

# 2016-2017 TUITION SURVEY



Council for Christian  
Colleges & Universities®

## **ABOUT THE CCCU**

The Council for Christian Colleges & Universities is a higher education association of 176 intentionally Christ-centered institutions around the world. The 117 member campuses in North America are all fully-accredited, comprehensive colleges and universities with curricula rooted in the arts and sciences. In addition, 54 affiliate campuses from 19 countries are part of the CCCU.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Council's mission is to advance the cause of Christ-centered higher education and to help its institutions transform lives by faithfully relating scholarship and service to biblical truth. Visit [www.cccu.org](http://www.cccu.org).

## **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

For more than 26 years Nita Stemmler has served in various administrative posts in Christian higher education at both the institutional and sector levels, including more than 16 years of service in the Professional Programs & Research Department of the CCCU. She can be reached at [nstemmler@cccu.org](mailto:nstemmler@cccu.org).

# **2016-2017 TUITION SURVEY**



Council for Christian  
Colleges & Universities®

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	4
Methodology.....	5
Results.....	6
Discussion.....	8
Appendix.....	9



# INTRODUCTION

**T**his is the thirty-second in an annual series of reports on tuition and fees at member institutions of the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities (CCCCU). The purpose of this study is to provide the CCCCU membership with comparative, longitudinal data to assist institutions in their external benchmarking.

We continue to be indebted to Dr. Stanley A. Clark who conducted this annual report on tuition and fees until his retirement.

This year's report has been compiled by Nita Stemmler using the methodology established by Dr. Clark.

## METHODOLOGY

This report is based on data collected by the College Board (“Trends in College Pricing 2016”); their findings appeared in the November 2016 edition of The Chronicle of Higher Education. All 114 US institutions listed on the CCCU website as “members” as of November 2016 have been included in this report.

This report presents the average tuition increase by using two different measures. The “mean percent change in tuition” (Table I, page 7) expresses the percentage by which, on average, each

CCCU school increased its tuition this year. This figure is obtained by determining the actual increase for each school, converting it to a percentage, adding up across all institutions, and then dividing by N. The “percent increase in mean tuition” (Table II, page 7) represents how much the average cost to attend a CCCU institution increased from the previous year. This figure is calculated by subtracting the 2015-16 CCCU mean tuition from the mean tuition for 2016-17, then dividing by the mean for 2015-16.

## RESULTS

Table I (next page) presents means, medians, ranges and standard deviations for the past four years. A cursory review of Table I reveals that annual increases in tuition means, medians, and standard deviations continue to increase each year. Notably, unlike in 2015-16, tuition and fees for 2016-17 have increased at a higher rate than in the previous year. An inspection of tuition and fee data in thousand-dollar intervals reveals a modal interval for 2016-17 of \$24,000-24,999 (14 schools).

The tuition and fees for half of the CCCU member institutions (N=58) falls in the range between \$24,000-30,000, and two-thirds of CCCU member institutions (N=72) charge tuition and fees in the \$19,000-29,000 range. For the first time, 100 member institutions have passed the \$20,000 mark this year, compared to 98 in 2015-16, 99 in 2014-15, 94 in 2013-14, and 90 in 2012-13. Twenty-eight schools now charge tuition in excess of \$30,000, compared to 22 in 2015-16.

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

	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14	2012-13
<b>Mean</b>	26,690	25,758	25,112	24,355	23,456
<b>Median</b>	26,655	25,740	24,990	24,168	23,627
<b>Std Dev</b>	5,392	5,178	5,051	4,865	4,686
<b>Range<sup>^</sup></b>	27,222	26,360	25,710	24,760	23,870
<b>Mean Change</b>	3.9	3.9	3	3.9	4.2
<b>N</b>	114	116	117	115	114

\*Range reflects the difference between the lowest and highest values.

**TABLE II**  
**2016-17 Mean Tuition, and Mean Percent Changes from 2015-16\***

<u>Type of Institution</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
<i>Private 4-year</i>	\$ 33,480	3.6
<i>CCCU</i>	\$ 26,690	3.9
<i>Public 4-year</i>	\$ 9,650	2.4

\* source: Trends in College Pricing 2016 (College Board)

**National Comparisons.** How do the member institutions of the CCCU compare to national averages for tuition/fees? Table II presents comparative data for 2016-17. The rate of increase for CCCU institutions (3.9 percent) was higher to all other 4-year private institutions (3.6 percent) and more than percent (1.5 percent) higher than 4-year public institutions (2.4 percent). The average tuition of CCCU institutions is \$6,790 below the national average for all private four-year institutions. Twelve of our member institutions (10.5%) are either at or above the four-year private college national mean, with 89.5 percent below the mean, slightly changed from 2015-16. CCCU institutions continue to offer an excellent value in comparison to other private four-year U.S. colleges.



## DISCUSSION

There continues to be consistency in rankings at the extremes of the distribution, and general stability in rankings throughout the CCCU. For example, the top 24 schools are unchanged for 2016-17, although the order is somewhat different from a year ago.

There were no double-digit tuition increase compared to 1 in 2015-16, 1 in 2014-15, 0 in 2013-14 and 2 in 2012-13. At the other end of the spectrum, 32 institutions had tuition increases of less than three percent, compared to 28 last year and 27 the year before. One institution did not increase tuition at all for 2016-17.

The average dollar increase for 2016-17 was \$983 compared to \$936 in 2015-16, \$919 in 2014-15, \$905 in 2013-14, \$943 in 2012-13, and \$1,083 in 2011-10. Fifty-four institutions increased tuition by more than \$1,000, compared to 50 in 2015-16, 39 in 2014-15, 48 in 2013-14, 57 in 2012-13, and 63 in 2011-12. Two institutions increased their tuition by more than \$2000. This is unchanged from the previous year.

The percent changes for CCCU tuition that appear in Tables 1 and 2 are calculated differently. 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 2, on the other hand, focuses on the “percent increase in mean tuition”. It was calculated by subtracting the 2015-16 CCCU mean tuition from the mean tuition for 2016-17, and dividing by the mean for 2015-16. It tells us by what percentage the CCCU average increased this year.

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. According to The College Board source, the out-of-pocket (net) tuition paid by students at all private 4-year institutions was \$14,190 which is lower than the net for 2015-16 (\$14,890).

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

\*This includes College of the Ozarks which does not charge students tuition after the discount is considered.

Washington, D.C. (November 30, 2016)

# 2016-2017 TUITION DATA

## Mean Tuition by Rank (in 000's)

INSTITUTION	2016-2017	Rank	% Change	2015-2016	Rank	% Change	2014-2015	Rank	% Change	2013-2014	Rank	% Change	2012-2013	Rank	% Change
Abilene Chr	32070	16	3.87%	30,830	16	4.7%	29,450	23	3.9%	28,350	29	5.9%	26,770	29	5.9%
Anderson - IN	28650	41	3.66%	27,600	43	2.8%	26,850	45	2.5%	26,200	39	2.8%	25,480	39	3.5%
Anderson - SC	25880	63	3.94%	24,860	67	4.7%	23,750	73	4.2%	22,790	76	4.9%	21,730	75	3.9%
Asbury	28829	39	3.79%	27,736	42	3.2%	26,868	44	3.0%	26,076	40	3.0%	25,311	40	4.5%
Azusa Pacific	36120	5	3.78%	34,754	5	5.0%	33,096	6	2.6%	32,256	5	3.8%	31,076	5	3.8%
Belhaven	23016	88	5.21%	21,816	92	4.5%	20,882	94	4.6%	19,970	93	4.0%	19,200	92	4.2%
Bethel-IN	27390	50	2.92%	26,590	49	2.9%	25,830	52	3.4%	24,970	53	2.8%	24,280	53	5.4%
Bethel-MN	35160	7	2.90%	34,140	7	3.5%	32,990	7	3.9%	31,760	7	3.0%	30,840	7	4.7%
Biola	36696	4	5.99%	34,498	6	3.5%	33,322	5	3.7%	32,142	6	3.7%	31,004	6	3.7%
Bluefield	24380	82	4.45%	23,295	87	2.0%	22,840	83	2.0%	22,390	87	6.3%	21,060	86	1.1%
Bryan	24450	81	4.70%	23,300	86	5.0%	22,200	90	5.0%	21,150	91	5.0%	20,150	90	3.1%
Calif Baptist	31682	18	4.10%	30,384	19	3.3%	29,422	24	4.6%	28,122	26	4.5%	26,900	25	4.4%
Calvin	31730	17	3.37%	30,660	17	3.5%	29,635	20	4.9%	28,250	31	5.8%	26,705	31	4.5%
Campbellsville	24596	79	3.12%	23,828	77	4.3%	22,842	82	2.9%	22,196	77	2.8%	21,600	76	4.1%
Carson-Newman	26360	60	3.79%	25,360	62	3.8%	24,440	65	3.1%	23,696	66	4.6%	22,652	65	4.0%
Central Chr Kan	25040	72	5.75%	23,600	81										
Charleston Sthn	24100	86	2.90%	23,400	83	2.6%	22,800	84	3.4%	22,050	82	3.0%	21,400	81	3.9%
College of the Ozarks	18930	103	1.06%	18,730	104	1.1%	18,530	106							
Colo Christian	29360	35	4.68%	27,986	38	5.9%	26,430	47	5.5%	25,046	55	4.9%	23,870	55	4.0%
Concordia U (Calif.)	32780	14	3.33%	31,690	14	3.4%	30,640	15	3.4%	29,630	13	4.0%	28,500	13	4.4%
Corban	30640	25	3.26%	29,640	26	3.2%	28,720	29	4.5%	27,486	38	7.8%	25,486	38	0.3%
Cornerstone	27135	53	3.81%	26,100	56	3.9%	25,112	58	3.9%	24,168	60	3.9%	23,260	60	3.9%
Covenant	32230	15	2.82%	31,320	15	3.8%	30,160	16	3.6%	29,100	15	2.9%	28,270	15	3.9%
Crown	24700	76	3.89%	23,740	80	2.9%	23,080	81	2.9%	22,430	72	1.5%	22,100	71	2.9%
Dallas Baptist	26180	61	4.93%	24,890	66	5.2%	23,650	74	5.8%	22,350	88	6.4%	21,010	87	5.6%
Dordt	29130	38	2.92%	28,280	35	3.0%	27,460	36	3.5%	26,540	36	4.0%	25,520	36	5.0%
E Texas Baptist	24700	77	1.95%	24,218	75	4.0%	23,280	78	3.1%	22,590	79	4.9%	21,530	78	5.0%
Eastern	31020	21	1.39%	30,590	18	3.3%	29,600	21	5.4%	28,090	22	4.1%	26,984	22	4.4%
Eastern Naz	30815	23	3.03%	29,880	23	3.0%	29,012	26	3.9%	27,922	27	3.9%	26,884	27	6.3%
Emmanuel C	19330	101	2.38%	18,870	103	4.8%	18,000	107	7.1%	16,800	106	7.0%	15,700	105	7.9%
Erskine	34560	8	3.60%	33,315	8	3.8%	32,110	8	2.7%	31,280	10	5.0%	29,790	10	5.8%
Evangel	22081	93	3.01%	21,416	95	3.0%	20,796	96	3.8%	20,040	96	5.9%	18,930	95	5.8%
Faulkner	20130	100	4.22%	19,280	102	2.8%	18,750	105							
Fresno Pacific	29170	37	4.51%	27,854	41	4.6%	26,638	46	3.6%	25,716	42	1.9%	25,236	42	1.8%
Geneva	25680	66	0.90%	25,450	61	0.9%	25,220	57	0.0%	25,220	52	3.0%	24,480	52	4.9%
George Fox	33730	11	2.80%	32,786	11	2.9%	31,866	10	2.4%	31,120	8	2.9%	30,230	8	2.9%
Gordon	36060	6	1.87%	35,386	4	2.9%	34,390	4	3.5%	33,230	3	3.5%	32,100	3	4.9%
Grace	23120	87	2.90%	22,450	89	-9.0%	24,670	61	2.9%	23,970	59	2.9%	23,290	59	3.3%
Greenville	25720	65	2.46%	25,088	65	3.0%	24,360	66	3.2%	23,612	63	3.0%	22,920	63	3.3%
Hannibal - La Grange U.	21710	95	5.30%	20,560	98	6.1%	19,380	102	3.2%	18,770	102	4.7%	17,920	101	6.1%
Harding U	18665	104	5.33%	17,670	107										
Hardin-Simmons	25830	64	5.15%	24,500	71	9.6%	22,350	88	-4.7%	23,460	67	4.0%	22,560	66	0.4%
Hope Internat'l	30550	26	6.55%	28,550	33	5.7%	27,000	41	3.6%	26,050	41	3.1%	25,264	41	4.9%
Houghton	30336	27	2.89%	29,458	27	3.2%	28,556	31	3.0%	27,728	24	3.0%	26,924	24	3.2%
Houston Baptist	30800	24	3.25%	29,800	25	3.7%	28,750	27	2.9%	27,930	28	4.2%	26,795	28	5.5%
Howard Payne	26660	57	3.98%	25,600	59	4.1%	24,600	63	6.0%	23,200	68	2.8%	22,560	67	4.0%
Huntington	25400	68	2.28%	24,822	68	0.2%	24,771	60	3.0%	24,040	56	1.1%	23,780	56	2.5%
Indiana Wes'l'n	25346	69	2.44%	24,728	70	2.6%	24,102	70	2.0%	23,628	62	2.0%	23,164	62	5.5%
John Brown	25324	70	3.38%	24,468	72	3.7%	23,588	75	3.8%	22,734	74	4.4%	21,774	73	4.9%
Judson - AL	17376	108	3.03%	16,850	109	3.6%	16,258	110	4.0%	15,630	109	3.5%	15,100	108	4.4%

Judson - IL	28730	40	1.95%	28,170	36	2.3%	27,530	35	0.0%	27,530	21	2.0%	27,000	21	3.4%
Kentucky Chr.	18560	105	4.04%	17,810	106	5.6%	16,860	108	3.1%	16,350	105	3.8%	15,750	104	4.0%
King	27276	51	2.92%	26,480	50	3.0%	25,708	53	3.0%	24,960	45	0.0%	24,960	45	3.8%
Lee	15770	113	4.88%	15,000	116	5.0%	14,280	117	3.9%	13,750	114	2.8%	13,370	113	5.4%
LeTourneau	28480	44	2.04%	27,900	40	3.7%	26,910	43	4.5%	25,740	50	4.9%	24,540	50	4.0%
Lipscomb	29756	29	3.80%	28,624	32	4.5%	27,390	37	5.0%	26,094	49	5.8%	24,654	49	4.9%
Louisiana	15678	114	3.88%	15,070	115	3.4%	14,570	115	3.2%	14,120	113	2.5%	13,780	112	3.0%
Malone	29422	34	6.74%	27,440	45	3.9%	26,416	49	2.9%	25,678	51	4.7%	24,536	51	4.8%
Messiah	33180	13	2.83%	32,240	13	2.9%	31,340	13	2.9%	30,470	12	3.4%	29,460	12	3.9%
MidAmerica Naz	27650	49	5.42%	26,150	55	7.8%	24,250	69	9.0%	22,255	80	3.5%	21,500	79	0.0%
Milligan	31450	20	5.15%	29,830	24	3.8%	28,730	28	2.9%	27,915	30	4.3%	26,760	30	5.9%
Mississippi	16740	110	3.74%	16,114	113	8.4%	14,868	113	0.0%	14,868	110	3.0%	14,430	109	3.2%
Missouri Baptist	24924	74	4.71%	23,750	78	4.9%	22,630	87	4.4%	21,670	90	4.7%	20,704	89	6.1%
Montreat	24940	73	2.81%	24,240	74	3.1%	23,520	76	3.2%	22,784	61	-1.8%	23,198	61	0.1%
Mt Vernon Naz	26950	54	4.46%	25,748	57	4.5%	24,650	62	4.1%	23,690	65	3.5%	22,890	64	-0.8%
N. Central U - MN	22240	92	2.94%	21,586	93	6.2%	20,320	98	4.0%	19,540	100	7.6%	18,160	99	4.1%
No. Greenville	17594	107	7.41%	16,290	112	5.0%	15,510	112	5.0%	14,772	112	6.0%	13,936	111	4.0%
North Park	26840	55	4.10%	25,740	58	4.9%	24,540	64	5.4%	23,290	73	5.4%	22,090	72	5.2%
Northwest Naz	28650	42	2.44%	27,950	39	2.2%	27,340	39	3.0%	26,550	44	5.4%	25,190	44	4.8%
Northwestern	29500	33	1.86%	28,950	29	3.7%	27,930	34	4.4%	26,764	34	4.0%	25,740	34	4.5%
Northwest-WA	29200	36	3.82%	28,086	37	4.1%	26,968	42	4.0%	25,934	48	4.7%	24,766	48	5.8%
NW Christian	27930	47	1.58%	27,490	44	5.0%	26,180	51	5.2%	24,880	46	0.0%	24,880	46	5.4%
Nyack	24850	75	2.21%	24,300	73	2.1%	23,800	72	2.4%	23,250	70	3.3%	22,500	69	4.7%
Okla Baptist	25310	71	5.18%	24,000	76	5.3%	22,800	85	4.4%	21,842	89	5.0%	20,796	88	5.3%
Okla Christian	20840	98	4.56%	19,890	100	4.0%	19,120	103	1.7%	18,800	97	0.0%	18,800	96	1.9%
Olivet Naz	33940	10	3.39%	32,790	10	4.5%	31,390	12	5.0%	29,890	16	6.4%	28,090	16	1.8%
Oral Roberts	25678	67	3.45%	24,792	69	5.9%	23,410	77	4.3%	22,438	78	4.0%	21,576	77	4.0%
Palm Beach Atl	28520	43	5.15%	27,050	47	3.0%	26,274	50	2.9%	25,532	47	3.0%	24,800	47	2.9%
Point Loma Naz	33500	12	3.28%	32,400	12	3.2%	31,406	11	3.4%	30,360	11	2.9%	29,510	11	4.2%
Point U.	19200	102	3.65%	18,500	105										
Regent U (Va.)	16700	111	0.00%	16,700	110	0.4%	16,638	109	3.4%	16,088	108	3.7%	15,510	107	1.3%
Roberts Wesl'n	29740	30	2.37%	29,036	28	2.0%	28,466	32	2.6%	27,754	32	4.0%	26,699	32	4.0%
San Diego Chr	29550	31	3.65%	28,470	34	5.1%	27,090	40	4.6%	25,888	43	2.7%	25,208	43	5.8%
Seattle Pacific	38940	3	4.76%	37,086	3	4.6%	35,472	3	4.9%	33,813	4	5.4%	32,067	4	5.7%
Shorter	21910	94	4.26%	20,976	96	3.2%	20,325	97	3.0%	19,730	98	5.1%	18,770	97	5.0%
Simpson	25950	62	2.89%	25,200	64	3.7%	24,300	68	4.3%	23,300	71	4.0%	22,400	70	3.7%
Sioux Falls	27160	52	3.39%	26,240	53	3.0%	25,480	56	3.8%	24,550	57	3.4%	23,740	57	3.9%
Southeastern	24160	84	5.46%	22,840	88	2.9%	22,202	89	11.1%	19,986	99	7.5%	18,596	98	5.0%
Southern Naz	24468	80	4.69%	23,320	85	5.5%	22,110	91	0.0%	22,110	84	4.4%	21,174	83	7.0%
Southern Wesl	24110	85	2.65%	23,470	82	2.9%	22,800	86	2.7%	22,200	81	3.5%	21,450	80	4.4%
Spring Arbor	26730	56	4.56%	25,510	60	4.8%	24,350	67	4.1%	23,400	69	3.8%	22,538	68	4.7%
Sterling	24250	83	3.71%	23,350	84	6.2%	21,990	92	3.7%	21,200	86	0.6%	21,075	85	5.1%
SW Baptist	22440	91	2.67%	21,840	91	4.8%	20,840	95	4.0%	20,040	94	4.6%	19,150	93	5.2%
Tabor	26590	59	4.78%	25,320	63	5.9%	23,900	71	5.1%	22,730	75	4.6%	21,740	74	0.0%
Taylor	31472	19	3.82%	30,270	20	2.5%	29,538	22	2.7%	28,753	17	2.4%	28,088	17	2.4%
Toccoa Falls	21314	97	3.07%	20,660	97	5.1%	19,650	101	3.4%	19,000	101	4.9%	18,110	100	7.1%
Trevecca Naz	24624	78	3.56%	23,748	79	2.7%	23,126	80	3.6%	22,330	83	4.9%	21,290	82	3.4%
Trinity Christian	27675	48	4.46%	26,440	52	3.6%	25,515	55	4.4%	24,435	58	3.9%	23,513	58	4.2%
Trinity Int'l	30130	28	4.75%	28,700	31	4.9%	27,360	38	2.0%	26,830	33	3.8%	25,840	33	5.0%
U of Mobile	21400	96	6.68%	19,970	99	1.4%	19,700	100	6.3%	18,540	103	4.9%	17,680	102	3.9%
U. Mary Hardin-Baylor	26650	58	1.69%	26,200	54	2.1%	25,650	54	1.8%	25,200	54	3.9%	24,250	54	5.2%
U. of NW St. Pau	29510	32	2.64%	28,730	30	0.3%	28,634	30	2.2%	28,020	23	3.9%	26,960	23	4.9%
U. of the Southwest	16560	112	5.43%	15,660	114	7.1%	14,616	114	2.2%	14,305	111	0.0%	14,305	110	4.9%
Vanguard	30980	22	3.00%	30,050	22	0.0%	30,050	17	2.7%	29,250	14	2.6%	28,500	14	4.0%
Warner Pacific	22710	90	5.50%	21,460	94	5.7%	20,300	99	2.7%	19,770	95	3.9%	19,030	94	4.0%
Warner U.	20712	99	4.63%	19,754	101	5.3%	18,766	104	7.1%	17,530	104	0.3%	17,480	103	5.6%
Waynesburg	22800	89	3.38%	22,030	90	3.5%	21,290	93	3.7%	20,540	92	3.7%	19,810	91	3.8%
Westmont	42900	1	3.59%	41,360	1	3.4%	39,990	1	3.8%	38,510	1	4.0%	37,020	1	3.8%

Wheaton	34050	9	3.23%	32,950	9	3.3%	31,900	9	3.3%	30,880	9	2.5%	30,120	9	4.0%
Whitworth	40562	2	3.61%	39,096	2	4.4%	37,456	2	4.0%	36,012	2	4.9%	34,346	2	6.9%
William Jessup	28300	45	6.43%	26,480	51	6.0%	24,990	59	4.0%	24,040	64	5.0%	22,900		
Williams Baptist	17320	109	5.14%	16,430	111	14.4%	14,360	116	4.4%	13,750	115	4.6%	13,150	114	4.2%
Wisc Lutheran C	27984	46	3.37%	27,040	48										
York C	17700	106	2.82%	17,200	108	7.0%	16,080	111	3.1%	15,600	107	0.0%	15600	106	2.0%
<b>Avg</b>	<b>26,690</b>		<b>3.9%</b>	<b>25,758</b>		<b>3.9%</b>	<b>25,112</b>		<b>3.6%</b>	<b>24,355</b>		<b>3.8%</b>	<b>23,456</b>		<b>4.1%</b>
<b>Stdev</b>	<b>5,392</b>			<b>5,178</b>			<b>5,051</b>			<b>4,865</b>			<b>4,686</b>		

**Note:** The years 2012-13-2015-16 have been included for ranking comparisons only. The column averages and standard deviations reflect the full data available from these years, however, this report reflects data for this year's members only. Previous reports are available on our website at:

[http://www.cccu.org/professional\\_development/resource\\_library/research\\_and\\_surveys/tuition\\_survey](http://www.cccu.org/professional_development/resource_library/research_and_surveys/tuition_survey).