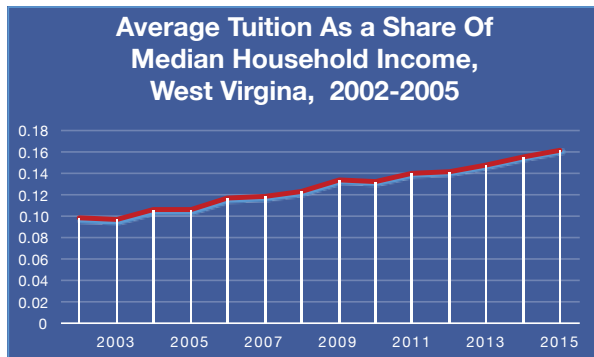




Tuition increases have made higher education economically unaffordable for many West Virginia families.

Tuition has grown faster than inflation. It has grown faster than the income of a typical household in West Virginia. In 2002, the average tuition at a four-year public college or university in West Virginia was equal to about 9.8 percent of the state's median household income. In 2002, it took about ten percent of a typical family's income to pay for a student's tuition on their own. By 2015, that amount had grown to over 16 percent of the state's median household income.

The rise of tuition rates at West Virginia's public colleges and universities are directly related to declining state support for higher education. As the state has grappled with hundreds of millions of dollars in budget shortfalls in recent years, higher education has come under the budget knife. Between FY 2008 and FY 2017, West Virginia cut higher education funding by \$132 million, adjusting for inflation, a decrease of more than 26 percent.



Source: State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO); State Higher Education Finance FY15.

West Virginia Higher Education Faculty Issues 2017-2018

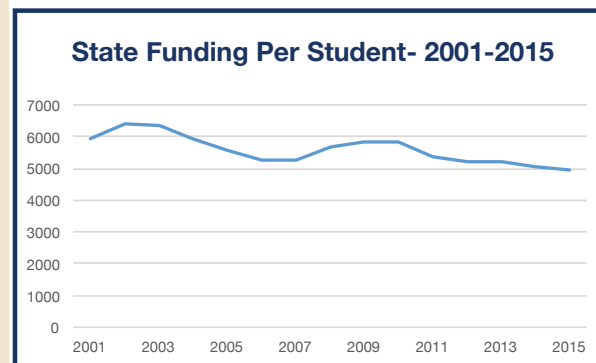
To provide a high quality and affordable education for West Virginians, and to recognize the continuum of state-supported learning, from Pre-K through college.

For the West Virginia Legislature:

- Create a steady stream of revenue for the higher education of WV students.
- Support the critical work of the HEPC and CCTCE to ensure transparency and oversight at colleges and universities in administering higher education.
- Restore funding for student and faculty programs scheduled to be eliminated on July 1, 2018 per HB 2815.
- Secure the solvency of PEIA with adequate funding.

For the West Virginia HEPC, CCTCE, and Institutions of Higher Learning:

- Promote faculty rights and ethical behavior through educating administrators and faculty.
- Include faculty in decision-making processes that create initiatives and policies.



State funding for higher education has fallen from \$6,373 per full time equivalent student in 2002 to \$4,963 per student in 2015, a decline of over 22 percent. Declining state support and rising tuition have resulted in students bearing a larger share of public college operating costs approaching 60 percent in 2015.

As state support has fallen and tuition has increased, students and their families are taking on more debt to pay for the costs of higher education. In 2015, 68 percent of West Virginia college graduates graduated with debt, the seventh highest rate in the country. West Virginia's student loan debt averaged \$27,713.20.

Higher Education: Our Economic Future



THE WEST VIRGINIA ADVISORY COUNCIL OF FACULTY 2017-2018

The ACF Advises

The West Virginia Legislature

The West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission

The West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education

West Virginia Institutions of Higher Education Boards of Governors

ACF
WEST VIRGINIA ADVISORY COUNCIL OF FACULTY
www.wvacf.org

Investments in higher education provide significant economic benefits. Improving the levels of educational attainment in West Virginia's workforce will help ensure the state's economic future.

West Virginia Center on Policy and Budget

Average tuition at West Virginia's public colleges and universities has increased by \$4,200 since 2002, a 147 percent increase, and far out pacing inflation.

Tuition increases, in large part, have been fueled by falling public support for higher education. Since 2008, state spending in higher education has declined by \$132 million, adjusting for inflation.

The average debt of a college graduate in West Virginia has increased by 70 percent since 2005. West Virginia also has the second highest student loan default.

Investments in higher education provide significant economic benefits. Improving the levels of educational attainment in West Virginia's workforce will help ensure the state's economic future.

Higher education faculty are committed to serve

- our students through quality instruction in academic and workforce development programs;
- our institutions through instruction, professional development, research and scholarship, and direct service;
- our local communities through engagement and programs that bring workforce development, jobs, economic growth, cultural and artistic events, business and educational partnerships, and research.

The Advisory Council of Faculty (ACF) was established by West Virginia Code §18B-6-2, as an advisory body of higher education faculty to

- serve as a resource to the legislature and advise the legislature on higher education;
- provide advice to the Higher Education Policy Commission and the Council for Community and Technical College Education in the development of policies and issues pertaining to higher education;
- report to and advise local boards of governors and faculty constituents on issues pertaining to higher education.



2017-2018 Advisory Council of Faculty Members

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