



TRENDS IN STUDENT AID AND COLLEGE PRICING

**A Component of Florida's
CHANGING DIRECTIONS GRANT**

**Supported by
The Florida Department of Education,
The Lumina Foundation
and
The Western Interstate Commission for
Higher Education**

PURPOSE

- ◆ A comprehensive accounting of student financial aid trends in Florida.
- ◆ Complete inventory of direct aid to students, from all sources, at all types of institutions:
 - 2-year and 4-year
 - Public and independent
 - nonprofit and for-profit.
- ◆ 5 – year look to span periods of growth and decline in state and national economies.



PURPOSE



- ◆ Recipients and dollars awarded.
- ◆ Family resources available to students.
- ◆ And the amount it costs these students to attend college in Florida.

FOCUS

- ◆ Units of analysis:
 - Sectors, not individual institutions.
 - Financial aid programs, not individual awards.
 - Report data in both current and constant dollars, to promote accurate interpretation of trends, controlling for the variable purchasing power of the dollar over time
- ◆ Comparisons nationally and to peer states

USEFULNESS TO POLICYMAKERS

- ◆ We don't know what we don't know
- ◆ Data to inform public policy regarding postsecondary affordability and access.
- ◆ Project marks the beginning on ongoing tracking of trends in:
 - indicators of cost, aid, and student/family ability to pay
 - Relative contributions by those with "shared responsibility" for making postsecondary accessible

WHAT WE'RE COLLECTING

- ◆ Program years 1997-98 through 2001-02
- ◆ Count what is "countable"
- ◆ Direct aid to students

WHAT WE'RE COLLECTING: SPECIFICS

- ◆ Federal Aid
- ◆ State Aid
- ◆ Institutional Aid (need and merit)
- ◆ Aid from Private Sources
- ◆ Dual Enrollment
- ◆ Fee Waivers and Exemptions



WHAT WE'RE NOT COLLECTING



- ◆ State subsidies to institutions
- ◆ Consumer loans

CONTACT INFORMATION

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FOR STUDY UPDATES...



- ◆ <http://www.cepri.state.fl.us>
- ◆ <http://www.educationalpolicy.org>