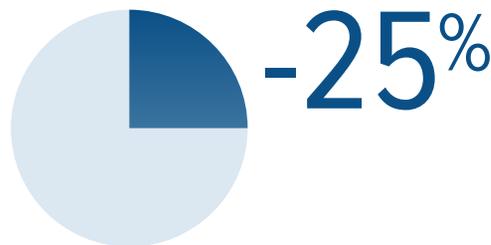


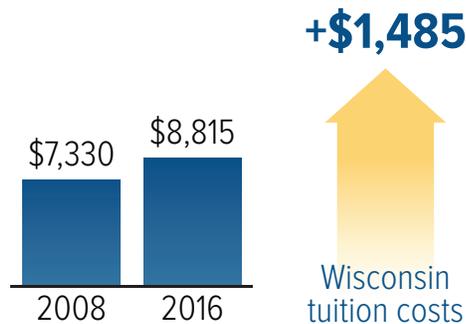
# Cuts to Wisconsin's Higher Education System Jeopardize Our Economic Future

Cuts to Wisconsin's higher education system are making college less affordable and threatening the quality of education students receive at the state's public four-year and community colleges. Having a highly educated workforce is critical to our economic future, and we need a strong and high-quality higher education system to make that happen. Ensuring adequate investment in our state's colleges and universities requires that policymakers make sound decisions about how to raise and use resources and avoid shortsighted tax cuts.

- 1 Per-student funding for Wisconsin's public colleges and universities is 25% below 2008 levels.



- 2 Since 2008, average tuition in state is up by \$1,485 for four-year public colleges and universities.



- 3 The \$1,634 cut in per-student funding and tuition increases have made college less affordable, shifting costs from state to students and jeopardizing quality at public universities.



Note: All figures are adjusted for inflation and represent constant 2015 dollars. Because data is available only through the 2014-2015 school year, enrollment for 2015-16 is estimated based on past years. In the 2013-15 biennial budget, Wisconsin state lawmakers changed the funding model for Wisconsin's Technical College System, shifting support from the local property tax to state General Purpose Revenue. This change reflects a shift of roughly \$406 million in annual support from the local to state levels in Wisconsin but did not result in an overall increase in support for Wisconsin's higher education institutions. This factsheet excludes this shift from its calculations to show more clearly how funding for Wisconsin's two- and four-year colleges has changed since 2008.

Source: State Higher Education Executive Officers Association, SHEF 2015; CBPP calculations using Illinois State University, Grapevine fiscal year 2016; College Board, Trends in College Pricing 2016.