The University of Massachusetts is funded by several sources. A significant funding source is the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, which annually subsidizes the University’s costs to educate a student through annual state appropriations. These appropriations greatly reduce the cost of attendance for students. The average annual per student cost of education at the University of Massachusetts Amherst for the 2020-2021 academic year was approximately $29,489. This represents the total cost to support a student’s total University experience (instruction, research, student services, buildings and grounds maintenance, the administration, etc.). The state operating subsidy averages approximately $14,287 per student per year and certain other campus revenues are also used to support these costs. Tuition and non-auxiliary fees charged to in-state students in 2020-2021 were $14,560 or 49.4% of the total cost of education. Costs for books, supplies, transportation, and room and board are added to these tuition and fee charges to determine the in-state cost of attendance estimated at $32,168. This is roughly the figure from which a student’s financial aid eligibility is determined.

Non-auxiliary fees include fine arts, curriculum fee and student activities fee.