



# Developing an Affordability Mindset

## 1 Recognize student financial realities

**53%**

of UT System full-time undergraduates receive need-based grant & scholarship aid

**2/3** Black

**1/2** Latinx students rely on Pell Grants

**31%**

of rural Texans lack high-speed internet access

**13.6%**

of Texans live at or below the poverty line

## 2 Understand the cost of education and student loan debt

**\$20,985**

UT System student loan debt average

**48%**

of Texas undergraduates have an average student loan debt of

**\$27,293**

## 3 Remember that COVID-19 has made these realities worse

**55%**

of 18-24 year-olds lost a job because of COVID-19

**50%**

of low-income students have experienced a major depressive disorder

**218%**

increase in students receiving crisis support

## 4 Take action to address student financial challenges

Increase Grant Support  
Emergency Aid Programs  
Food & Clothing Pantries  
Emergency Housing  
Improve Technology Access

**UT System**

Student Success Finance  
Affinity Group Recommendations

## 5 Make Open Educational Resources (OER) widely available

OER can save students an average of **\$117** per course

Getting Started with OER:  
UT System OER Resources  
THECB OERTX  
DIGITEX  
OER at UT Institutions

For more information on OER at the UT System visit <https://utsystem.edu/sites/moer>

### Sources