

The True Cost of Skipping Class



You smack the snooze button in the early morning. "Just a few more minutes, Mom... wait, Mom?" Nope, no Mom, and your responsible roommate has already left for class. You slept through 4 alarms and are now 23 minutes late for class. Well, there's always tomorrow, right?

See just how much it costs you, or your parents, or the generous organizations providing you with grants and scholarships, to skip class, even just once in a while...

Average Tuition & Fees

Public 4-year College (averaged for in-state and out-of-state)

\$8,737



Private 4-year College

\$21,324



Average Tuition and Fees Per Hour-Long Class:

(Assuming a 15-week semester, 15 hours per week)

Public 4-year
\$19.42

Private 4-year
\$47.39

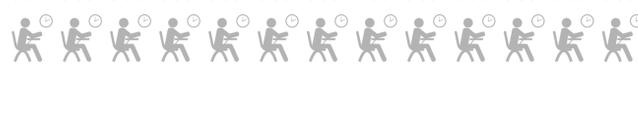
And if your class is an hour and a half, or two hours or even three, imagine how much more you're losing! What if you have three two-hour classes in a day and you skip them all?

The Average Student Skips...

13 classes per semester



26 classes per year



104 classes in their college career



= 2 classes

\$2,400.32

in skipped hour-long classes for public institutions

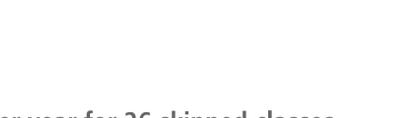
\$6,586.32

in skipped hour-long classes for private institutions

Financial Aid Spent on Skipped Classes

Average Annual Aid for Full-time Public and Private Undergrads (including grants)

\$9,100



Aid per year for 26 skipped classes

\$591.50, 6% of your yearly award

Aid over your college career of 104 skipped classes:

\$2,366

You'll have to pay most of that money back (excluding grants, plus interest), even though you didn't get anything out of it!

Earn Back Your Lost Money!

Only 56% of the class of 2010 had a job 1 year after graduating



56%

If you're one of those lucky people, check out about how long it would take to pay off your missed time weekly:

Male college grads earn an average of \$21.68/hour

Pay off all skipped classes at public institution with 110+ hours of work, or about 2.8 full paychecks



Pay off all skipped classes at private institution with 303+ hours of work, or about 7.6 full paychecks



Female college grads earn an average of \$18.80/hour

Pay off all skipped classes at public institution with 127+ hours of work, or about 3.2 full paychecks



Pay off all skipped classes at private institution with 350+ hours of work, or about 8.8 full paychecks



Why Do Students Skip?

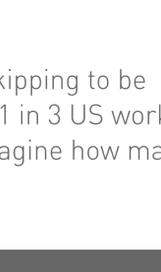
In a survey of students using ScholarshipPoints.com...



- 55% Just couldn't get out of bed
- 20% Wanted to enjoy the beautiful weather
- 12% Felt social time took precedence
- 7% Were getting busy... just not academically!
- 4% Had some serious TV watching to do
- 2% Were hungover

Other Common Excuses:

- Too lazy
- Not expecting anything "important" to happen in class
- Doctor or other appointment



Seems like a high portion of students who're skipping to be productive, right? They could be fibbing. About 1 in 3 US workers have used a fake excuse to get out of work—imagine how many college students have done the same!

The After-Effects

x3

x2

Beware: those who wasted time in college are 3x more likely to be unemployed and 2x more likely to live with their parents than successful students



Over 1 in 2 have substantial credit card debt

A minimum wage earner, at \$7.25 per hour, paid weekly would have to:

Pay off all skipped classes at public institution with 331+ hours of work, or about 8.2 full paychecks



Pay off all skipped classes at private institution with 908+ hours of work, or about 22.8 full paychecks



(If you slacked off enough or dropped out altogether, you just might not be able to pull much more than minimum wage!)

SOURCES

- <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/pay/add-it-up/4494.html>
- <http://www.classesandcareers.com/advisor/42-statistics-for-college-students/>
- <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/19/business/economy/19grads.html>
- http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/06/13/negotiate-young-women-college-graduates-first-job_n_875650.html
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- http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/33347533/ns/health-cold_and_flu/t/swine-flu-provides-foolproof-excuse-slackers/
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