

CCCU Tuition Survey: 2008-09 Update (REVISED Jan 2009\*)  
by Stanley A. Clark, Provost  
Simpson University

Introduction. This is the twenty-fourth in an annual series of reports on tuition and fees at member institutions of the Council of Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU). It is based on data collected by the College Board; their findings appeared in the November 7, 2008 edition of The Chronicle of Higher Education (pp. A24 ff). All member institutions in the US (n = 106; see Note 1) are included in this report; Canadian schools and non-member affiliates are not.

General findings. The Appendix presents summary data for 106 CCCU institutions, rank ordered from highest to lowest tuition for 2008-09. In order to better understand the central tendencies and variations across the population, Table I presents means, medians, ranges and standard deviations for 2008-09 and the past 3 years as well.

---

Table I  
Summary Statistics: CCCU Tuition/Fees (in dollars)

	2008-09	2007-08	2006-07	2005-06
Mean	19,677	18,743	17,615	16,632
Median	19,570	18,771	17,590	16,490
Std Dev	4,075	3,834	3,611	3,441
Range	22,800	20,842	19,890	18,556
Mean % Ch	6.3	6.4	6.5	5.7
N	106	101	101	101

---

We can see from reviewing Table I that the means, medians, standard deviations and ranges continue to increase each year. The percent increase in tuition/fees for 2008-09 is only slightly lower than the increase for 2007-08 (6.3 and 6.4 percent respectively).

Table 2, on the following page, presents tuition/fee data in thousand-dollar intervals as another measure of variation. Tuitions exhibit little clustering, with no modal interval this year. Fifty (50) member institutions have passed the \$20,000 mark this year, compared to 36 in 2007-08, 28 in 2006-07, 15 in 2005-06, 10 in 2004-05 and only 3 in 2003-04.

National Comparisons. How do the member institutions of the CCCU compare to national averages for tuition/fees? Table 3 presents comparative data for 2008-09. The rate of increase (see Note 3) was slightly higher for CCCU (6.3 percent) than for the group of all 4-year privates (5.9 percent), and slightly lower than 4-year publics (at 6.4 percent). Our average tuition is

Table 2  
Tuition at CCCU Institutions, in Intervals of \$1,000

	2008-09	2007-08	2006-07	2005-06
<u>Tuition</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>N</u>
> 26,000	6			
25,000 - 25,999	5	5		
24,000 - 24,999	3	3	3	1
23,000 - 23,999	5	4	4	
22,000 - 22,999	11	3	5	5
21,000 - 21,999	9	14	2	5
20,000 - 20,999	11	7	14	4
19,000 - 19,999	12	13	6	12
18,000 - 18,999	12	10	12	9
17,000 - 17,999	6	12	12	11
16,000 - 16,999	3	7	13	10
15,000 - 15,999	6	8	6	15
14,000 - 14,999	5	4	10	5
13,000 - 13,999	2	2	4	10
12,000 - 12,999	2	1	2	4
11,000 - 11,999	6	6	1	2
10,000 - 10,999	2	2	6	5
9,000 - 9,999			1	3
Total reporting	106	101	101	101

\$5,466 below the national average of all privates, which makes our mean about 78.2 percent of the national average for that group. Only 10 of our member institutions (9.4 percent) are either at or above the 4-year private college national mean, with almost 91 percent below the mean. We continue to be an excellent value in comparison to other private 4-year US colleges.

Table 3  
2008-09 Mean Tuition, and Mean Percent Changes from 2007-08 \*

<u>Type of Institution</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Private 4-year	\$25,143	5.9
CCCU	\$19,677	6.3
Public 4-year	\$ 6,585	6.4

\* source: The Chronicle of Higher Education (November 7, 2008), p. A23.

Other findings. The following are worth noting for 2008-09:

(a.) There continues to be consistency in rankings at the extremes of the distribution, and general stability in rankings throughout the CCCU.

(b.) Double-digit tuition increases occurred on 9 campuses, compared to 6 last year. At the other end of the spectrum, 5 institutions had tuition increases of less than three percent; one of those (Warner Pacific) decreased its tuition for 2008-09 by 22.7 percent.

(c.) The average dollar increase for 2008-09 was \$1,164, compared to \$1,121 in 2007-08, \$1,056 in 2006-07, \$944 in 2005-06, \$958 in 2004-05 and \$863 in 2003-04. Seventy (70) institutions increased tuition by more than \$1,000, compared to 64 in 2007-08, 51 in 2006-07, 41 in 2005-06, 43 in 2004-05, and just 24 in 2003-04.

Special notes.

1. The universe is defined as all 107 US institutions listed on the CCCU website as “members”, as of November 2008. New members this year include Bluefield (VA), San Diego Christian (CA), Toccoa Falls (GA), University of Mary Hardin-Baylor (TX), and University of the Southwest (NM). College of the Ozarks (MO) has again been excluded from this analysis because they do not charge tuition.
2. As noted above, Warner Pacific (OR) decreased its tuition this year by almost 23 percent, dropping them 60 positions in the rankings. Because of the impact of this extreme change on the mean, they have been excluded from the “mean percent change” calculation on the summary table on page 1 and the “average dollar increase” above; however, they are included in all other tables and calculations in this report.
3. The percent changes for CCCU tuition that appear in Tables 1 and 3 are calculated differently, and this deserves an explanation. Table 1 describes the “mean percent change in tuition”. That figure was obtained by determining the actual increase for each school, converting to a percentage, adding up across all institutions, and dividing by N. It tells us by what percentage, on average, each CCCU school increased its tuition this year. Table 3, on the other hand, focuses on the “percent increase in mean tuition”. It was calculated by subtracting the 2007-08 CCCU mean tuition from the mean tuition for 2008-09, and dividing by the mean for 2007-08. It tells us by what percentage the CCCU average increased this year. The calculation in Table 1 will likely be the more useful one for individual analysis.
4. The tuition figures reported in this study do NOT take institutional discounts into consideration. The net price is of course a much more significant comparison point than the sticker price, but such data are not readily attainable.
5. The average dollar increase for 2007-08 (see “other findings” point c, above) was calculated incorrectly in last year’s report as \$1,017. It should have been \$1,121 and the correct amount appears in this report. Thanks to Tom Van Eck of Calvin College for catching this error.

6. The data for this report were collected by another source (The College Board). The author accepts responsibility only for recording and/or calculation errors.

Redding, California  
November 25, 2008

REVISED January 26, 2009

\* AUTHOR'S NOTE

Due to a data entry glitch in the original version of this report, dated November 25, 2008, data for 2008-09 for member schools in ranks 85-106 on the table in the Appendix were erroneous. The correct tuition figures have now been added, and the mean and standard deviation have been revised accordingly. ***This report therefore replaces the previous one for 2008-09.***

Thank you to several colleagues who graciously brought this mistake to my attention, and I sincerely apologize for the confusion that it created.

INSTITUTION	2008-2009	Rank	% Change	2007-2008	Rank	% Change	2006-2007	Rank	% Change	2005-2006	Rank	% Change
Westmont	33,170	1	6.3	31,212	1	5.9	29,470	1	6.0	27,806	1	6.0
Whitworth	27,420	2	6.7	25,692	3	6.4	24,154	3	6.5	22,678	3	6.7
Gordon	27,294	3	6.0	25,748	2	6.1	24,278	2	5.9	22,924	2	6.9
Seattle Pacific	26,817	4	6.7	25,128	5	7.4	23,391	6	7.4	21,783	7	6.4
Azusa Pacific	26,640	5	6.0	25,130	4	5.8	23,750	5	6.9	22,210	5	7.5
Biola	26,424	6	5.7	24,998	6	5.1	23,782	4	5.2	22,602	4	8.0
Bethel-MN	25,860	7	5.5	24,510	7	8.0	22,700	8	6.6	21,300	9	6.6
Messiah	25,670	8	5.1	24,420	8	4.9	23,290	7	5.3	22,110	6	6.3
Wheaton	25,500	9	7.5	23,730	10.5	5.7	22,450	10	6.4	21,100	11	5.5
George Fox	25,190	10	5.9	23,790	9	5.4	22,570	9	4.0	21,710	8	5.4
Point Loma Naz	25,120	11	5.9	23,730	10.5	7.1	22,150	11	6.8	20,730	13	6.1
Taylor	24,546	12	5.5	23,260	12	5.6	22,028	12	6.2	20,746	12	5.4
Covenant	24,320	13	6.5	22,830	14	5.0	21,740	13	5.0	20,706	14	7.1
Vanguard	24,310	14	5.8	22,986	13	6.8	21,524	14	5.9	20,330	15	8.0
Fresno Pacific	23,202	15	6.5	21,796	17	4.8	20,790	16	5.2	19,764	16	5.0
Eastern Menno	23,180	16	5.6	21,960	16	6.2	20,670	17	6.0	19,500	17	7.0
Calvin	23,165	17.5	6.8	21,685	19	5.9	20,470	20	6.9	19,150	23.5	7.3
Erskine	23,165	17.5	6.8	21,680	20	6.9	20,275	23	6.5	19,042	27	5.0
Master's	23,120	19	5.0	22,020	15	5.7	20,830	15	7.2	19,430	18	6.9
Houghton	22,990	20	6.3	21,624	22	6.0	20,400	21	5.0	19,420	20	4.1
Northwestern-IA	22,950	21	6.0	21,648	21	18.3	18,296	44	6.0	17,260	43	5.5
Bluffton	22,920	22	5.2	21,780	18	5.9	20,570	18	5.9	19,428	19	5.9
Eastern	22,715	23	6.2	21,395	25	6.6	20,075	26	6.4	18,875	30	6.4
Roberts Wes'n	22,600	24	5.8	21,352	26	6.7	20,002	28	5.0	19,054	26	6.8
Asbury	22,413	25	5.3	21,286	28	5.5	20,184	24	6.5	18,956	28	6.4
Calif Baptist	22,330	26	8.2	20,636	33	8.4	19,030	34	8.9	17,470	41	9.6
Corban	22,320	27	7.9	20,690	32	7.2	19,294	33	6.9	18,050	35	6.0
Goshen	22,300	28	4.7	21,300	27	4.9	20,300	22	5.2	19,300	22	6.0
Northw'n-MN	22,250	29	6.0	20,990	30	5.0	19,990	29.5	4.7	19,100	25	4.0
Eastern Naz	22,014	30	7.0	20,574	34	5.0	19,595	31	7.0	18,310	34	5.0
Trinity Int'l	21,930	31	4.3	21,020	29	4.5	20,106	25	3.8	19,366	21	6.7
Anderson	21,920	32	4.5	20,976	31	4.9	19,990	29.5	5.8	18,900	29	5.1
NW Christian	21,900	33	2.0	21,481	24	7.1	20,060	27	9.1	18,380	33	5.9
Hope Internat'l	21,885	34	10.0	19,900	38.5	6.4	18,700	38	3.9	18,000	36	9.8
Judson - IL	21,850	35	7.0	20,420	35	5.0	19,450	32	5.1	18,500	31	7.9
Olivet Naz	21,590	36	10.2	19,590	42	11.4	17,590	50.5	6.7	16,490	51	4.9
Palm Beach Atl	21,550	37	6.6	20,210	36	7.8	18,740	37	8.1	17,330	42	5.9
Northwest Naz	21,170	38	6.0	19,970	37	6.4	18,770	36	5.9	17,730	37	7.0
Dordt	21,040	39	5.7	19,900	38.5	6.6	18,660	39	5.8	17,640	39	5.8
Cedarville	20,992	40	6.7	19,680	41	7.0	18,400	41	14.6	16,050	56	0.1
San Diego Chr	20,980	41	10.0	19,070								
Northwest-WA	20,790	42	5.2	19,762	40	8.9	18,144	45	13.8	15,944	58.5	8.0
King	20,582	43	6.9	19,262	46	5.0	18,345	42	3.8	17,680	38	3.8
Milligan	20,560	44	5.4	19,510	43	6.5	18,320	43	6.3	17,240	45	5.4
Geneva	20,400	45	5.0	19,430	44.5	5.3	18,460	40	5.6	17,480	40	5.4
Grace	20,376	46	6.0	19,224	48	10.8	17,350	55	8.3	16,020	57	6.6
Huntington	20,300	47	4.5	19,430	44.5	3.0	18,860	35	2.0	18,490	32	0.0
Trinity Christian	20,256	48	5.3	19,241	47	6.2	18,115	46	5.7	17,135	46	4.5
Colo Christian	20,130	49	6.0	19,000	49	8.4	17,530	52	4.7	16,740	49	4.2
Malone	20,020	50	6.1	18,870	50	6.1	17,790	49	6.0	16,790	48	5.7
Bethel-IN	19,996	51	11.1	18,006	59	3.2	17,450	53	6.4	16,396	53	3.2
U. Mary Hardin-Baylor	19,750	52	11.2	17,760								
Union	19,610	53	5.3	18,620	52	5.9	17,590	50.5	6.9	16,450	52	7.2
Cornerstone	19,530	54	6.4	18,360	55.5	7.5	17,080	57	9.8	15,550	66	5.8
Simpson	19,500	55	4.8	18,600	53	4.5	17,800	48	4.7	17,000	47	9.7

INSTITUTION	2008-2009	Rank	% Change	2007-2008	Rank	% Change	2006-2007	Rank	% Change	2005-2006	Rank	% Change
Greenville	19,428	56	4.0	18,672	51	4.1	17,932	47	4.0	17,242	44	2.4
Indiana West'n	19,376	57	6.0	18,284	57	6.5	17,164	56	6.1	16,184	54	6.4
Mt Vernon Naz	19,330	58	7.0	18,064	58	7.0	16,876	60	6.2	15,886	61	6.1
Sioux Falls	19,326	59	7.7	17,940	60	7.3	16,720	62	3.9	16,100	55	6.6
Spring Arbor	19,240	60	4.8	18,360	55.5	5.6	17,386	54	4.3	16,666	50	3.5
Crown	19,198	61	3.3	18,588	54	9.0	17,054	58	9.0	15,646	64	9.0
LeTourneau	19,140	62	6.9	17,910	61	5.9	16,920	59	6.5	15,890	60	5.7
Abilene Chr	18,855	63	8.3	17,410	65	6.6	16,330	66	7.7	15,160	71	6.8
Houston Baptist	18,820	64	6.1	17,736	62	7.5	16,500	64	18.3	13,950	78	8.0
Tabor	18,710	65	6.0	17,650	64	5.5	16,724	61	4.9	15,944	58.5	5.4
Montreat	18,700	66	5.8	17,681	63	9.3	16,182	68	4.0	15,560	65	3.0
Lipscomb	18,580	67	10.5	16,811	74	8.1	15,556	75	6.8	14,567	75	5.5
Oral Roberts	18,386	68	5.7	17,400	66	4.4	16,670	63	5.0	15,880	62	5.5
Hardin-Simmons	18,380	69	8.5	16,946	73	8.4	15,626	74	8.3	14,426	76	7.8
Nyack	18,300	70	5.8	17,300	67	6.1	16,300	67	4.2	15,650	63	5.8
MidAmerica Naz	18,216	71	6.6	17,090	70	7.0	15,968	72	8.2	14,754	74	8.2
Campbellsville	18,100	72	4.9	17,260	68	5.6	16,340	65	5.7	15,460	67	10.8
John Brown	18,066	73	5.8	17,076	71	5.7	16,158	69	5.7	15,280	69	5.9
Southern Westl	18,000	74	5.0	17,150	69	6.2	16,150	70	4.5	15,450	68	4.7
Carson-Newman	17,800	75	4.8	16,980	72	5.7	16,060	71	5.4	15,240	70	5.7
North Park	17,600	76	6.7	16,500	75	10.7	14,900	79	7.2	13,900	10	-31.7
Howard Payne	17,400	77	8.6	16,030	78	10.8	14,470	86	11.3	13,000	87	8.3
Southern Naz	17,224	78	8.2	15,924	80	3.6	15,374	77	16.8	13,160	86	2.5
Waynesburg	17,080	79	4.0	16,420	76	4.1	15,780	73	4.2	15,150	72	4.2
Bryan	17,020	80	4.3	16,320	77	5.6	15,450	76	4.4	14,800	73	5.0
Missouri Baptist	16,872	81	6.4	15,850	81	7.5	14,740	82	6.6	13,830	82	1.8
Okla Baptist	16,790	82	5.0	15,994	79	9.5	14,604	83	5.5	13,846	81	5.2
Sterling	16,700	83	6.4	15,700	83	8.3	14,500	85	4.3	13,906	80	0.0
Warner Pacific	16,630	84	-22.7	21,500	23	5.0	20,480	19	6.9	19,150	23.5	6.0
Okla. Wesleyan	16,585	85	7.0	15,500	86	6.5	14,550	84	5.8	13,750	83	5.0
Okla Christian	16,566	86	4.9	15,796	82	5.5	14,976	78	7.5	13,932	79	5.9
Dallas Baptist	16,440	87	10.0	14,940	88	14.5	13,050	91	6.4	12,270	90	5.7
Belhaven	16,360	88	5.0	15,580	84	5.5	14,774	81	4.8	14,100	77	4.9
Trevecca Naz	16,288	89	5.0	15,512	85	4.3	14,874	80	10.7	13,432	84	5.0
E Texas Baptist	16,140	90	10.0	14,680	89	7.2	13,700	89	6.7	12,840	88	7.0
SW Baptist	15,704	91	5.0	14,950	87	6.0	14,100	87	6.4	13,250	85	6.2
Bluefield	15,640	92	18.7	13,180								
Evangel	15,010	93	4.7	14,340	90	4.0	13,784	88	7.8	12,790	89	6.7
Warner So.	14,690	94	6.0	13,860	91	4.9	13,210	90	10.2	11,990	92	1.4
Toccoa Falls	14,625	95	5.8	13,825								
Southeastern	14,470	96	7.3	13,480	92	9.8	12,280	93	6.8	11,500	93	24.5
Mississippi	12,800	97	2.4	12,494	93	1.7	12,288	92	1.9	12,058	91	1.9
U. of the Southwest	12,750	98	9.0	11,700								
Kentucky Chr.	12,120	99	2.3	11,850	94	0.0	11,850	94	8.2	10,950	94	2.9
Crichton	12,120	100	7.7	11,256	96	9.8	10,248	100	0.0	10,248	97	-13.7
Louisiana	12,030	101	4.7	11,490	95	6.0	10,840	95	5.2	10,300	96	0.0
Wayland Baptist	12,000	102	6.7	11,250	97	4.2	10,800	96	9.1	9,900	99	7.0
Judson – AL	11,940	103	7.4	11,120	99	3.8	10,710	98	5.0	10,204	98	8.3
No. Greenville	11,680	104	4.5	11,180	98	3.9	10,760	97	4.0	10,350	95	6.0
Lee	11,094	105	2.9	10,782	100	5.1	10,258	99	6.7	9,610	100	5.9
Williams Baptist	10,950	106	5.6	10,370	101	5.3	9,850	101	6.5	9,250	101	7.6