

“The budget signed into law today contains the largest increase to funding for the Ohio College Opportunity Grant and Choose Ohio First in a decade. We applaud Governor DeWine, Speaker Householder, and President Obhof for their commitment to helping Ohio’s neediest college students. Thousands of students and their families and Ohio’s larger economy will reap the benefits of this investment for decades to come.”

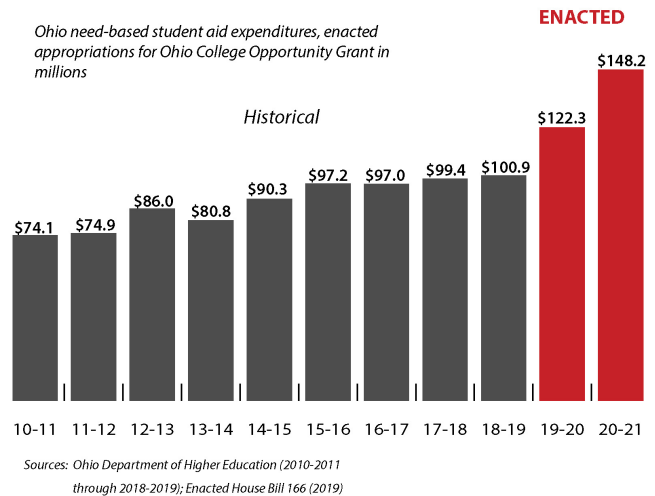


C. Todd Jones
President and General Counsel

House Bill 166, Ohio’s budget bill, increased the Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG) by \$47.3 million over the biennium. This investment in Ohio’s students is the largest increase to funding in a decade.

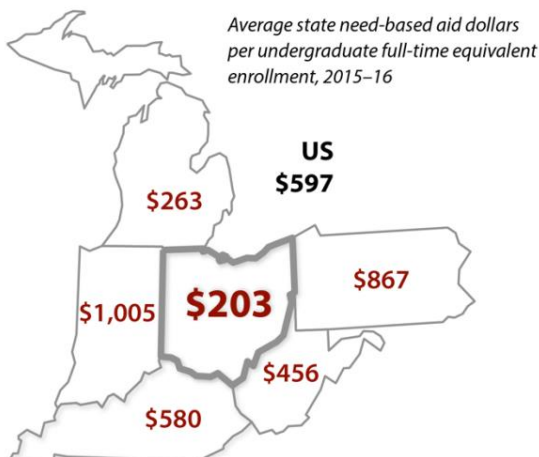
Budget Contains Largest OCOG Increase in a Decade

Thank you Gov. DeWine, Speaker Householder, and President Obhof for your commitment to helping Ohio’s neediest students



Ohio Still Lowest in the Region in Need-Based Student Aid

This data reflects two academic years ago, not Governor DeWine’s proposed budget.

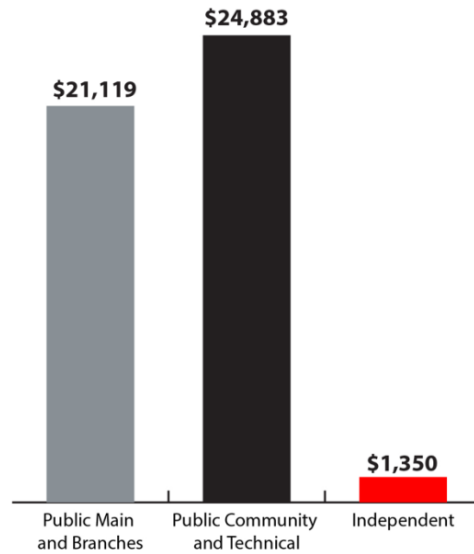


Source: National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs: “47th Annual Survey Report”

Before this budget, Ohio’s state need-based aid program has been woefully underfunded. In fact, Ohio is ranked 33rd among states in need-based aid provided and lags every state in the region by a substantial amount.

A Bargain for the State

Every Independent college graduate saves Ohio money



State of Ohio expenditures per graduate by sector (excluding capital appropriations), 2016-2017

Source: Ohio Department of Higher Education & IPEDS (2019)

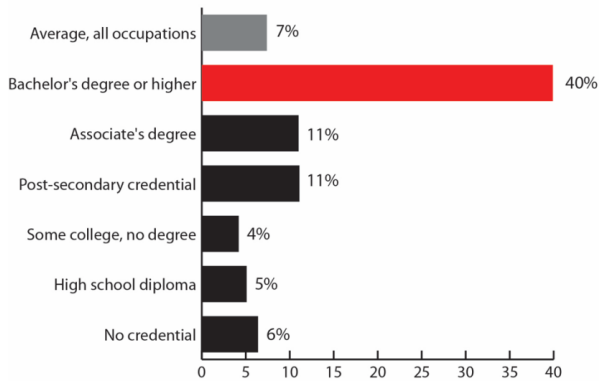
An investment in OCOG actually saves the state, and taxpayers, more money than it costs.

For every degree awarded at an independent college, the state only pays \$1,350 on average, while it pays \$21,119 for a four-year state degree and \$24,883 for a community college degree.

Clearly, any student who attends an independent college costs the state drastically less than a student who attends any state institution.

Higher Education: The Path to Employment

Occupations requiring higher education levels will grow rapidly from 2016-2026



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Our future economy is dependent on bachelor's degrees more than any other kind of post-secondary attainment. We believe that the state's new budget will help support that need. Its emphasis is in the right place, makes meaningful investments, and will help all Ohioans achieve their educational goals.