

## **\$Higher Education\$**

Who should pay for public higher education? Why is this topic so controversial? If our kids are the future then why is education put first on the chopping block when it comes to budget cuts? In the new generation of college students tuition and fees have risen and the state investment has tumbled down along the way. This puts America in a situation where we need to revisit our focus in who should pay for higher education. Whether it is from taxes, via scholarships, state funded or even federally funded. The funding should come from a combination of government, students and private organizations. As a state and a country we must confirm this problem and make possible solutions that are considered “fair” to the public. We need to make a stabilized investment in our society as a whole, so that everybody has a benefit from it.

Funding education beyond high school has always brought up a big question in who should and will pay for it. Let’s start with the fundamentals on how our education is currently paid for. The U.S Department of Education Federal student aid currently is accountable for the funding of current college students. There are several options in how a student can decide on how to be able to pay for college according to FAFSA. [Types of Aid: Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant, Federal Work-Study, federal Perkins Loans,

William D. Ford Direct Stafford Loans, Direct Subsidized Loans, Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loans, Direct plus Loans and Direct Consolidation loans.] Depending on the grant a majority of them don't have to be repaid back, but on the loan segment they all have a fixed interest rate that you must pay back within 10-25 years after the graduation date. To receive any of this aid you must demonstrate financial need, be a U.S. citizen or an eligible noncitizen, and have a valid Social Security Number. ([studentaid.ed.gov/pubs](http://studentaid.ed.gov/pubs). Web.)

Richer Vedder, a notoriously conservative economist who once wrote that low income-students are wasting financial aid by partying too much says, "Since most of the financial aid benefits of college go to the student, he or she should pay for a large portion of college costs"(Weblog post. [Eduoptimists.blogspot.com](http://Eduoptimists.blogspot.com). Web.) I can somewhat agree with the fact that students should contribute to their own higher education, but not everybody comes from the same background where they can afford it. In this downed economy it's very difficult for students to find a job and start to work. Stating that college students should pay for their education isn't that great of a solution because students will then have to look for a job and it's very difficult in this downed economy to keep a steady job straight out of high school. Students then would have to save up for college, when college will most likely not be the top priority because they'll be worried about living life such as paying bills, transportation and saving up for tuition and books.

Another Form of how higher education should be paid for is by privately organized organizations. For example there are many companies that are willing to contribute; all the students need is a reason why they should be able to receive any money. Kristen Olsen says,

“We need to prioritize education/public safety and increase the state investment, Tap into the sources of private organizations. I agree with her on that matter, because with tuition fees on the rise we need to re-focus our viewpoint. (Olsen Kristen, “Perspectives in Higher Education.” Open forum CSU Stanislaus, Turlock. 25 Oct. 2011.) Students should begin to write to these companies that are willing to give out money to higher education for students who are in dire need of financial assistance. Mr. Krigbrauhm a graduate of Modesto high school class of 1963. Krigbrauhm’s speech was referred by politics and past tense conclusions. Krigbrauhm paid for all expenses of college at the age of 30, he was too immature and distracted in his early years of his life to attend college straight from high school. Once he turned 30 he began to work and save up for college and went about it in his own way. Edward Krigbrauhm states “Budget is 16 trillion dollars; we should pay for our education” (Krigbrauhm Edward, “ Perspectives in Higher Education.” Open forum CSU Stanislaus, Turlock. 25 Oct. 2011.)

I personally think that college should be paid for in a combined way of via scholarships, businesses; companies instead of so many burdens being left on government, because we are in a big debt deficit and it’s almost putting our great country to the brink of being more in debt. In my conclusion students should pay a balanced proportion of school fees with relative help from government and private organizations, because assuming that a student will graduate and receive a higher paying job, as a society we’ll benefit as a whole. So it might be that one day when students graduate and remember the fact, for example Pepsi contributed to an individual’s college expenses and the student then starts to work for Pepsi and accomplishes great success in the company and comes in with great break troughs and ideas. Private organizations should sponsor and help out students that want to continue their education also

knowing that government assistance will be set in as well as the students input. The main we must do is watch a student's progress as government and organizations give money away to the students, making sure that as companies invest in us they will receive benefits when we graduate. Student will make the society more knowledgeable about variety expertise aspects in our country. We will financially gain as a society if we have more students graduating from colleges that will be paid for by big corporations, government and investors who invest in us.

Work Cited

(studentaid.ed.gov/pubs. Web.)

(Weblog post. Eduoptimists.blogspot.com. Web.)

(Krigbrauhm Edward," Perspectives in Higher Education." Open forum CSU Stanislaus, Turlock. 25 Oct. 2011.)

(Olsen Kristen,"Perspectives in Higher Education." Open forum CSU Stanislaus, Turlock. 25 Oct. 2011.)