

# Cost of Graduating from Snead vs. two Years at a University

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## Overview

One of the many benefits of attending a community college is cost savings versus spending the first two years of college at a four-year university. This brief analysis looks at the dollar savings of the 2014 graduating class from Snead State's Associate in Science program for transfer-intending students. The data below show that the most recent graduating class saved almost \$3 million by choosing Snead State. Cost estimates are based on schools' published cost of attendance.

- Number of Snead State Associate in Science Graduates, 2013-14: 366
- Approximate total Snead tuition and fees (two years): \$3,118,320
- Approximate tuition and fees for two years at a four-year university: \$6,087,087
- Tuition and fee savings for these students because they chose Snead State: \$2,968,767

## Total Estimated Savings of Snead Graduates vs. Attending the First two Years at a Four-Year University

| College                      | Two-years' tuition & fees for 366 students | Total two-year savings by attending Snead |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| Montevallo                   | \$7,320,000                                | \$4,201,680                               |
| <b>Auburn</b>                | <b>\$7,211,664</b>                         | <b>\$4,093,344</b>                        |
| <b>University of Alabama</b> | <b>\$6,917,400</b>                         | <b>\$3,799,080</b>                        |
| <b>Alabama-Huntsville</b>    | <b>\$6,728,544</b>                         | <b>\$3,610,224</b>                        |
| <b>Jacksonville State</b>    | <b>\$6,434,280</b>                         | <b>\$3,315,960</b>                        |
| Auburn-Montgomery            | \$6,405,000                                | \$3,286,680                               |
| Alabama State                | \$6,383,040                                | \$3,264,720                               |
| West Alabama                 | \$5,607,120                                | \$2,488,800                               |
| Troy                         | \$5,326,032                                | \$2,207,712                               |
| <b>Alabama-Birmingham</b>    | <b>\$5,274,792</b>                         | <b>\$2,156,472</b>                        |
| Alabama A&M                  | \$5,257,224                                | \$2,138,904                               |
| North Alabama                | \$5,181,096                                | \$2,062,776                               |
| South Alabama                | \$5,085,936                                | \$1,967,616                               |
| 4-year University Average    | \$6,087,087                                | \$2,968,767                               |

Source: National Center for Education Statistics. Cost estimates are from 2013-14 reported IPEDS data.

Note: Highlighted schools are the top transfer destinations of Snead students for Fall 2014 (not including Athens State).

## Two-year tuition & fee savings per student that chooses Snead over a 4-year university

| College                   | Tuition & Fees for Two Years | Savings by attending Snead for two years |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Montevallo                | \$20,000                     | \$11,480                                 |
| Auburn                    | \$19,704                     | \$11,184                                 |
| University of Alabama     | \$18,900                     | \$10,380                                 |
| Alabama-Huntsville        | \$18,384                     | \$9,864                                  |
| Jacksonville State        | \$17,580                     | \$9,060                                  |
| Auburn-Montgomery         | \$17,500                     | \$8,980                                  |
| Alabama State             | \$17,440                     | \$8,920                                  |
| West Alabama              | \$15,320                     | \$6,800                                  |
| Troy                      | \$14,552                     | \$6,032                                  |
| Alabama-Birmingham        | \$14,412                     | \$5,892                                  |
| Alabama A&M               | \$14,364                     | \$5,844                                  |
| North Alabama             | \$14,156                     | \$5,636                                  |
| South Alabama             | \$13,896                     | \$5,376                                  |
| 4-Year University Average | \$16,631                     | \$8,111                                  |

Source: National Center for Education Statistics IPEDS data, 2013-14 annual tuition and required fees.

Approximate savings of two years' tuition and fees at all Alabama's Public two-year colleges vs. two years at four year universities: (4375 AA & AS Graduates, average savings \$8,111): \$35,485,625