

STATE FUNDING

Missouri's higher education funding per student ranks **44th in the country** – 42% below the national average.ⁱ

LAST as compared to its 8 neighboring states – 55% BELOW their average

LAST as compared to the 10 most conservative statesⁱⁱ – 53% BELOW their average

LAST as compared to the 10 lowest tax statesⁱⁱⁱ – 85% BELOW their average

TUITION^{iv}

Missouri's public universities' total tuition increase over the past five years was just 5%.

3rd lowest increase in the country – one-fourth of the national average tuition increase

THE LOWEST increase compared to neighboring states – one-third of their average increase

Over the last five years, community college tuition has increased a total of just \$10.

The average community college tuition increase over the past five years was 0.6%.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT^v

Unemployment goes DOWN as educational attainment increases.

- The unemployment rate for bachelor's degree holders (4%) and associate's degree holders (5.4%) are far lower than for those with only a high school diploma (7.5%) or less than a high school diploma (11%).

- Community colleges and public universities work closely together to allow student transfers through strong in-state articulation agreements.

Average earnings go UP as educational attainment increases.

- Weekly earnings for associates and bachelor's degree holders average between 20% and 70% higher compared to those with only a high school diploma.

- Employees with associates degrees and customized training leading to industry credentials are in high demand in today's economy.

THE TIME TO INVEST IS NOW!

To begin the process of turning the corner, Missouri's public higher education institutions request:

- **5% increase in core performance and equity funding for FY 2016**
- **Passage of remaining \$162 million bonding proceeds for badly needed maintenance and repair projects.**

ⁱ MO average - \$4,975, national average - \$7,072. Source: Illinois State University, Grapevine Reports

ⁱⁱ MO average - \$4,975, conservative states' average - \$7,797. Source: Gallup's "State of the States" series and Illinois State University, Grapevine Reports

ⁱⁱⁱ MO average - \$4,975, lowest tax states' average - \$9,213. Source: WalletHub.com, and Illinois State University, Grapevine Reports.

^{iv} Source: The College Board, "Trends in College Pricing, 2014-2015.

^v Source: Current Population Survey, US Bureau of Labor and Statistics, US Department of Labor