

College is a great investment, but it is not risk free

Roughly **4 in 10** students fail to graduate...



About 4 in 10 students seeking a bachelor's degree fail to graduate.
58% of students seeking a bachelor's degree finish within 6 years.²

Average
one-year net cost:¹

Private: **\$23,840**

Public: **\$12,110**

... and failure to graduate is costly.

29% of students with
student loans
dropped out of college in 2009.³

Non-graduate borrowers are
4x more likely to default
on their student loans.³

Students are vulnerable to disruptions that may keep them from graduating...

PERSONAL RISKS

Student responses to life shocks that could cause them to withdraw from college:⁴



52.9% Becoming ill

18.4% Death or illness
of a family member

10.6% Becoming
clinically depressed

In the US, there are approximately 13.45 million full-time students. Using health stats from Spring 2013 ACHA-NCHA II, we can see some of the potential impacts of various health issues.

Mononucleosis

ACHA Fact: 1.6% of students reported becoming infected with Mononucleosis.⁵

Family Death

ACHA Fact: 5.7% of students reported having difficulty handling the death of a friend or family member.⁵

Depression and Anxiety

ACHA Fact: 15.1% of students reported being diagnosed or treated for problems with depression and/or anxiety.⁵



Yet, awareness of college and university financial policies is low.⁶

49% When parents were asked
if the medical withdrawal
refund policy was disclosed,
49% were not sure.

63% When parents were asked
how their school would
handle a medical withdrawal,
63% had no idea.

GradGuard's Tuition Refund Insurance program can help students overcome unexpected financial losses that may disrupt a student's education.



Visit www.GradGuard.com/HigherEd to learn more about how our student benefit and insurance programs can help your students. Get started by calling 877-577-5570.

- 1 The College Board, Trends in College Pricing 2012, Figures 9 & 10. Net Tuition & Fees and Published Room & Board for 4-Year Public In-state Universities & 4-year Private Nonprofit Universities.
- 2 U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), Fall 2001 and Spring 2007 through Spring 2012, Graduation Rates component. (Table 376, Percentage of first-time full-time bachelor's degree-seeking students at 4-year institutions who completed a bachelor's degree, by race/ethnicity, time to completion, sex, and control of institution: Selected cohort entry years, 1996 through 2005. Table prepared November 2012: http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d12/tables/dt12_376.asp)
- 3 Education Sector, Degreeless in Debt: What Happens to Borrowers who Drop Out, http://www.educationsector.org/sites/default/files/publications/DegreelessDebt_CYCT_RELEASE.pdf
- 4 Pleskac, T.J., Fandre, J.*, Merritt, S., Schmitt, N., & Oswald, F. (2011). A detection model of college withdrawal. *Organizational Behavior & Human Decision Processes*, 115, 85-98
- 5 Spring 2013 ACHA-NCHA II http://www.acha-ncha.org/docs/ACHA-NCHA-II_ReferenceGroup_ExecutiveSummary_Spring2013.pdf
- 6 Sallie Mae Insurance Services, June 2013 Report on Parent Survey of Risk and Concerns. Survey designed by College Parents of America and implemented by Sallie Mae Insurance Services of Parents of dependent undergraduates where the student is entering or enrolled in first or second year at a traditional four or two year college and does not live at home. Sample not weighted to actual distribution of families that meet this criteria. Survey conducted online June 2013 using a national panel. Margin of error is estimated to be +/-4% with a confidence level of 95% on the whole sample of 598.