

How to help your students afford classes and college life

We all want to help our students achieve a Rowan University degree. One of the most common barriers to success is the affordability of tuition and the college experience. Here are some helpful ways that we can all help students graduate and minimize debt.

Textbook costs:

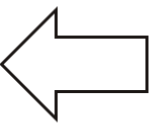
On average, students spend an additional \$250 out of pocket for textbooks each semester. Here are five things you can do to help reduce these costs.

1. **Order textbooks as early as possible from the bookstore.** The earlier you request books, the more opportunity Barnes & Noble has to order used books from the national stockpile or buy books available to rent.
2. **Put books on reserve in the library.** Copies of course textbooks can be placed on reserve for a semester at the Campbell Library for students to use within the building. Some common texts, such as stylebooks, may already be available.
3. **Consider going book-less.** Supplementing your course with digital readings may help reduce the number of books students need to purchase. The library subscribes to over 350 databases of articles, images, data, and maps that can link from your Blackboard or Canvas courseware.
4. **Email students before the start of class to advise them on what books are recommended or required.** This provides students time to order from discount online sellers before the start of the semester.
5. **Work with other professors to use books for more than one course.** Some departments may be able to use a single textbook for multiple classes, thus reducing student costs over a longer period.

Other ideas:

1. **Get to know student resources on and off campus.** The “ProfCents” (Go.Rowan.edu/ProfCents) website can direct faculty and students to a variety of affordability related resources ranging from academic services and financial assistance to computer lab locations, free tax help, and cost-saving transportation alternatives.
2. **Encourage students to apply for scholarships and financial aid.** Email your students information on upcoming relevant scholarships in your field to help reduce tuition costs.
3. **Reach out to students who are struggling.** Encourage your students to seek help through tutoring, academic coaching, or speaking with advisors regarding strategies for success or evaluating withdrawal options.
4. **Alert students of minimum grade requirements to avoid confusion at the end of the semester.** Passing grades differ between classes, so reminding students about the minimum requirements may prevent students from paying for courses more than once.
5. **Use RSN Starfish to alert students and advisers of poor grades.** This will help prevent students from failing and paying for the same course twice.

When a student is experiencing financial difficulties...



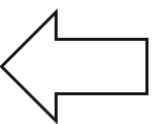
General Concerns

Students in difficult situations may contact the Dean of Students Office for assistance with establishing a plan of action or to be connected with an office that may be able to help.



Dean of Students
856.256.4283

deanofstudents@rowan.edu
<https://sites.rowan.edu/deanofstudents/index.html>



Food Insecurity

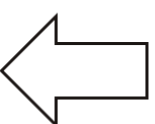
If a student shares they are food insecure or missing meals due to financial distress.



The SHOP
856.256.6333

Food pantry & resource center that offers support services to students in need. Pantry items include nonperishable food, school supplies, and toiletries.

Go.Rowan.edu/TheSHOP



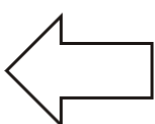
Money Questions

If a student has financial concerns or questions about food, housing, taxes, textbooks, academic services, or information about state and local resources.



ProfCents
Resource Website

UniversityResources@rowan.edu
Go.Rowan.edu/ProfCents



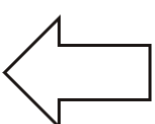
Financial Aid

If a student has questions about student loans, grants, scholarships, or needs assistance funding education related costs.



Financial Aid Office
856.256.4250

financialaid@rowan.edu
Go.Rowan.edu/financialaid



Disability Resources

If a student with a new or existing disability is experiencing difficulty, ask them if you may contact:



Disability Resources
856.256.4259

successcenter@rowan.edu
<https://sites.rowan.edu/disabilityresources/>