

The Policy Agenda for Independent Higher Education



The Council of
Independent Colleges

Under
the Big Tent



2024 Presidents Institute

Independent Higher Education in a Democratic Society

The Diplomat Beach Resort | January 4–7, 2024

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Presenters

Barbara Mistick, President, National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities

Marjorie Hass, President, Council of Independent Colleges



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Independent Higher Education in a Democratic Society

Success for ALL Students

Undergraduates
25 Years and Older

22%

4-Year Private, Nonprofit
College Students

18%

4-Year Public
College Students

African-American

13%

4-Year Private
Nonprofit

12%

4-Year
Public

Asian-American

8%

4-Year Private
Nonprofit

8%

4-Year
Public

Latino/a

16%

4-Year Private
Nonprofit

21%

4-Year
Public

Women

59%

4-Year Private
Nonprofit

57%

4-Year
Public

Success for ALL Students

GRADUATION RATES

4-Year



6-Year



■ Private, Nonprofit ■ Public

COLLEGE GRADUATES WHO COMPLETED A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN 4 YEARS

84%

Private, Nonprofit

70%

4-Year Public

College IS Worth It

Pell Grant Recipients

38%

4-Year Private, Nonprofit College Students

40%

4-Year Public College Students

Average Net **Tuition and Fees Declined** Over the Last Decade
(inflation adjusted)

\$18,010 → **\$15,910**
2013-14 2023-24

Average Debt Among Bachelor Degree Recipients Who Borrowed

\$33,600 **\$27,400**
Private, Nonprofit College Students 4-Year Public College Students

Median Endowment

\$46.3M **\$45.2M**
4-Year Private, Nonprofit Colleges 4-Year Public Colleges

Share of **Grant Aid** from **Institutional Resources**

75% **32%**
4-Year Private, Nonprofit Colleges 4-Year Public Colleges

College IS Worth It



**Is College Worth It?
Recent Analysis Says Yes**



Is College Still Worth It? Yes, Here's Why



A College Investment Is Valuable – and Never Depreciates



Degrees Will Increasingly Dominate Job Growth in US, Defying the Decline in Public Trust in Higher Education



College is still worth it, research finds – although students are growing skeptical



Despite Challenges and Barriers, the Luster of a Degree Persists

Save the Date!



NAICU

**Annual Meeting
& Advocacy Day**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4 – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Q&A Session



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Thank you for attending
this session!



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