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# Private college tuition rising at slower rate

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USA TODAY

Private colleges are just beginning to announce tuition increases for next year, but early returns show they're in the 5% to 6% range, lower than in the past but still above inflation.

Private schools are ahead of public schools deciding how much costs should rise. Most public colleges are awaiting decisions by legislatures.

A random check of increases in total costs (tuition, room and board, fees) among private schools shows:

- Duke University, Durham, N.C., tentatively up 5.2% to \$26,289.

- Wartburg College, Waverly, Iowa, up 5% to \$16,100.

- Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, N.C., rising 6.1% to \$19,000.

- Stanford University, Stanford, Calif., up 5% to \$26,749.

But some private schools will be well above 6%:

- Baylor University, Waco, Texas, is increasing 8% to \$12,410.

- Bethune-Cookman College, Daytona, Fla., will rise 10.8% to \$9,980.

- Saint Louis University will go up 8.6% to \$16,582.

Early returns on public universities show their tuition increases could be more "topsy-turvy" for reasons that include different approaches among governors, says Ed Elmendorf, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities.

Indiana's Purdue University,

## The figures for the basics

The cost of attending college in the U.S. isn't anywhere near the \$25,000-a-year figure that the public associates with the most prestigious schools.

An annual, comprehensive survey by the College Board calculates the overall tab for attending a year of school (tuition, fees, room and board, books and other personal expenses for a student living on campus). The survey last year said the bill:

- Totaled \$18,784 at four-year private colleges.

- Reached \$8,990 at four-year public schools.

for example, is proposing a 4% increase.

Temple University, Philadelphia, voted no tuition increase for undergraduates next year.

State residents within the State University of New York system now pay tuition of \$2,650, but that may have to rise by about \$1,300 to meet proposed state cutbacks, SUNY Chancellor Thomas Bartlett said recently.

Students feel the pain.

"It's scary," says Kellye McIntosh, field director of the U.S. Students Association. "Students are being priced out of higher education."