

Breaking Down your Cost of Attendance

What is the Cost of Attendance?

The Cost of Attendance (COA) - sometimes referred to as the "student budget" - estimates what it will cost a typical student to attend SUNY Polytechnic Institute for one academic year. In addition to providing students with a framework for the investment of a SUNY Poly degree, it also sets a limit on the amount of financial aid that a student can receive during the academic year (as required by federal regulations.)

Direct vs. Indirect Costs

The COA does not represent charges that may appear on the student's semester bill, so it's important to understand that the COA is divided into two categories: direct (billable) costs and indirect (non-billable) costs.

Direct (Billable) Costs

Direct costs are expenses that SUNY Poly will bill you. They include things such as:

- Tuition
- Fees
- On-campus housing and meal plans

Indirect (Non-Billable) Costs

Indirect costs are necessary expenses associated with attending college.

Students are not billed for these expenses.

They include things like:

- Off-campus housing and food
- Books, course materials, supplies, and equipment
- Transportation
- Personal expenses

Cost of Attendance Components

We've defined each of the components of the COA included on your enclosed award letter (listed under "Costs" on the first page of your financial aid plan).

Contact the Financial Aid Office
315-792-7210 • finaid@sunypoly.edu

Tuition

Tuition is determined using your anticipated enrollment type as reported on your admission application (full-time or part-time). The tuition rate is established by New York State. Tuition charges billed to the student are based on actual enrollment.



Fees

Fees include mandatory fees charged to all students. Fees billed to the student are based on actual enrollment.



Living Expenses

Students living in college-provided housing are billed each semester for their housing (room) and food (meal plan) expenses. Students living off-campus make payments to their landlord in accordance with the provision of their lease. Students living off-campus with a parent receive an allocation under housing and food representing the estimated costs of meals.

Books, Course Materials, Supplies, and Equipment

In order to develop a reasonable estimate of the cost of books and supplies for a SUNY Poly student, the Financial Aid Office evaluates the required course materials of several enrolled students of various majors and class standings to determine an average cost.

Transportation

This figure includes gas expenses for an on-campus student for trips home when school is not in session or gas expenses for a student commuting to campus.

Personal

Within this category, we consider expenses such as laundry, clothing, medical, and other personal expenses.