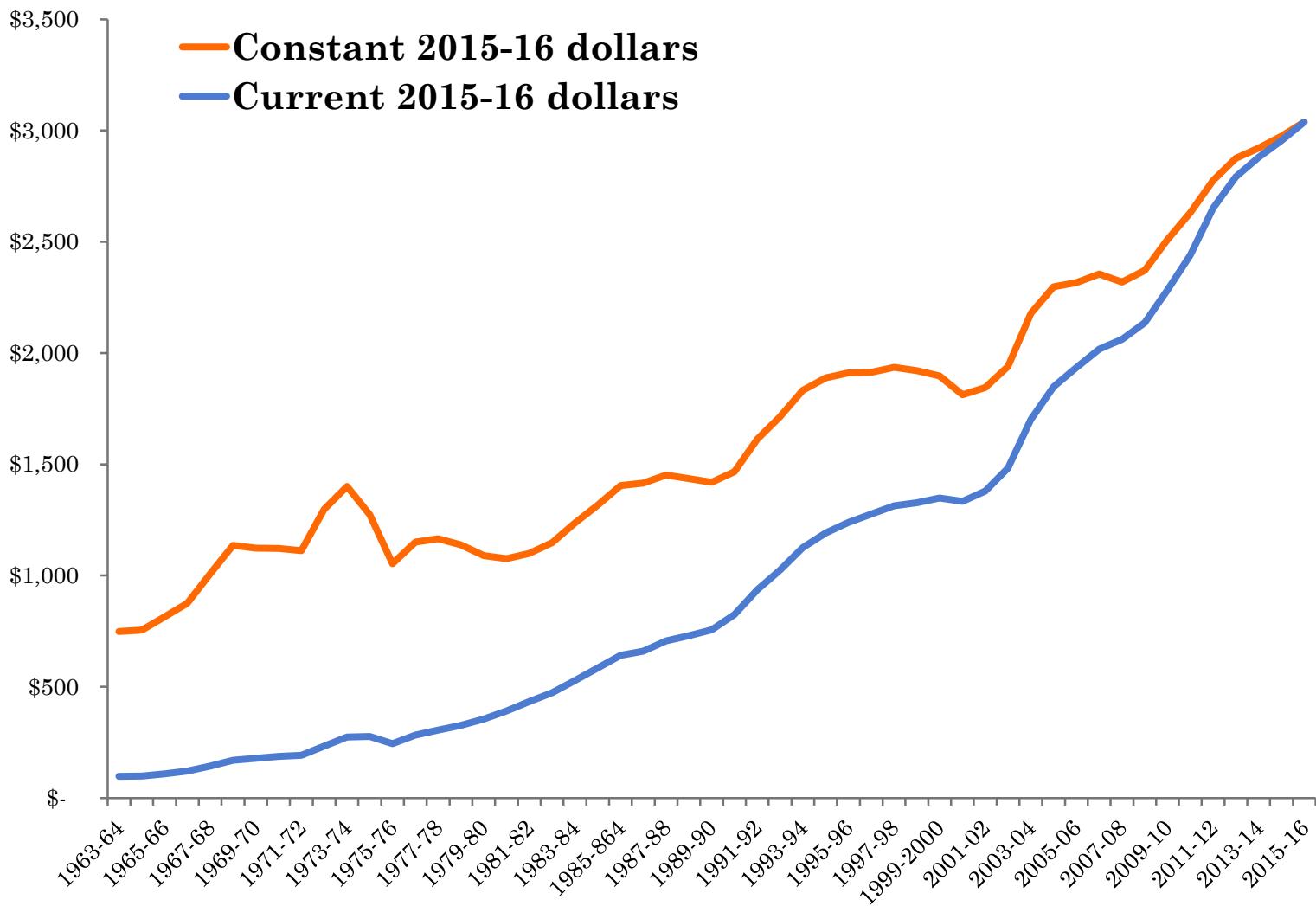
EDUCATION

- Rural students are:
  - Better prepared academically;
  - Less likely to enroll in college; and
  - Highly likely to drop out of college within the first year.

Article available at

<https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2017/09/the-rural-higher-education-crisis/541188/>

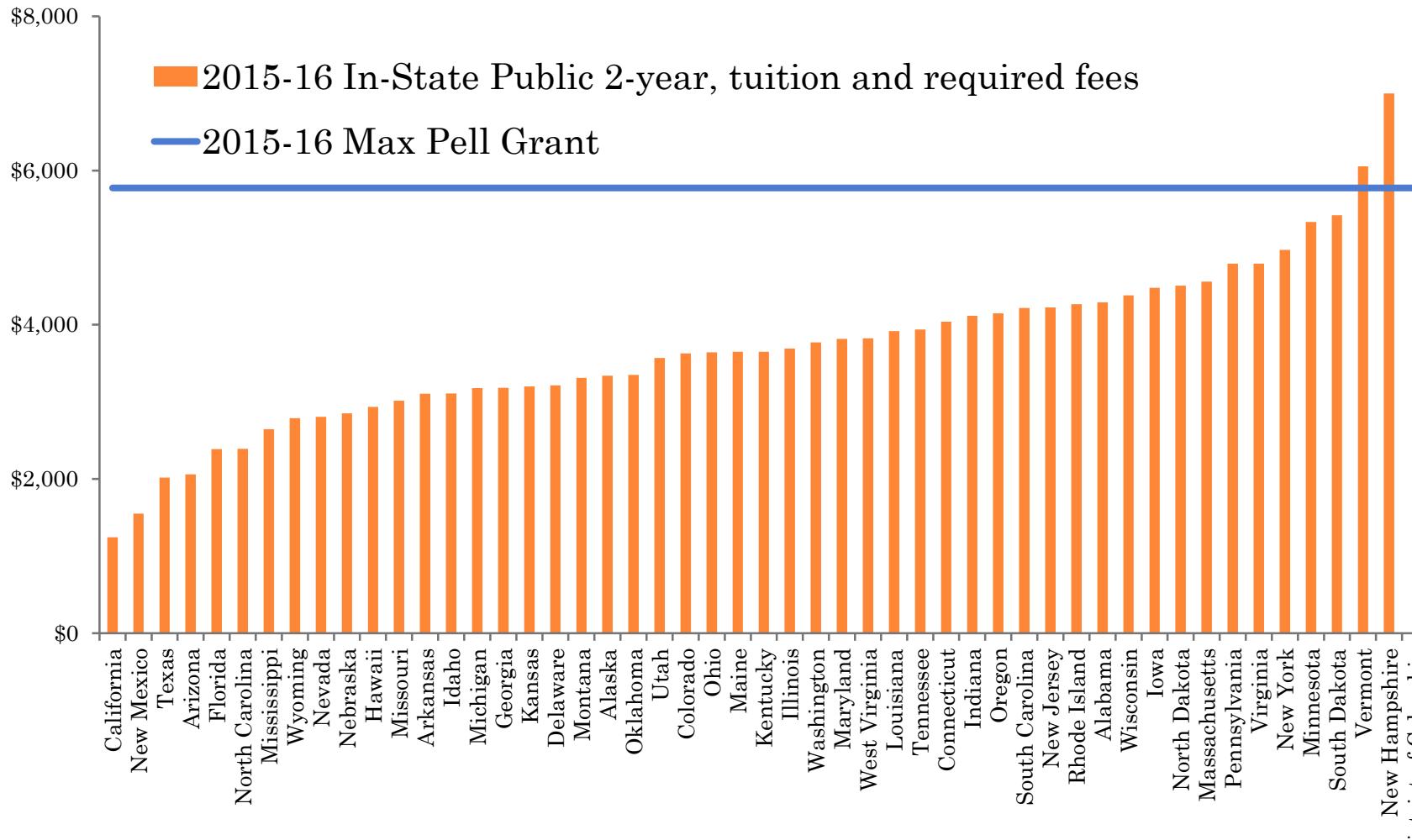
# PUBLIC 2-YEAR TUITION & FEES



Source: U.S. Department of Education. 2016. *Table 330.10*.

[https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d16/tables/dt16\\_330.10.asp?current=yes](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d16/tables/dt16_330.10.asp?current=yes).

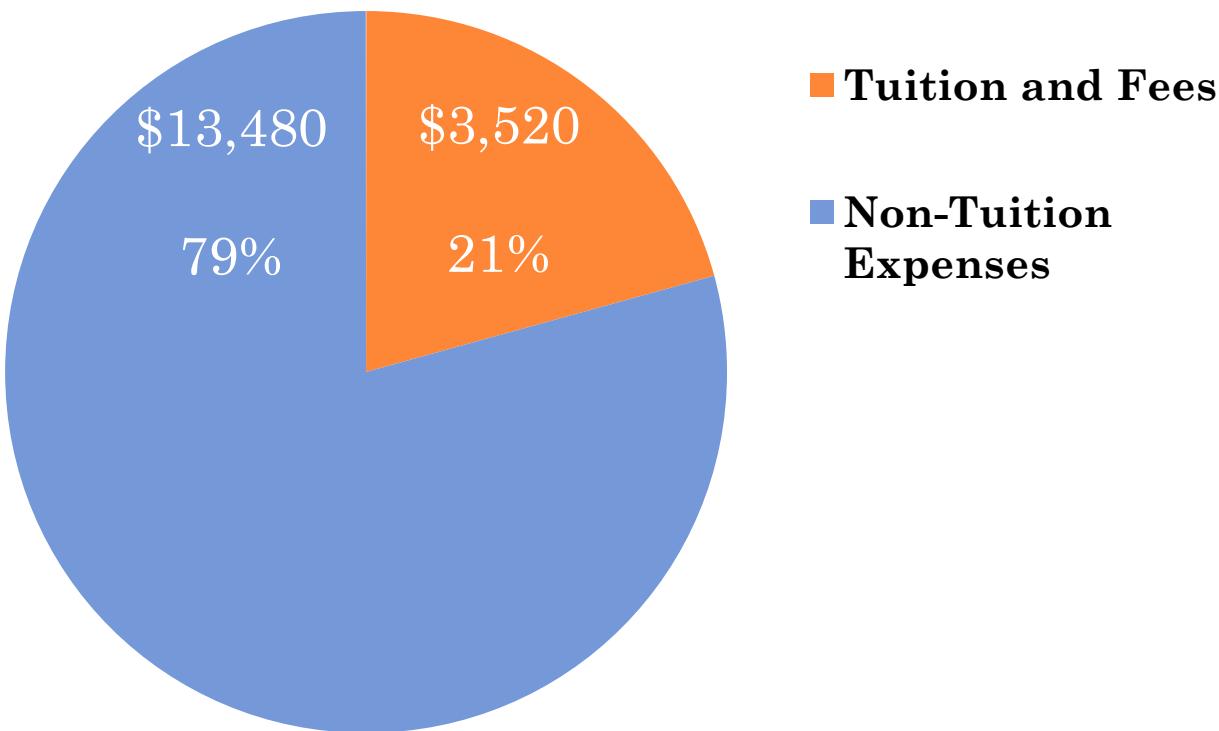
# TUITION VS MAXIMUM PELL GRANT



Sources: U.S. Department of Education. 2016. *Table 330.20*.

[https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d16/tables/dt16\\_330.20.asp?current=yes](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d16/tables/dt16_330.20.asp?current=yes); U. S. Department of Education: <https://www2.ed.gov/programs/fpg/index.html>.

# TOTAL COLLEGE COSTS FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS, 2016-17



Source: The College Board. 2016. *Trends in College Pricing 2016*. <https://trends.collegeboard.org/college-pricing/figures-tables/average-estimated-undergraduate-budgets-2016-17>.

# AID'S IMPACT ON ACCESS AND SUCCESS

- Can a student enroll in college?
  - Aid for *tuition* facilitates college **access**.
- Can the student get to campus regularly, buy the required books and materials, and afford to spend their time in class and studying rather than working?
  - Aid for *non-tuition* costs facilitates college **success**.

# MUCH NEED, LITTLE AID FOR CC STUDENTS

- Community colleges enroll more low-income students than four-year colleges, but students get less aid.
  - Federal Pell Grants are the primary source of financial aid for CC students.
  - Low-income CC students are less likely than four-year college students to receive grants from states or colleges.
  - Relatively few CC students take out federal student loans, and 17% of rural community college students are at colleges that do not make federal loans available.



# THE IMPACT OF WORK ON STUDENT SUCCESS

*“I only take a couple classes a semester because that is all I can afford at the time, and I have to keep working 30-40 hours a week to pay for everything else.”*

*“I pay for all of my bills, school, and personal needs with the hours I work. Because of this, it’s taking me much longer to get through school than I would like, and I struggled a lot my first two years with the balance of work and school.”*

For more student stories, see TICAS, *On the Verge: Costs and Tradeoffs Facing Community College Students*

# PROMISE PROGRAMS, BEYOND TUITION

Key questions to ask to ensure low-income students benefit from Promise:

- *Is it possible to extend financial benefits beyond tuition?*
  - Ex. Provide textbook or transportation assistance to students whose Pell Grant covers tuition, establish food pantries.
- *Where are there cracks in the pipeline that need fixing with non-financial interventions?*
  - Ex. Are high school graduates not enrolling? Are enrolled students not completing?