



February 5, 2026

TO: THE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF VALENCIA COLLEGE


FROM: DR. KATHLEEN PLINSKE
President

RE: AFFORDABILITY REPORT RESOLUTION

In accordance with and as required by Policy 6Hx28:1-12 Educational Affordability, the College presents the Board with the annual Affordability Report to provide an update on progress in this area. The Report is attached to this Transmittal, along with a draft Resolution detailing several notable accomplishments and achievements realized by the College for the benefit of our students in maintaining a focus on affordability issues and affirming the Board's commitment to this unique policy.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The President recommends that the District Board of Trustees of Valencia College accept the Affordability Report and approve the Educational Affordability Resolution, as presented.



President



EDUCATIONAL AFFORDABILITY RESOLUTION

The District Board of Trustees of Valencia College, Florida

WHEREAS, the District Board of Trustees adopted Policy 6Hx28:1-12, Educational Affordability, on October 24, 2018, becoming at the time the only public higher education institution to express its commitment so formally and definitively to prioritize Affordability in its delivery of educational services to our community; and

WHEREAS, the Board's Affordability Policy states that Affordability is essential to our mission of student access, learning, success, and completion, and that Affordability and quality shall be included in the design principles for development of programs and services and as a measure of institutional effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, Valencia College has a history of maintaining affordable costs for students and conducting operations in an efficient manner while producing successful student outcomes, despite receiving the least funding per student in the Florida College System, as evidenced in part by the fact that student tuition and fee costs at Valencia have not increased in the last decade compared to a national 25% increase in community college tuition and fees; and

WHEREAS, in reflecting the spirit of its Policy on Educational Affordability, Valencia College has now reached a new high in the percentage of students paying nothing out of pocket for tuition and fees, with forty percent (43%) of students in this category; and

WHEREAS, Valencia College's commitment to realizing results in promoting Affordability for its students is further evidenced by the fact that average course textbook costs for Valencia students have declined by 33% since 2014-15 due to careful textbook selection and increased faculty use of high quality open educational resources when appropriate; and

WHEREAS, with the support of the District Board of Trustees and dedicated faculty and staff, Valencia College continues to lead in providing an affordable and value-oriented choice for students; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IN CONSIDERATION of the foregoing, the District Board of Trustees of Valencia College recognizes and commends the College in its successes in implementing the Educational Affordability Policy for the benefit of Valencia students and affirms its commitment to providing an affordable and high-quality educational experience for Valencia students.

Approved by the District Board of Trustees of Valencia College on February 5, 2026

By: _____, Chair of the Board

2026 Annual Affordability Report



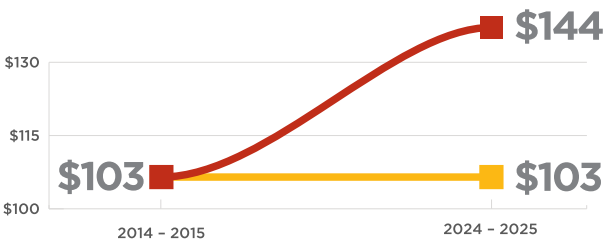
More than two out of every five students pay nothing out of pocket for tuition and fees.

This includes students who paid \$0 in tuition and fees after support from grants, scholarships, and waivers (does not include loans).



43%

Tuition and fees at Valencia College have not increased since 2014. If tuition and fees were adjusted for inflation, the current rate in 2025 would be \$144 per credit hour.



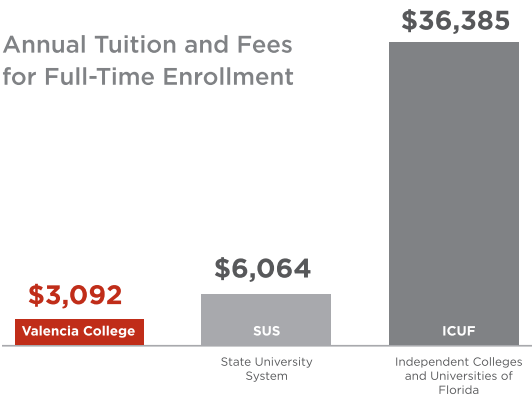
In 2024 - 2025, only 22% of enrolled Valencia College students took out a loan to support their educational experience. For students who took out a loan, the average loan amount was \$5,973.

Incoming transfer students and those who leave without earning a credential are excluded to narrow the data for this specific question.

22%

Valencia College tuition and fees are 1/2 the cost of a state university and 1/10th the cost of Florida independent colleges and universities.

Annual Tuition and Fees for Full-Time Enrollment



Valencia College has actively pursued ways to reduce the cost of textbooks for our students, from an average cost of \$109 per course in 2014-2015 to \$73 per course in 2025.



Commitment to Affordability

As a public institution charged with providing open access to quality higher education, the affordability of a Valencia College education is essential to our mission of student access, learning, success, and completion. Despite being funded by the state at a significantly lower rate than our peer institutions, Valencia College has maintained a steadfast commitment to providing an affordable pathway to postsecondary education in Orange and Osceola counties.