The total cost of college includes far more than tuition and fees. Textbooks, transportation, food, and housing are all costs of attending college.

The net prices shown here – for each of the nine undergraduate-serving campuses of the University of California and nearby California State University and community college campuses – reflect the colleges’ own estimates of what low-income students have to pay, after subtracting available grant aid, to cover total college costs.

Colleges with low tuition may not have low net prices, and colleges with high tuition may not have high net prices. In none of the nine regions shown here does the lowest tuition school – the community college – have the lowest net price, and in six regions the community college is more expensive than either public university option.
Notes:

Figures are from each school’s Net Price Calculator (NPC) for a dependent student from a family of four (with one child in college) with an income of $18,000 (or under $30,000 at the community colleges), living independently off-campus. Among dependent students attending California public colleges with family incomes between $0 and $30,000, $18,000 is the median family income (from the U.S. Department of Education, National Postsecondary Student Aid Study, 2008). NPCs were accessed in January 2016; figures are rounded to the nearest $100.

Each of the nine undergraduate-serving University of California (UC) campuses is paired with a local California State University (CSU) and the nearest California Community College (CCC) campus. The colleges in the nine regions numbered on the map are as follows:

1: UC Berkeley, CSU - East Bay, Berkeley City College
2: UC Davis, CSU - Sacramento, Woodland College
3: UC Irvine, CSU - Fullerton, Irvine Valley College
4: UC Los Angeles, CSU - Los Angeles, Santa Monica College
5: UC Merced, CSU - Stanislaus, Merced College
6: UC Riverside, CSU - San Bernardino, Riverside City College
7: UC San Diego, CSU - San Diego, San Diego Miramar College
8: UC Santa Barbara, CSU - Channel Islands, Santa Barbara City College
9: UC Santa Cruz, CSU - Monterey Bay, Cabrillo College

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