



Lincoln



Omaha



Kearney



Medical Center

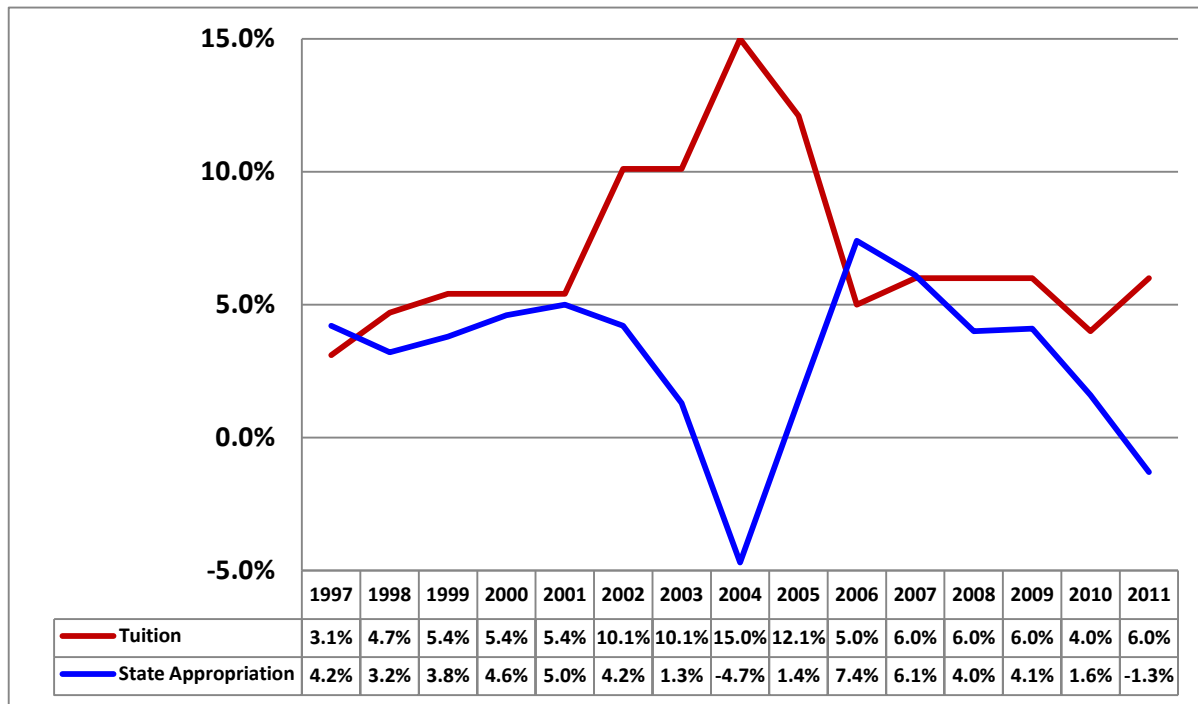
Affordable Access to a Quality Education

Maintaining affordable access to a high quality education at the University of Nebraska depends on four inter-related factors: a stable level of state support, moderate and predictable tuition increases, adequate need-based aid and cost-effective, efficient financial management.

I. Stable state support

Since 1997, annual changes in the University's state appropriation have ranged from an increase of 7.4% to a decrease of 4.7%. Chart 1 shows the historic relationship between the level of state support and the level of tuition increases. Chart 2 shows the decline in support for the University as a percentage of the state's budget over the past 25 years, and Chart 3 shows growth in the state appropriations to other state agencies compared to the University.

Chart 1: Tuition and state appropriations 1997-2011



**2010 reflects original state appropriation increase. Does not include special session reductions.
2011 tuition figure is proposed, pending Board of Regents approval.**

Chart 2: Support for the University as a share of state budget 1986-2011

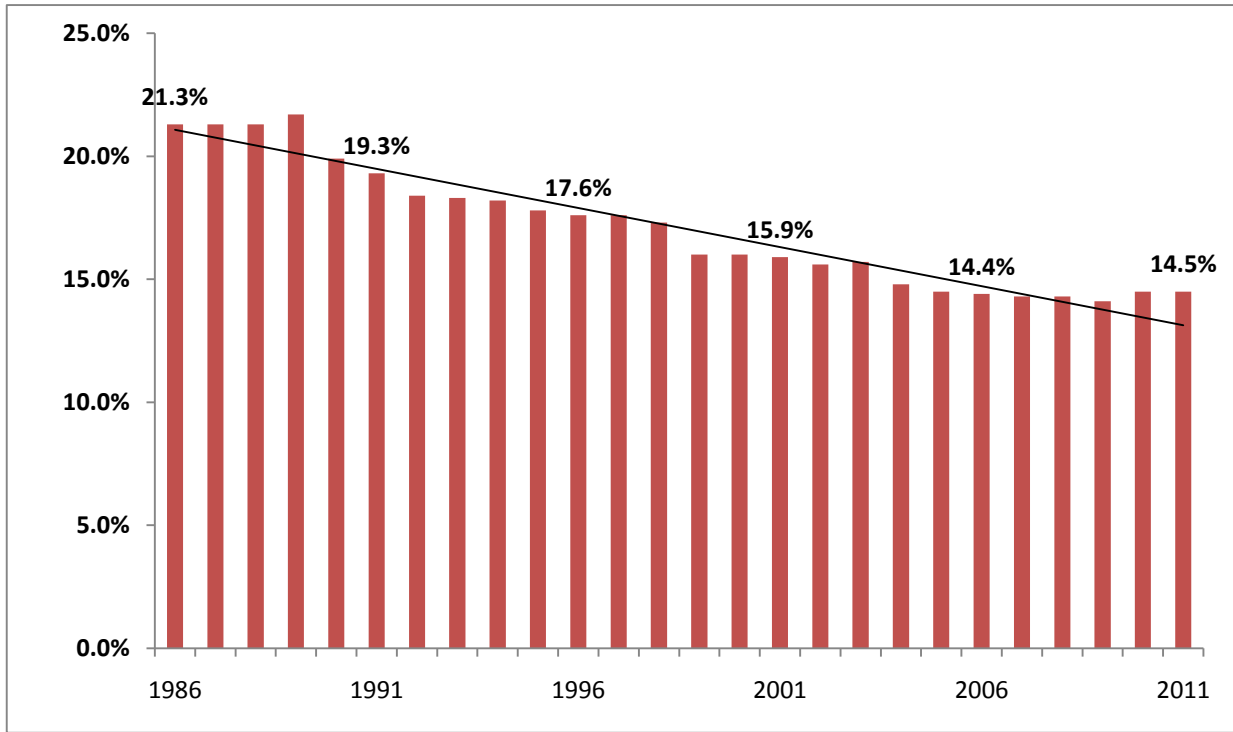
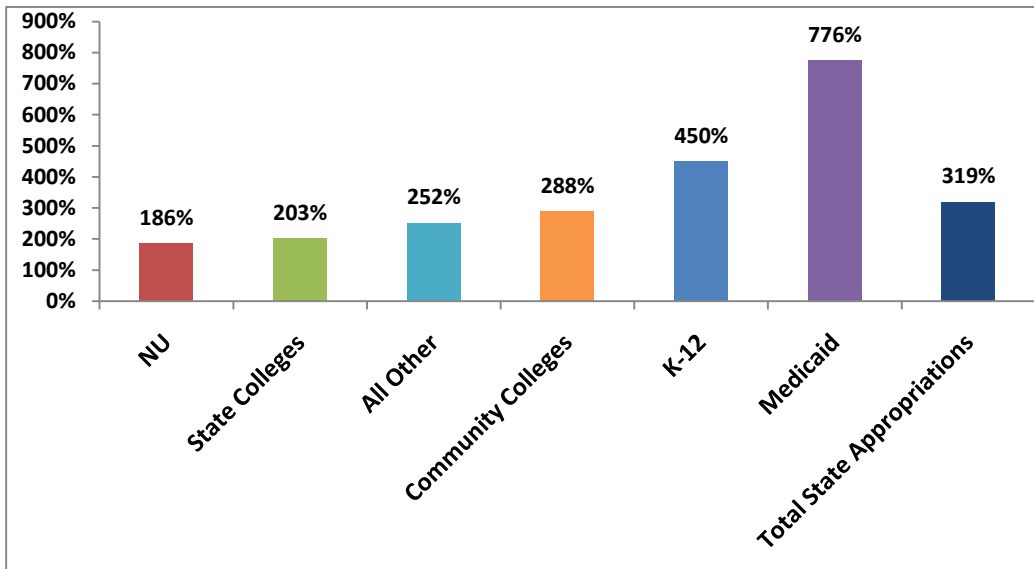
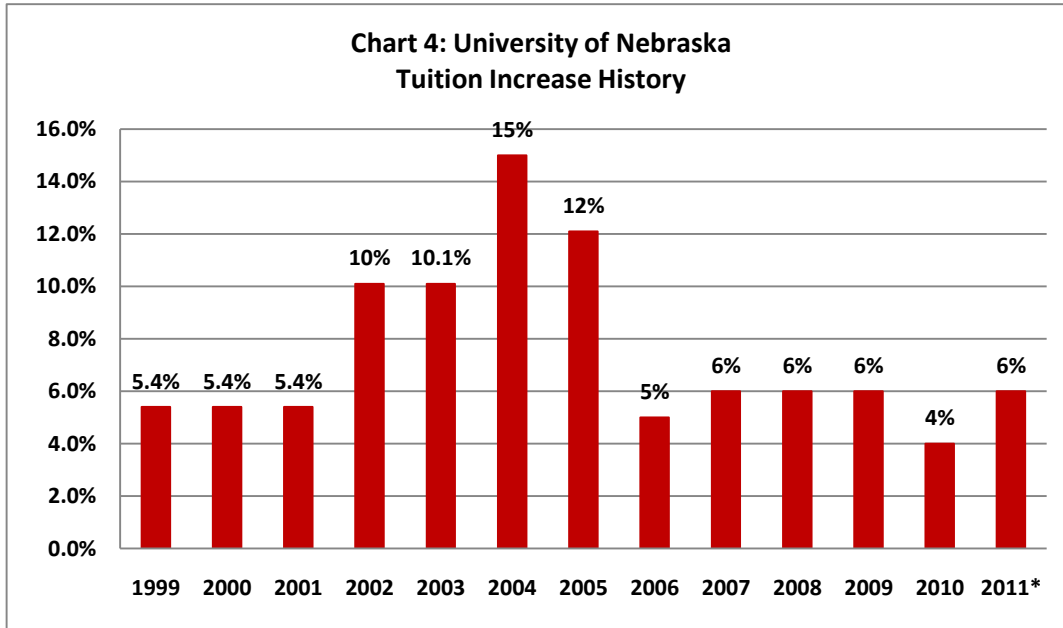


Chart 3: State Appropriation Growth 1986-2011

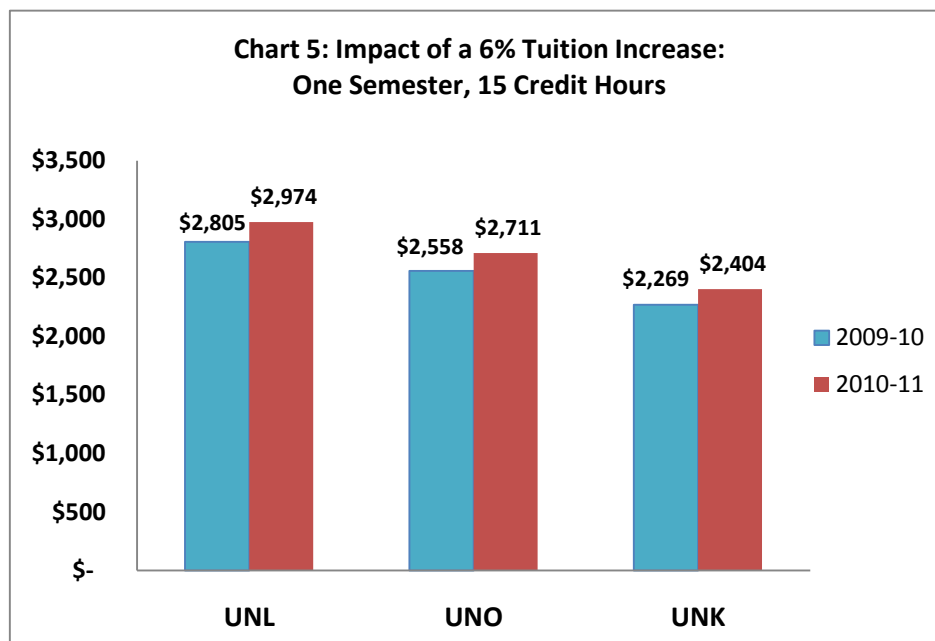


II. Predictable, moderate tuition increases

The second component of affordability is predictable, moderate tuition increases. Earlier in this decade, tuition rose by 10% or more for four years in a row. This year's recommended increase, 6%, continues the trend of stable and moderate increases over the past six years. Chart 4 shows that the impact on resident undergraduate students, depending on which campus they attend, would be approximately \$135 to \$170 per semester.

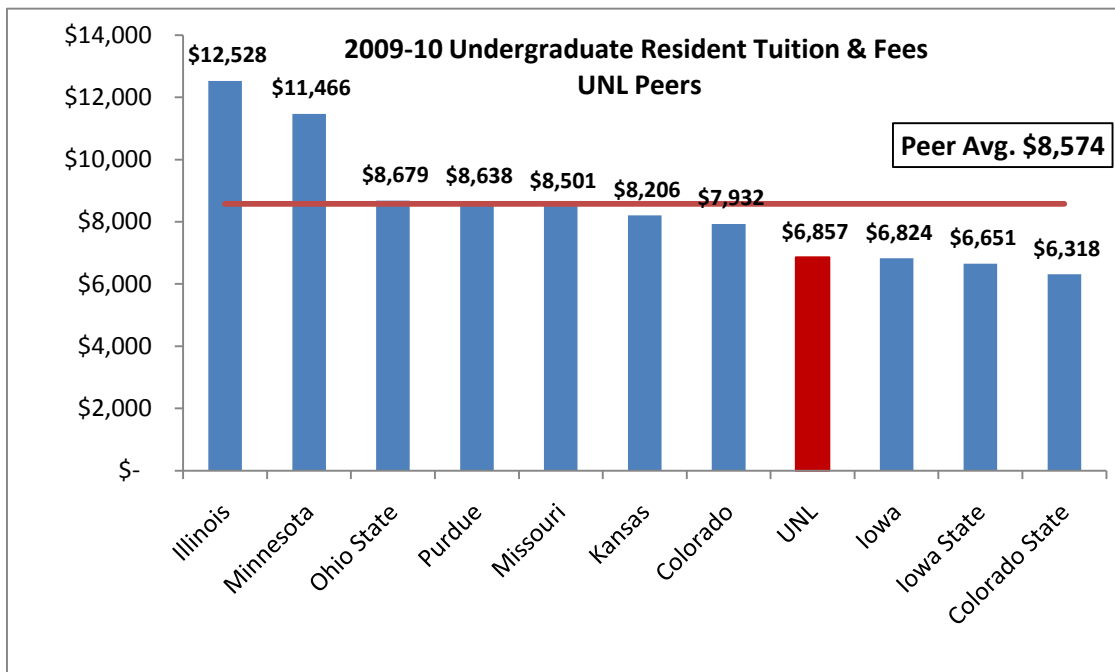
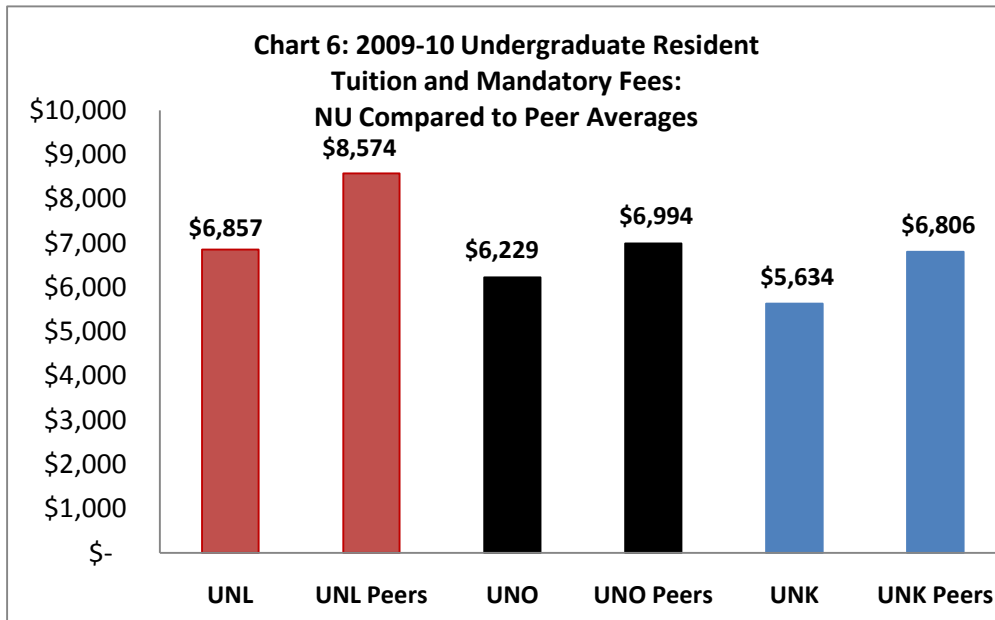


*2011 Proposed

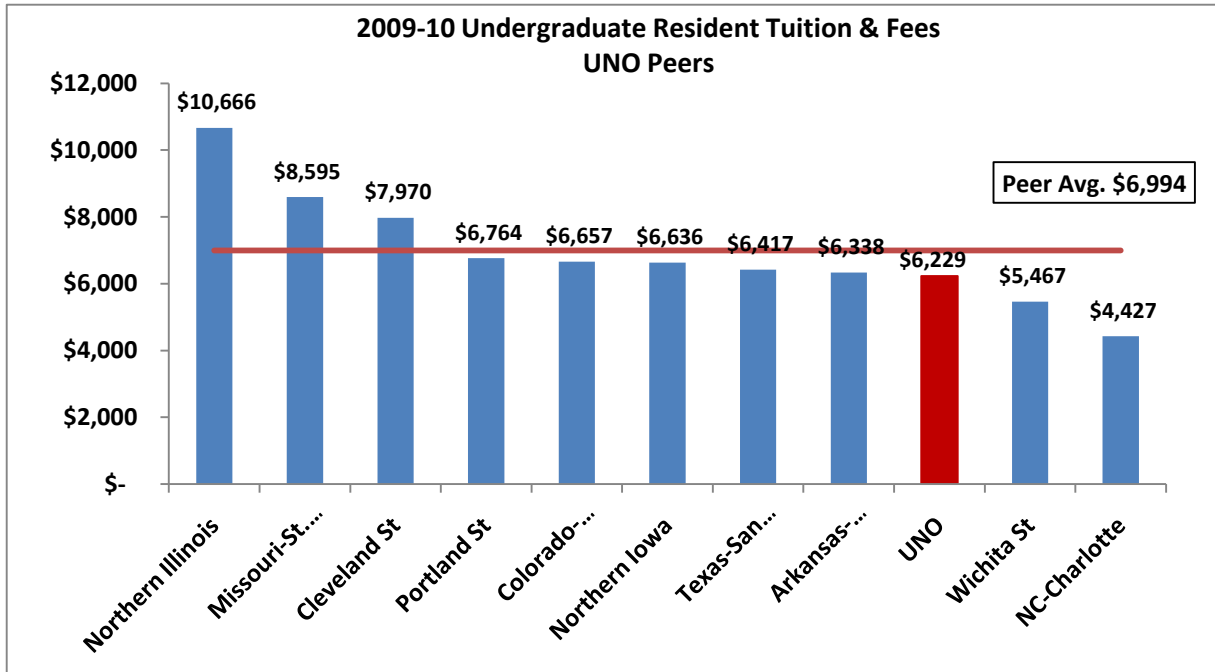


Peer comparisons

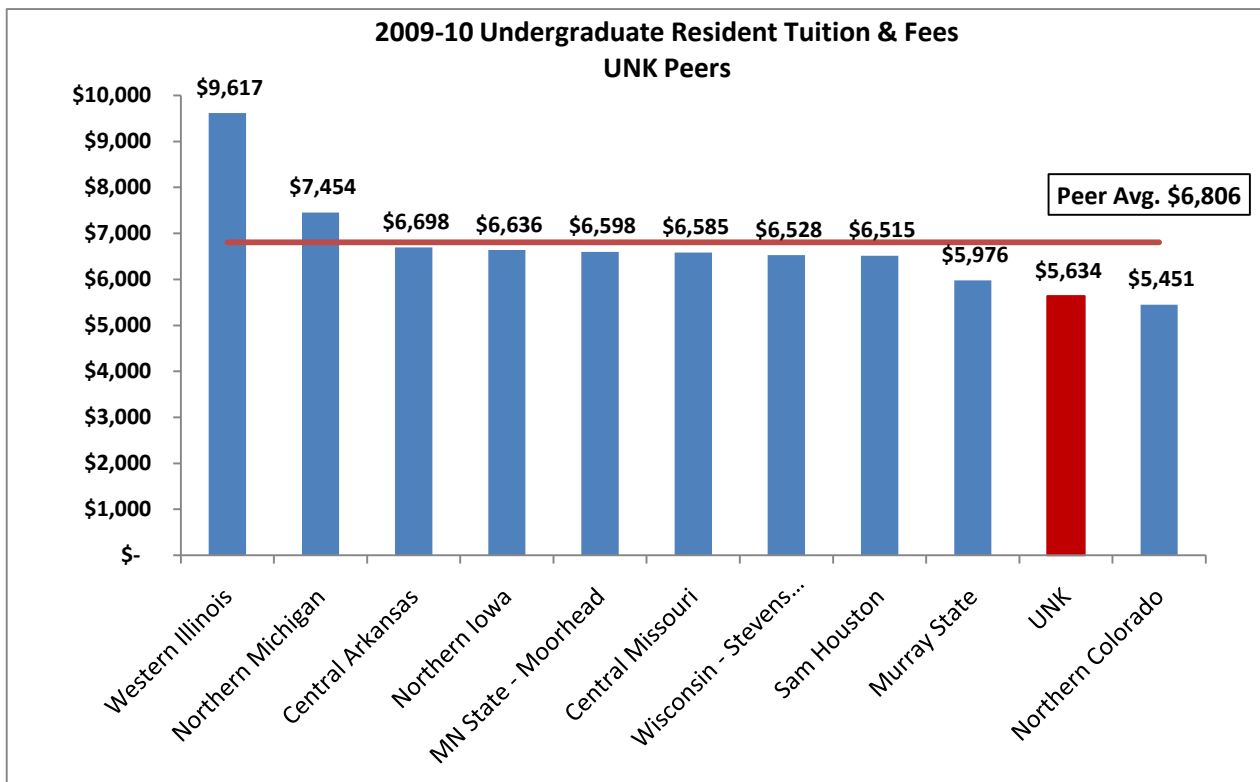
Annual tuition and mandatory fees on each predominantly undergraduate University of Nebraska campus for 2009-10 are lower than the average of each campus' peer institutions, including graduate and undergraduate, resident and non-resident students. "Peer institutions" are a group of universities of comparable size and mission. Chart 6 shows a comparison of resident, undergraduate tuition, while the subsequent four charts show how each campus compares to all peers in its peer group and how the UNMC College of Medicine tuition compares to its peers.



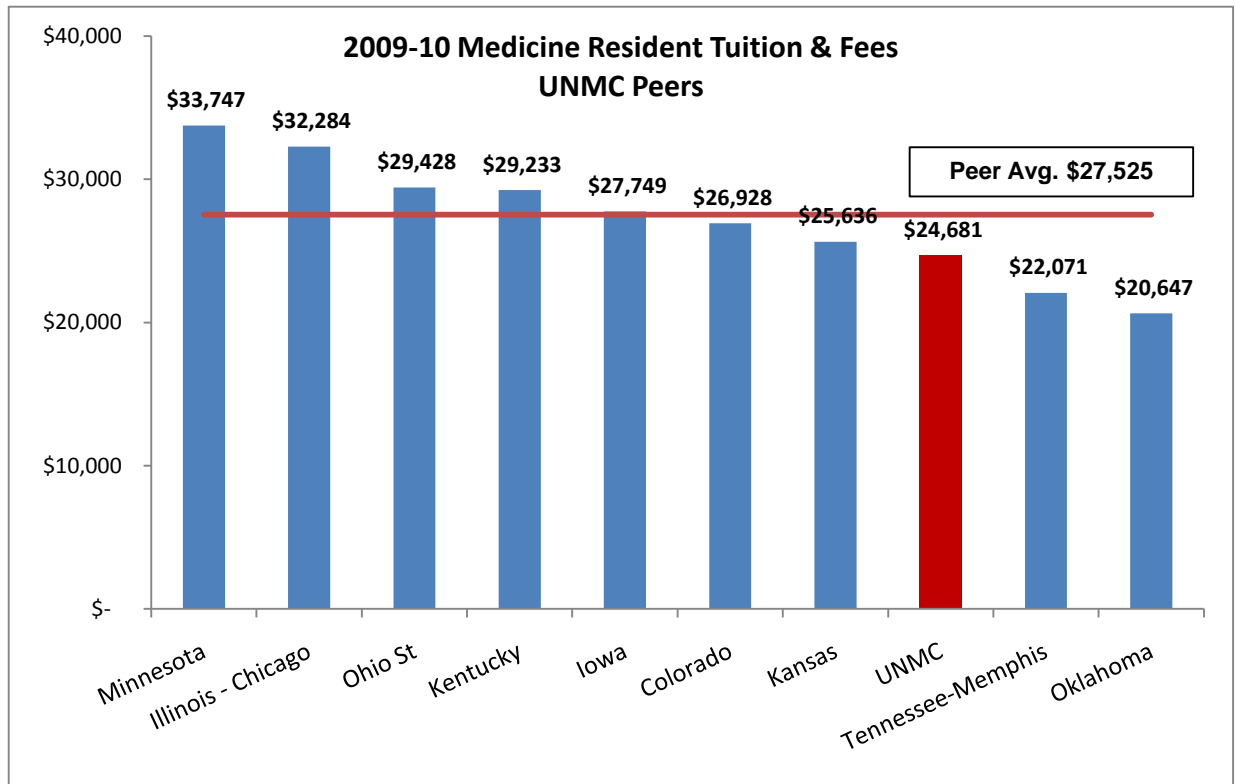
To reach UNL peer average would require an increase of 25%.



To reach UNO peer average would require an increase of 12%.



To reach UNK peer average would require an increase of 21%.



To reach UNMC peer average would require an increase of 11.5%.

III. Adequate financial aid

Approximately one-third of all undergraduate students at the University of Nebraska receive need-based financial aid. More than half of all Nebraska resident undergraduates at UNL receive financial aid, and at UNK, more than two-thirds do. The University of Nebraska continues to increase the amount of need-based aid available to students – need-based aid increases are indexed to tuition increases – and to work with outside partners to make additional scholarship funds available. Students will also find assistance this year through an expanded federal Pell Grant program that increased the maximum Pell Grant by more than \$200.

One of the most comprehensive need-based aid programs in the nation – **Collegebound Nebraska**, the University’s tuition assistance program – was expanded in 2009 to include most families with an annual income of \$50,000 or less, and will be expanded again for 2010 to cover most Nebraska families with an income of approximately \$53,000 or less. Nearly 6,000 students were eligible for Collegebound Nebraska funds in 2009-10, receiving more than \$3.6 million in tuition assistance. Preliminary figures indicate that this number will increase significantly in 2010-11, and the university intends to make additional funds available.

Private assistance also plays an important role. The number of Thompson Scholars funded by the Susan T. Buffett Foundation on the three primarily undergraduate campuses of the University of Nebraska increased from 275 in 2007 to more than 900 in 2009. These scholarships include \$3,200 per semester for tuition and fees, and \$400 for books.

	University of Nebraska Financial Aid 2009-10 (est.)				
	UNL	UNO	UNK	UNMC	NU-WIDE
Number of Pell-eligible students	4,200	2,750	1,600	231	8,781
Pell Dollars	\$14,000,000	\$8,000,000	\$5,750,000	\$868,975	\$28,618,975
Total Collegebound Nebraska					
Guaranteed Students	2,784	1,871	1,180	144	5,979
Pell Eligible	2,694	1,763	1,126	143	5,726
Students in \$4,618 to \$5,000 EFC Range	90	108	54	1	253
NU Collegebound Funds	\$ 2,021,898	\$1,050,821	\$ 478,267	\$91,302	\$3,642,288

IV. Efficient and cost-effective administration

The fourth component of affordable access is efficient and cost-effective administration of University resources. When adjusted for the higher education price index, state funding is less than it was 10 years ago. The University has relied on internal reallocations and tuition increases to support state-aided budget spending that has remained flat over the past decade after adjusting for inflation.

The internal reallocations have resulted in jobs being eliminated or going unfilled; programs and services being reduced, eliminated or outsourced; administrative duties being consolidated and positions eliminated; travel and printing being reduced; and more services and information being moved online to reduce costs. This year alone, \$8.5 million in reallocations have been made, which eliminated 103 positions University-wide, and reduced state support for programs including the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theatre and the Statewide Arboretum. For 2010-11, additional cuts of nearly \$10 million will be required.

A number of efficiencies have been implemented in the past several years, most notably a new student information system that serves the four NU campuses as well as the state colleges, providing more efficient management of student records, as well as a new distance education platform, Online Worldwide, that consolidates NU distance education marketing and other costs. Looking ahead, the University will seek opportunities to make one-time investments that could result in long-term savings or increased revenues, such as pursuing deferred maintenance at a time when construction costs are less expensive, increasing non-resident enrollments and other strategies.

The University is also studying efficiency reports prepared for other universities to determine additional areas in which cost savings can be realized. To enhance transparency, a new NU Budget website, available at www.nebraska.edu, was created to provide more detailed information on sources of revenue and expenditures.

