

2008 TICUA Policy Objectives

Tennessee Student Assistance Award (TSAA)

The Tennessee Student Assistance Award was established to assist qualified, low-income, high school graduates and adult learners to attend the college of their choice. The grant program includes the Ben Atchley Opportunity Grant, which provides additional funds to students attending a Tennessee independent college or university.

Current Funding: \$59 million – Last year this program left over 62,000 eligible students without grants.

Target Populations: Qualified, low-income, recent high school graduates and adult learners in the State.

Recommendations: Set aside the reserve from the lottery scholarship program to produce \$20 – \$40 million a year in recurring funds to supplement TSAA and award grants for an additional 10,000 – 20,000 needy students.

Appropriate an additional \$15 million to fund 8,000 more students from qualified, low-income families.

Support SB2050/HB1945, which eliminates a reversion of \$1 million a year from the grant program to the State's general fund.

PARTICIPATION

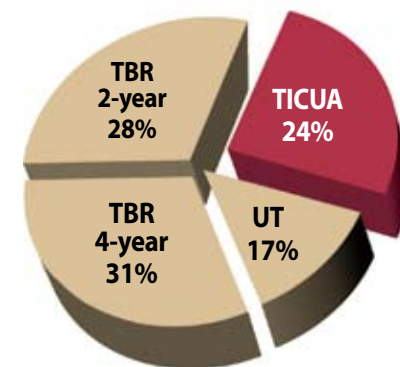
TICUA membership includes 37 colleges and universities: 2 two-year colleges, 32 four-year colleges and universities, and 3 professional colleges.

TICUA institutions enroll 24% of the students in the state but award 34% of the degrees.

More than 66,500 students are enrolled in TICUA institutions, about two-thirds of whom are students who graduated from high school in Tennessee.

TICUA member colleges and universities enroll students from every county in the state.

Percent of Enrollment by Sector, Fall 2007



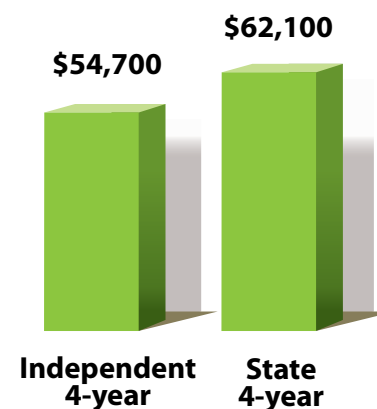
SOURCE: Tennessee Higher Education Commission and TICUA, fall 2007.

AFFORDABILITY

The median family income of students attending one of the State's four-year private colleges or universities is \$7,400 less than the median family income of students attending one of the State's four-year public colleges and universities.

Undergraduate tuition and fees at TICUA member colleges and universities average 28% less than the national average to attend a private college or university.

The Median Family Income of Students at Tennessee's Independent Colleges is Less Than at State Institutions



SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS) 2003-04. Statistics are for dependent students who are Tennessee residents.

Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship (TELS) Award



Photo courtesy of Free Will Baptist Bible College

Based on academic performance, the Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship Program provides up to \$4,000 for students to attend a public or private college in the State. The TELS program also provides supplemental, need-based aid in the form of Aspire Awards (up to \$1,500) and supplemental, merit-based aid through the General Assembly Merit Scholarship (\$1,000).

Current Funding: \$59 Million – In 2006-07, this program served over 9,400 Tennesseans attending TICUA member institutions.

Target Populations: Recent high school graduates with at least a 3.0 high school GPA or 21 ACT score (980 SAT) • Supplemental, need-based awards target students from low-income families (adjusted gross income of \$36,000 or less on tax form) • Supplemental, merit-based awards target the best and brightest recent high school graduates (29 ACT and 3.75 GPA).

Recommendations: Fiscal responsibility necessitates making choices from among the many good proposed changes. The recommendations below represent alternatives that would use the \$20-\$40 million recurring lottery funds efficiently.

Set aside the reserve from the lottery scholarship program to produce \$20 – \$40 million a year in recurring funds to supplement TSAA and award grants for an additional 10,000 – 20,000 needy students.

Reduce the administrative costs of the TELS program by substituting institutional GPA for TELS GPA in scholarship renewal.

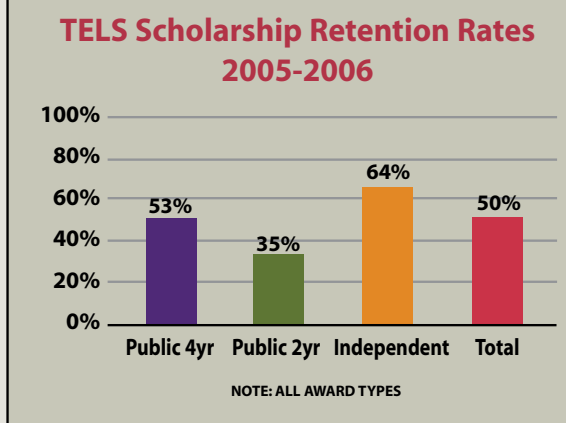
Increase the number of Tennesseans aged 25 or older with a bachelor's degree by modifying the TELS eligibility requirements to allow non-traditional students greater flexibility in prior collegiate coursework.

Increase TELS retention rates by lowering the renewal GPA to 2.75 since it can be difficult in practice for students to move from a 2.75 after 24 hours to a 3.0 after 48 hours.

Encourage students to complete a bachelor's degree on time through expansion of the TELS program to cover summer coursework.

Implement an early commitment scholarship program encouraging students to consider college as early as in their 8th-grade year. Early commitment scholarship programs increase high school graduation, college attendance, year-to-year retention, and college graduation rates.

Strengthen the definition of an eligible institution as one with the primary campus domiciled in Tennessee. This change would clarify language currently in the statute.



SOURCE: Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) and TICUA, fall 2007.

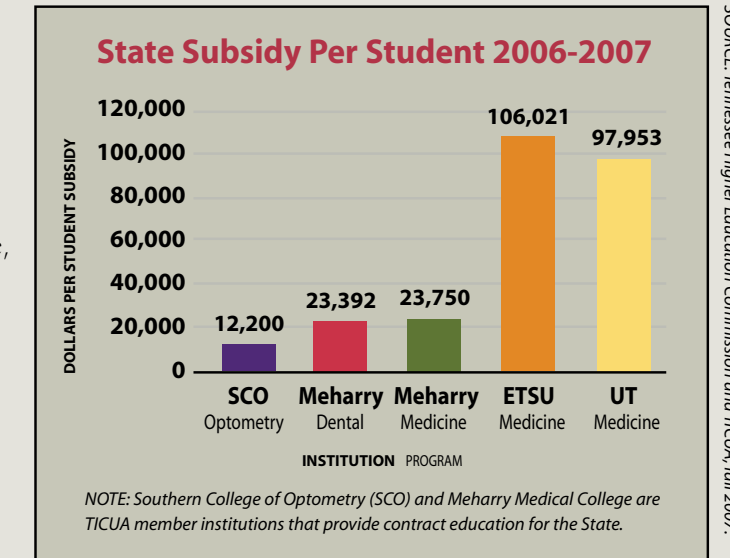
Contract Education

Through contracting with private colleges and universities, the State is able to provide educational opportunities for eligible Tennessee students not offered by public colleges. As the chart demonstrates, by taking advantage of available capacity at Tennessee's private colleges, the State saves hundreds of thousands of dollars, while ensuring a supply of well-educated professionals, who will ultimately serve the citizens of Tennessee.

Current Funding: \$2.3 million – The Southern Regional Education Board's recommended level is \$3 million.

Target Populations: Contract education provides opportunities for students to gain education in medicine, dentistry, nursing, optometry, sign language, and mortuary science.

Recommendations: Increase the current funding to \$3 million. This increase will fully fund Tennesseans at the Southern Regional Education Board's (SREB) recommended level.



NOTE: Southern College of Optometry (SCO) and Meharry Medical College are TICUA member institutions that provide contract education for the State.

SOURCE: Tennessee Higher Education Commission and TICUA, fall 2007.

FINANCIAL AID

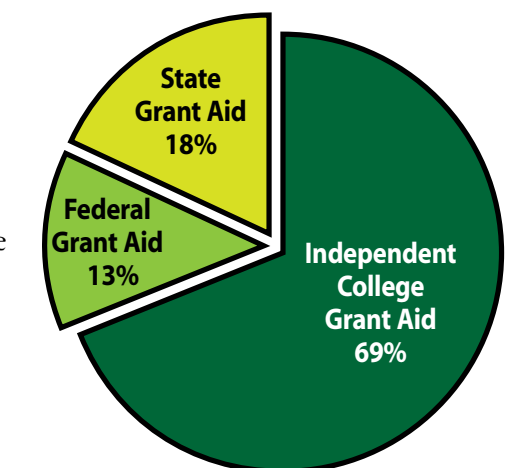
About 88% of first-time, full-time students attending TICUA member institutions receive some form of financial aid.



For every \$1 the State spends on higher education, \$.01 goes to students attending private colleges and universities through the Tennessee Student Assistance Award (TSAA) grant. This funding reaches close to 3,500 low-income students a year at an average award amount of about \$4,300.

TICUA member institutions provide over \$318 million in institutional aid to students.

TICUA Distribution of Grant Aid



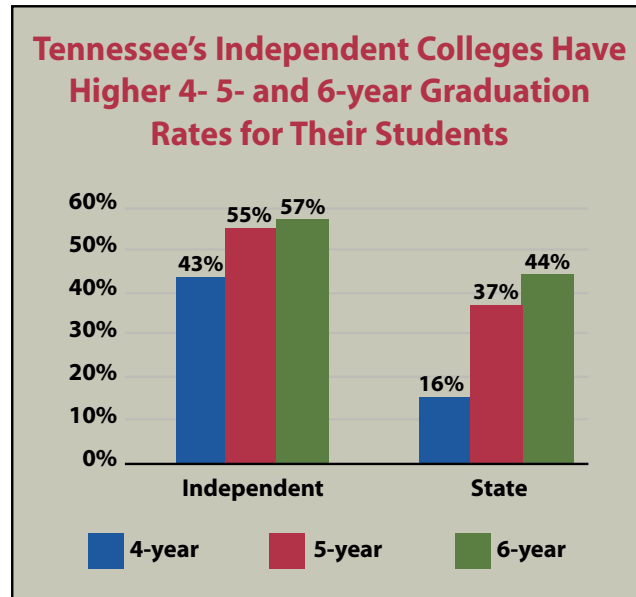
SOURCE: IPEDS, "Student Financial Aid" survey, 2005 (accessed fall 2007).

COMPLETION

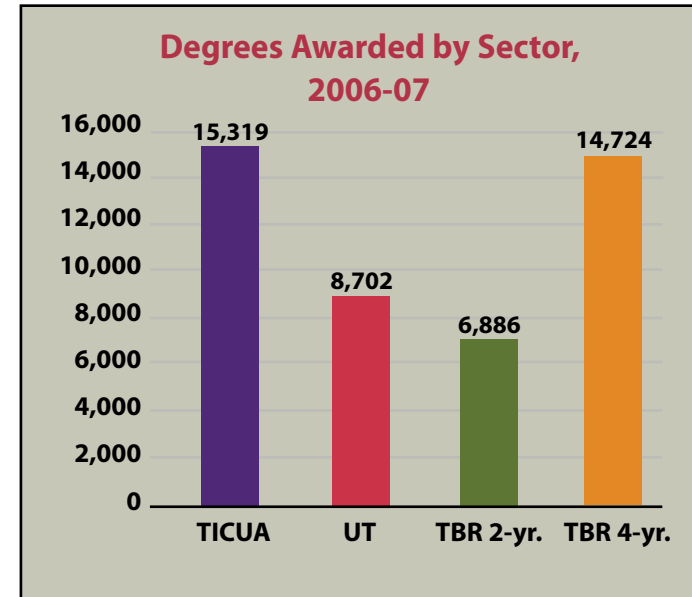
Students enrolling in TICUA member institutions are more likely to graduate in a timely manner than those who choose to attend state public colleges and universities.

Last year, TICUA members awarded over 15,000 degrees ranging from associate's to doctoral.

TICUA institutions award more master's, first professional, and doctoral degrees than any other higher education sector in the State.



SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS) 2003-04. Statistics are for students who are Tennessee residents.



SOURCE: Tennessee Higher Education Commission and TICUA, fall 2007.

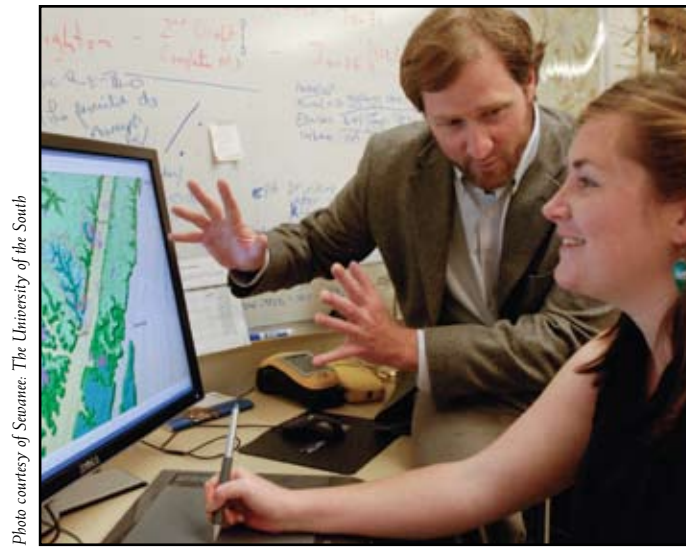


Photo courtesy of Sewanee: The University of the South



Photo courtesy of Maryville College



Photo courtesy of Lincoln Memorial University

For over 200 years, private colleges have been serving the Volunteer State. In 1956, the precursor of the Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association (TICUA) was established for private colleges and universities throughout the State. TICUA is dedicated to the preservation of student opportunity and choice in higher education.

TICUA engages Tennessee's private colleges and universities to work collaboratively in areas of public policy, cost containment, and professional development to better serve the State and its citizens. The Association counts among its membership each independent, non-profit, regionally accredited college and university in Tennessee with a traditional arts and science curriculum. In addition, there are several non-profit, regionally accredited members that specialize in such fields as medicine, dentistry, optometry, fine arts, and mortuary science.

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES 2008

Tennessee's Private Colleges



Photo courtesy of Belmont University



Photo courtesy of Rhodes College

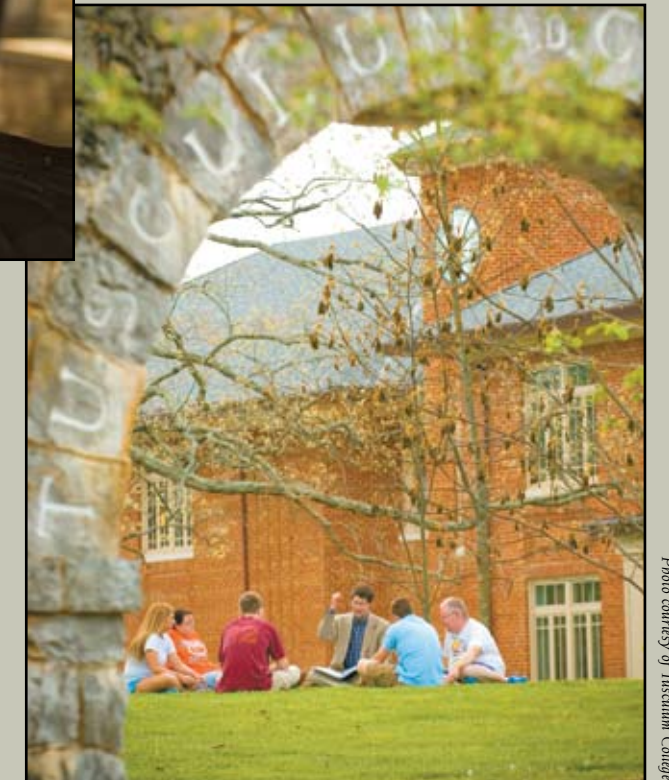


Photo courtesy of Trevecca College

TICUA MEMBERS

West Tennessee

- Baptist College of Health Sciences, Memphis
- Bethel College, McKenzie
- Crichton College, Memphis
- Christian Brothers University, Memphis
- Freed-Hardeman University, Henderson
- Lambuth University, Jackson
- Lane College, Jackson
- LeMoyné-Owen College, Memphis
- Memphis College of Art, Memphis
- Rhodes College, Memphis
- Southern College of Optometry, Memphis
- Union University, Jackson

Middle Tennessee

- Aquinas College, Nashville
- Belmont University, Nashville
- Cumberland University, Lebanon
- Fisk University, Nashville
- Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville
- John A. Gupton College, Nashville
- Lipscomb University, Nashville
- Martin Methodist College, Pulaski
- Meharry Medical College, Nashville
- Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison
- Sewanee: The University of the South, Sewanee
- Trevecca Nazarene University, Nashville
- Vanderbilt University, Nashville

East Tennessee

- Bryan College, Dayton
- Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City
- Hiwassee College, Madisonville
- Johnson Bible College, Knoxville
- King College, Bristol
- Lee University, Cleveland
- Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate
- Maryville College, Maryville
- Milligan College, Milligan College
- Southern Adventist University, Collegedale
- Tennessee Wesleyan College, Athens
- Tusculum College, Greeneville

TICUA



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