



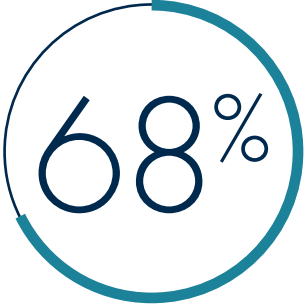
# the higher ed poll of texas

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## 2021 HIGHER EDUCATION SURVEY RESULTS

Although a majority of Texans believe the benefits of obtaining post-secondary degrees outweigh the related costs, they face technological barriers and worry about student loan debt.



68% of Texans without a college degree blame cost for not completing a degree program.

Work responsibilities and taking on student loan debt follow closely behind.

### Texans continue to explore post-secondary education options within the state's higher education system.



Nearly a third (32%) have considered enrolling in an educational program in the last five years.



25% plan to enroll in an educational or training program in the next five years.



Of those who believe getting additional education is necessary to achieve their career goals, 37% would attend a community college, 32% would enroll at a four-year public college, and 28% would consider an alternate institution.

### Many Texans report encountering some kind of technology-related obstacle that prevents them from participating in online education.



About 15% don't have the necessary equipment; 15% lack a reliable internet connection; and 18% are not tech savvy enough to take a college-level course entirely online.



23% say a problem with technology is an obstacle for completing a degree.

### Despite having financial concerns, Texans with degrees say the cost was worth it—both in economic and personal terms.



The majority of Texans with college or graduate degrees (71%) believe the lifetime value is equal to or greater than what they paid for attending college.



The majority of Texans believe that having a post-high school degree or certificate is important (92%), leads to a higher income (84%) and better quality of life (79%), and is a requirement for a good job (69%).

### About half of Texans surveyed believe the state government spends "too little" on higher education and doesn't provide enough financial aid for higher education students.



51% say the state doesn't provide enough financial aid for college students—an increase of 3% since 2019.



49% believe that Texas' state government spends "too little" on higher education, while only 9% say that they spend "too much", unchanged since 2019.



80% say it is "very important" to provide state-funded aid to college students who need it.



75% believe it is "very important" to provide aid to adult learners with financial needs.



More than 90% believe Texas must have an educated workforce to remain competitive.

### Common Obstacles to Obtaining a Degree

