College Affordability in Oklahoma

NCAN's research documents the prevalence of “unaffordability” at public two-year and four-year institutions for students from low- and moderate-income families. The following charts demonstrate the affordability landscape of postsecondary education. When net price and emergency expenses are not covered by subsidized loans and student earnings from part-time employment, NCAN defines the remaining deficit as an “affordability gap.” In instances where the sum of loans and wages equals or surpasses the sum of net price and emergency costs, we refer to the surplus as “an affordability margin.”

There are 64,605 Pell Grant recipients in Oklahoma.

Oklahoma receives $274,791,794 in Pell Grant funding each year.

State grant programs are crucial for college access and success, and can be based on financial need, merit, or a variety of factors.
College Access & Completion in Oklahoma

The **Financial Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** determines eligibility for many types of financial aid. FAFSA completion is strongly associated with college enrollment. Nationally, 59% of high school seniors completed the FAFSA for the 2023-2024 cycle.

**44%**

of high school seniors in Oklahoma completed a FAFSA for the 2023-2024 cycle (as of 7/1/2023).

**Oklahoma ranks 43rd in FAFSA Completion**

The OKLAHOMA Class of 2023 left $63 million in Pell Grants unclaimed, by not completing a FAFSA.

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The chart to the right reflects **degree attainment** (including an associate’s degree or higher,) for adults ages 25 and older.

**Degree Attainment for Adults (Ages 25+)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Associate’s Degree and Higher (%)</th>
<th>OKLAHOMA</th>
<th>UNITED STATES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** United States Census Bureau, 2022. American Community Survey.

**Source:** NCAN, Form Your Future FAFSA Tracker. www.formyourfuture.org.

**Source:** NCAN, Pell Dollars Left on the Table Report.