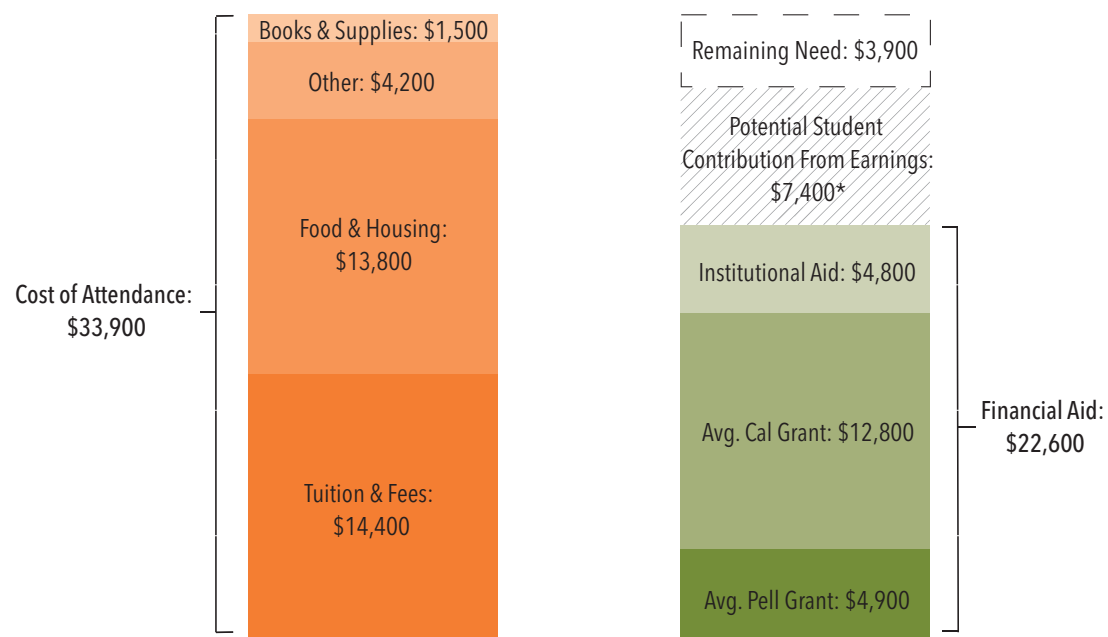




MARCH 2019 | BY AMY ROSE

## Low-Income Students Face Considerable Unmet Financial Need at the University of California (UC)

Average Statewide Cost of Attending UC Full-Time Compared to Financial Aid, 2018-19



\* Assumes student earns \$11 per hour and works 15 hours per week during school year and 40 hours per week during summer. Reflects deductions for taxes and some summer expenses.

Note: Living costs reflect annual estimates for resident undergraduates living off campus. Institutional Aid reflects the average UC Grant award. "Other" reflects transportation and personal/miscellaneous expenses. Figures are inflation-adjusted to 2018-19 dollars as needed, rounded to the nearest hundred, and may not sum.

Source: California Employment Development Department, California Student Aid Commission, National Postsecondary Student Aid Study, and University of California

● The cost of attending UC includes more than tuition and fees. Students pursuing a college degree also face student-related living costs such as books and supplies, food, housing, and transportation. The total cost of attendance can exceed \$33,000 per year.

● Most financial aid is linked primarily to tuition and falls short in addressing student-related living costs. Federal, state, and campus-based aid covers roughly 65% of the annual cost of attendance, leaving low-income students to cover over \$11,000 in expenses.

● Addressing students' unmet financial need is essential to their college success. Policymakers could focus financial aid on the total cost of attendance – not just tuition – to ensure higher education remains affordable and accessible for all Californians.

CALIFORNIA BUDGET & POLICY CENTER

[calbudgetcenter.org](http://calbudgetcenter.org)