

Funding for Almost All Texas Financial Aid Programs Decreased in 2018-2019 Biennium

**Major Texas Financial Aid Programs
Funding in 2016-2017 (Adjusted) and 2018-2019 Biennia**

	2016-2017 Biennium Funding (in millions, rounded)	2018-2019 Biennium Funding (in millions, rounded)	Percent Change
Towards EXcellence Access and Success (TEXAS) Grant	\$715	\$787	10%
Texas Educational Opportunity Grant (TEOG)	\$94	\$96	2%
Texas Work-Study	\$19	\$19	0%
Tuition Equalization Grant (TEG)	\$192	\$172	-10%
B-on-Time Loan	\$83	\$18	-78%
Total	\$1,103	\$1,092	-1%

Funding for nearly all of Texas' major higher education financial aid programs was decreased from the adjusted 2016-2017 Biennium to the 2018-2019 Biennium. Overall, funding for the five major programs that receive general revenue appropriations was decreased by one percent, holding roughly steady at about \$1.1 billion. The Towards Excellence, Access, and Success (TEXAS) Grant was the only program to receive a significant funding increase. This funding boost is intended to allow the program to award grants to about 92% of eligible students that will cover over half of tuition and fees, on average. Most of the overall decrease in funding for the five major programs was due to the phasing out of the B-On-Time Loan. All state grant programs assist students with financial need, promoting access to higher education to low-income students while helping to limit their need to borrow student loans, though some programs (like the TEXAS Grant) also have an explicit merit-based component.

**Other Texas Financial Aid Programs
Funding in 2016-2017 (Adjusted) and 2018-2019 Biennia**

	2016-2017 Biennium Funding (in millions, rounded)	2018-2019 Biennium Funding (in millions, rounded)	Percent Change
Top Ten Percent Scholarship	\$18	\$3.2	-83%
Developmental Education	\$4.0	\$2.7	-33%
Texas Research Incentive Program	\$138	\$35.0	-75%
Professional Nursing Shortage Reduction Program	\$33.8	\$20.0	-41%
Teach for Texas Loan Repayment Assistance Program	\$4.4	\$2.8	-36%
Physician Education Loan Repayment Program	\$33.8	\$25.4	-25%
Texas Armed Services Scholarship	\$5.4	\$2.7	-50%

Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, "Higher Education Summary of the 85th Texas Legislature (Regular Session)," 2017 (<http://www.theccb.state.tx.us/reports/PDF/9771.PDF?CFID=74388826&CFTOKEN=21078051>); Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, "Higher Education Summary of the 84th Texas Legislature (Regular Session)," 2015 (<http://www.theccb.state.tx.us/reports/PDF/6793.PDF?CFID=74390564&CFTOKEN=34248304>); Texas Legislative Budget State Budget by Program (<http://sbp.lbb.state.tx.us/>); Watkins, Matthew (2017). "In a year of cuts, the Texas Legislature boosted financial aid for college students". *Texas Tribune*. <https://www.texastribune.org/2017/06/07/year-cuts-texas-legislature-boosted-financial-aid/>

