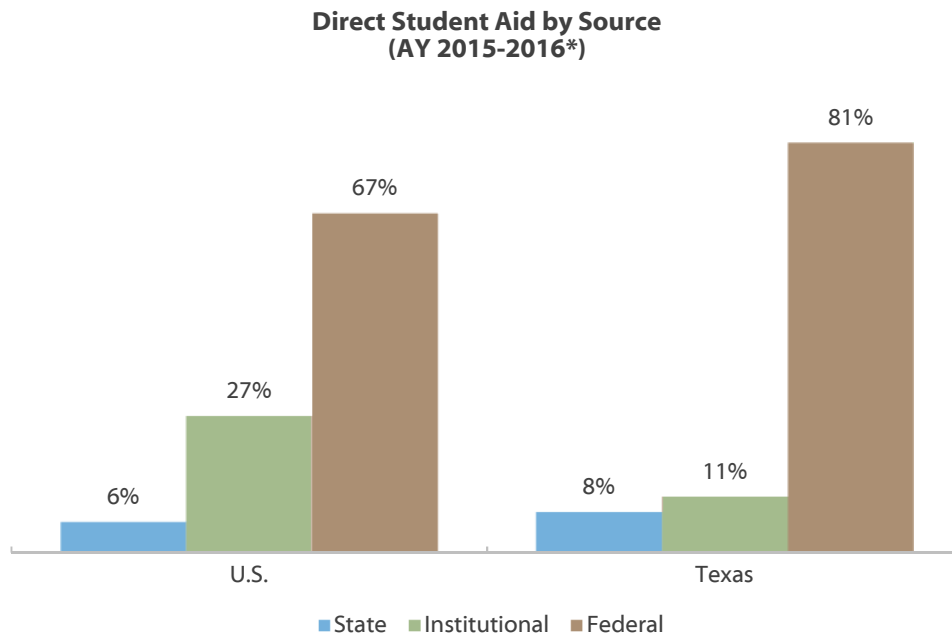


Texas Highly Dependent on Federal Government for Student Aid



College students receive financial aid mainly from three major sources: the federal government, the state government, and the colleges and universities they attend (“institutional” aid). Of these three, the federal government’s contribution is by far the largest for most students. Nationally, the federal government provided 67 percent of the generally available direct financial aid* for undergraduate and graduate students in Award Year (AY) 2015–2016. In Texas, the federal government’s role is much larger, accounting for 81 percent of aid.

The Texas state government and state governments on average across the U.S. provided a similar percentage of the available aid to students in AY 2015–2016**, at eight percent and six percent respectively.

Texas colleges and universities, through institutional grants,*** provided a much smaller percentage of financial aid than colleges in other states. Texas institutions provided 11 percent of aid versus 27 percent for colleges nationally. This may be in part because relatively few students in Texas attend private institutions, which often charge high sticker prices but use much of the revenue to give large grants and scholarships to many students based on financial need, academic merit, and other factors.

* Direct student aid includes aid that is generally available, goes directly to students, and derives from state and federal appropriations, plus institutional grants. All aid shown in graphs is for AY 2015–2016, except the private institutional aid in the Texas graph, which is for AY 2011–2012.

**The State of Texas, like other state governments, also supports public institutions through direct appropriations and tuition waivers.

*** Includes the Texas Public Educational Grant (TPEG) for AY 2015–2016 as well as private institutional aid reported to the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas (ICUT) for AY 2011–2012.

Sources: Private institutional aid: Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas (ICUT) “Annual Statistical Report 2013”, (<http://www.icut.org/publications.html>); State aid and TPEG: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, “2015–16 Financial Aid Database,” Austin, Texas, (unpublished tables); Federal aid in Texas: U.S. Department of Education, Federal Student Aid Data Center (<http://federalstudentaid.ed.gov/datacenter/>); Aid in the U.S.: The College Board. *Trends in Student Aid 2017* (<http://trends.collegeboard.org/>).

