

All in the money: How tuition for out-of-state students is difficult but manageable

With out-of-state tuition costs at the University of Oklahoma, nearly [3x](#) the amount compared to those from the state, being able to pay for post-secondary schooling can be difficult, but with the help of student services, it is possible.

By: Jack Kirchhoff

Norman, Okla.- The University of Oklahoma's annual [tuition](#) is \$25,880 for out-of-state students, while in-state students pay \$9,312 which is compared at just about triple the amount. Granted the purpose for the difference is that those who live in the state have [paid taxes](#) for their region for at least a year and will continue to do so for the duration of their college time.

University of Oklahoma Freshman, Preston Southern, said he is from Tri-Cities Washington, and managing money with a fear of having large amounts of debt was a major concern due to the high costs of schooling to go to this prestigious University.

Southern said, "Out-of-state tuition has been a lot for me and my family since it over double those of in-state tuition in Oklahoma, so I've had to work hard to do scholarships, and financial aid, and working hard in my job here to earn money to be a part of the University."

With the help of student services and financial help through scholarships and federal funding, Southern is able to make ends meet as he used the University scholarship hub [CASH](#) (Centralized Academic Scholarship Hub) which is run through the university financial aid offices to help students apply to all scholarships they are qualified for at the school.

Director of Financial Aid, Courtney Henderson, encourages students to use these resources to get through college with minimal debt and a little more financial freedom for their everyday lives.

Henderson said, “The ways that financial aid can keep a student’s loan debts down is utilizing free options first or self-help options like work study where that’s an option where students can work for money to keep, and money sent straight to their bursar to lower their tuition costs.”

The [financial aid offices](#) guide students to financial success not just while they’re in college but even after they graduate and have set careers earning their money in all different places in the world.

Director of Communications for the Office of Admissions & Recruitment, Danielle Dunn, said that freshman students are making up to be more and more out-of-state residents as the most recent class was listed at 51% as non-Oklahoman residencies. She discussed that all students should look into the [OU Money Coaches](#).

Dunn said, “Admitted students are encouraged to complete a Financial Success Plan and speak with an OU MoneyCoach when creating a plan to pay for college.”

The Money Coaches website said that they help ensure students develop healthy, lifelong financial behaviors to set them up for financial success no matter what career route they plan to endure.

University of Oklahoma Sophomore, Mackenzie West, said that since she started taking advantage of the student services and learning effective ways to help her save money, she has experienced a great deal of relief financially when trying to pay for college.

West said, “OU Money Coaches have helped guide me through ways that have made paying off my bursar account much easier and have given me tips on ways to preserve and balance my money that I will take with me after I graduate and get my first job.”

With a multitude of options and opportunities, both out-of-state and in-state students can pay off their school without worry of finding themselves in financial trouble in the present or in the future.

References:

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