FY26 Financial Aid Report

Board of Trustees - Administration & Finance Committee

April 1, 2026

University *of* Massachusetts

UMASS

Amherst • Boston • Dartmouth • Lowell • Medical • Law

UMass is committed to access and affordability

$449 million: Annual financial aid generated by UMass tuition pricing/free aid strategy, up 73% over the past decade

Despite sticker price, on average, in state undergraduate students pay ~**$7K** for tuition & mandatory charges - free for families under $75K income

Depending on campus, **27% to 54%** of in state undergraduates, or **~16k** students, receive Pell Grants - financial need consistently remains large

UMass strategy has succeeded in holding average student debt at graduation relatively flat for a decade at **$32,838** - a real decline in debt in inflation-adjusted dollars

University-generated Aid

Understanding components of free financial aid

University-generated aid is primarily awarded to students as grants, scholarships, and credits.

Free Financial Aid

- **Waivers/Credits** – targeted and need-based discounts that directly reduce a student's bill
- **Grants/Scholarships** – financial aid to students which does not have to be repaid
  - UMass-generated aid **($449M)** includes institutional financial need-based programs and merit aid such as Chancellor's Scholarships awarded based on strong academic achievement and personal achievement
  - Federal aid **($120M)** such as Federal Pell Grants awarded based on financial need
  - State aid **($109M)** such as MASSGrant Plus awarded based on financial need

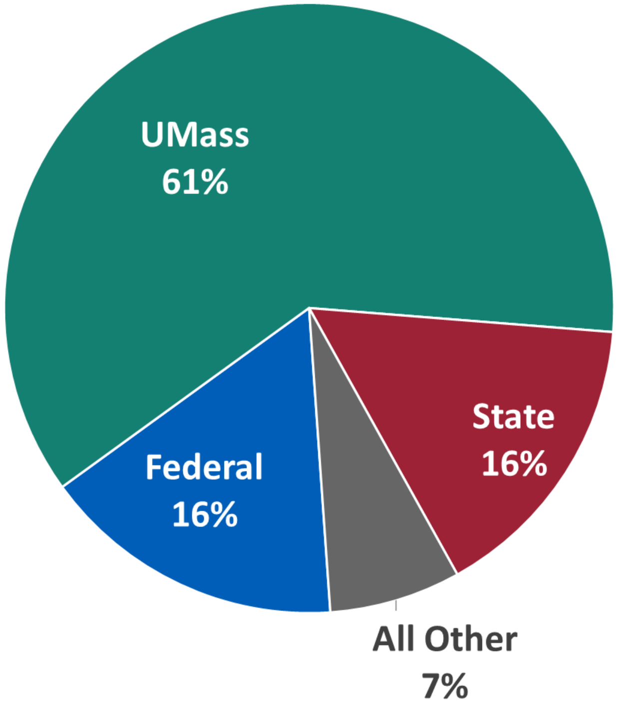
Student Employment & Work Study

- On- or off-campus jobs to earn money to pay for school

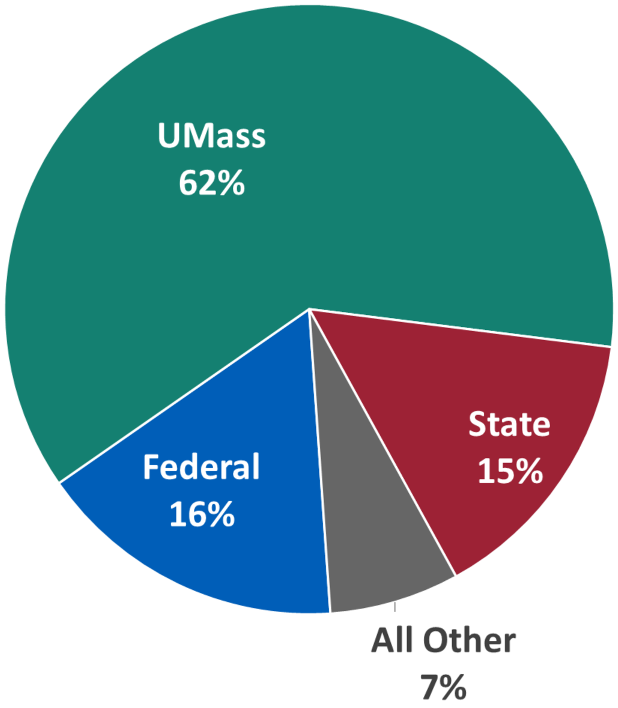
Largest source of free aid is *University-generated* aid

MassGrant* expansion to UMass has significantly increased State share of free aid since 2022

FY2025 Projection = $689M



FY2026 Projection = $728M



For Fiscal Year 2026:

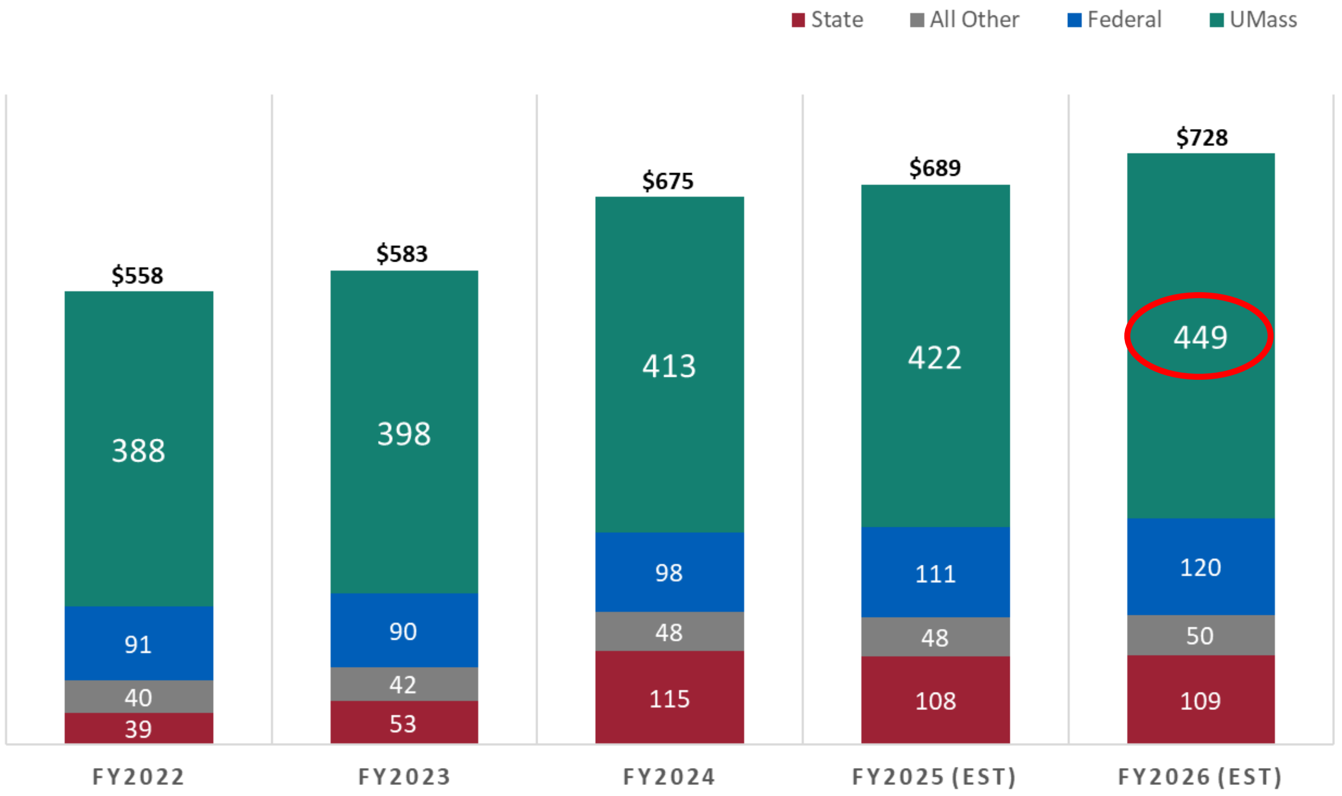
- 62% ($449M) was University-generated financial aid, including grants, employment, scholarships & credits
- 16% ($120M) Federal free aid, largely Pell grants(1)
- 15% ($109M) State free aid(2)
- 7% ($50M) Private free aid

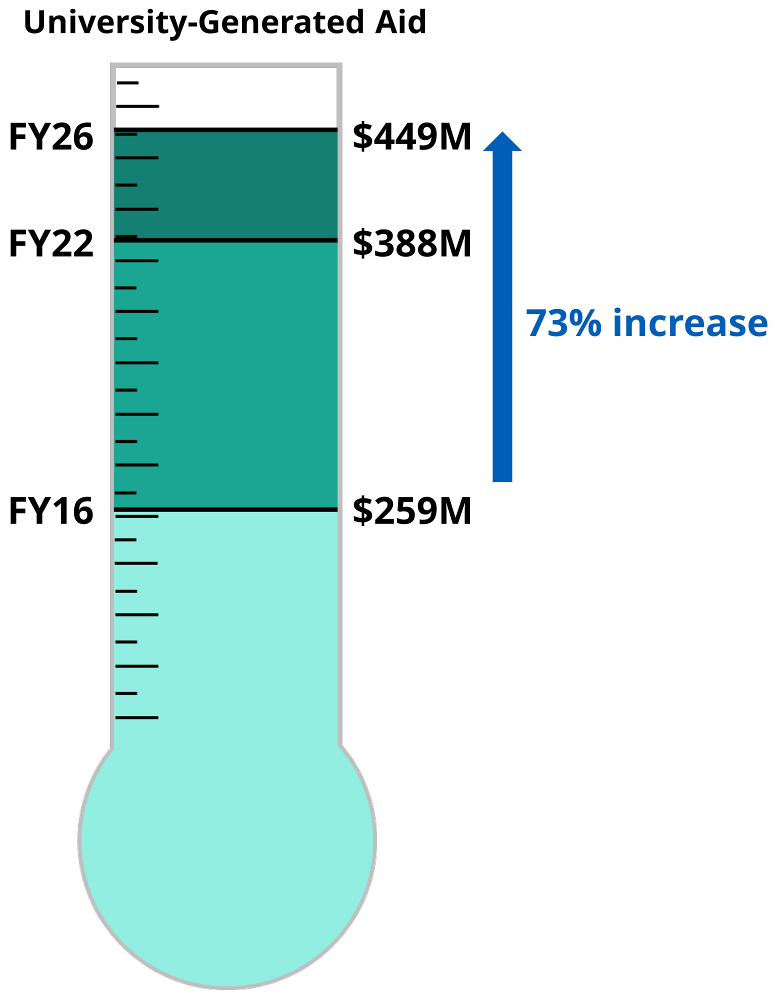
***MassGrant Plus:** State financial aid program that provides need-based financial assistance to undergraduate students who reside in Massachusetts; full time students attending Massachusetts four-year public colleges and universities, and full-time and part-time students attending Massachusetts public community colleges may be eligible for additional funding to help with the cost of tuition, fees and books

(1) Federal free aid includes Pell, SEOG; values may vary from other reporting on federal aid such as SEFA (2)Includes MassGrant Plus expansion funds for eligible students

UMass has steadily increased University-generated aid

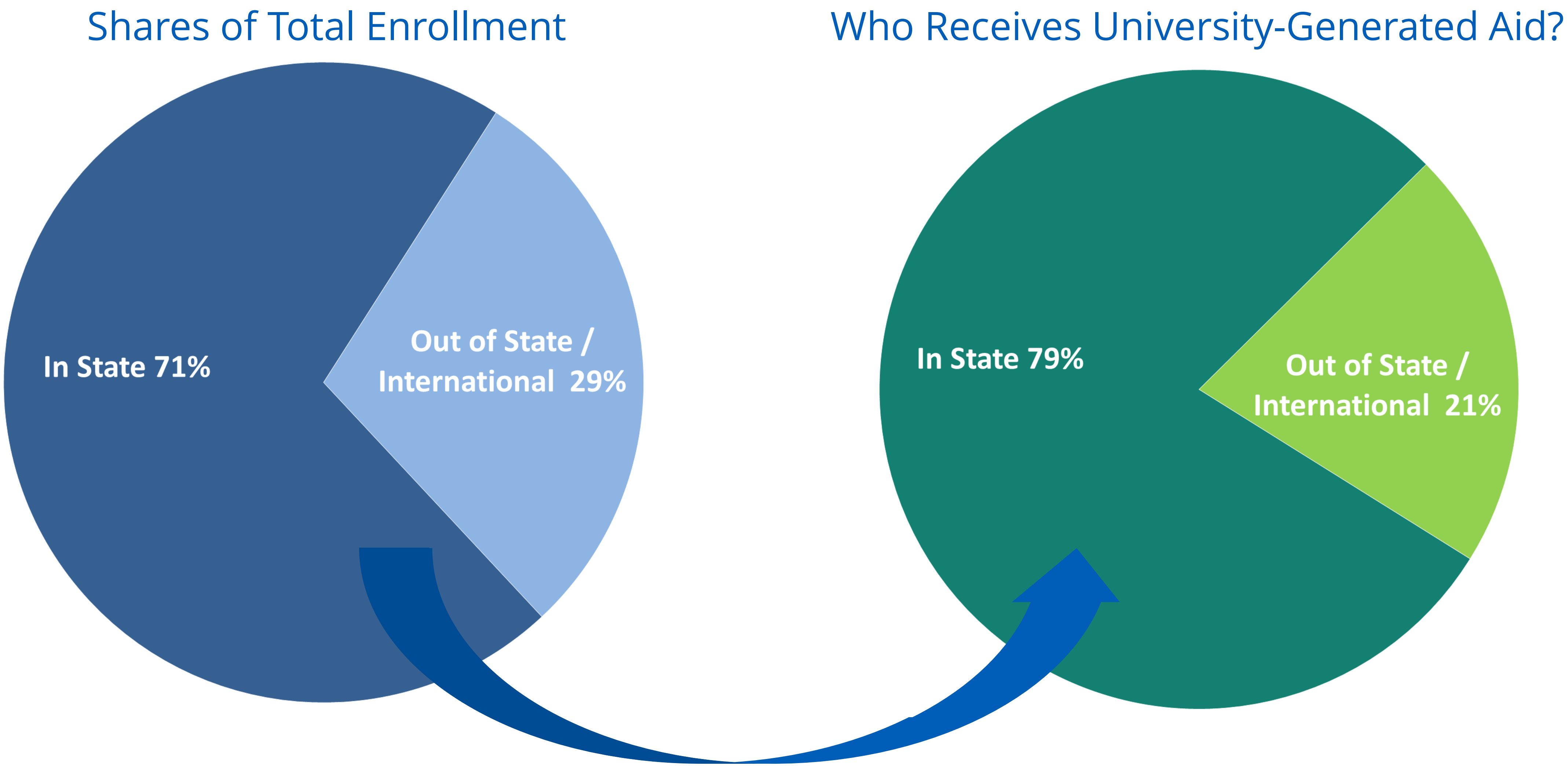
DOLLARS IN MILLIONS





- University-generated financial aid grew **16%** in the last five years
- 73% growth in University-generated financial aid over 10 years compared to 30% growth in tuition & fee rates

University-generated aid strongly benefits in state students



Note: reflects $449M in University-generated aid

Federal Financial Aid Updates

Monitoring Federal Financial Aid Policy Developments

- The One Big Beautiful Bill Act signed into law on July 4, 2025 included significant provisions reshaping federal student financial aid
- In January 2026, the Department of Education announced proposed rules, *Reimagining and Improving Student Education (RISE)* to implement changes and provide regulatory guidance

RISE provisions* impact federal financial aid for students & families in many ways:

Aid Eligibility & Administration	Institutional Eligibility	Student Loan Repayment
• Graduate PLUS Loan Program eliminated • New Parent PLUS Loan borrowing limits • New Pell grant restrictions defining student awards • New loan limits for graduate & professional students	• Undergraduate & Graduate degree program eligibility for all Title IV federal aid programs tied to median earnings of graduates measured four-year post completion	• Eliminates current income-driven repayment plans • Streamlines repayment into two options: tiered-standard and a new income-driven plan • Standard 25–30-year repayment clock

*Substantial RISE provision examples included, not an exhaustive list of proposed regulations or impacts to the University or students

Accessibility & Affordability Analysis

University is monitoring accessibility & affordability for students on many fronts

Federal Student Aid: gaining understanding of federal investment in financial aid and campus share of aid

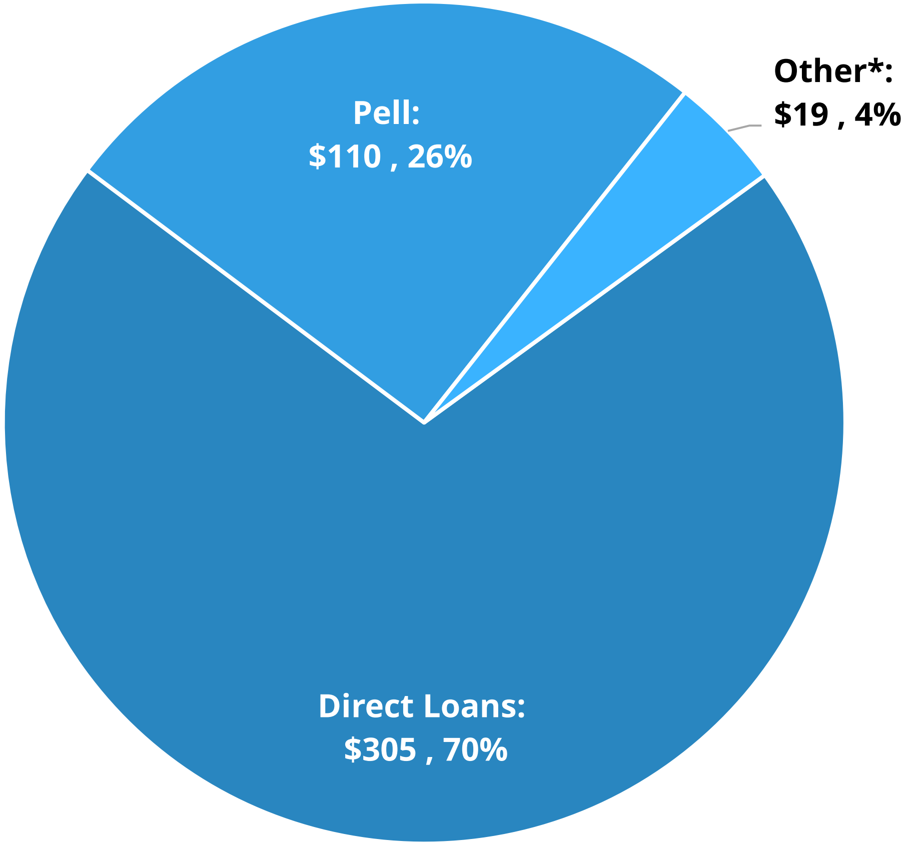
Tuition Free: UMass providing free tuition for eligible students, leveraging aid awarded across source of financial aid

SPARC: Enhancements developed to better analyze data by key program and student residency

Net Price Analysis: Understanding financial aid investment on student's net price recognizing impact on affordability

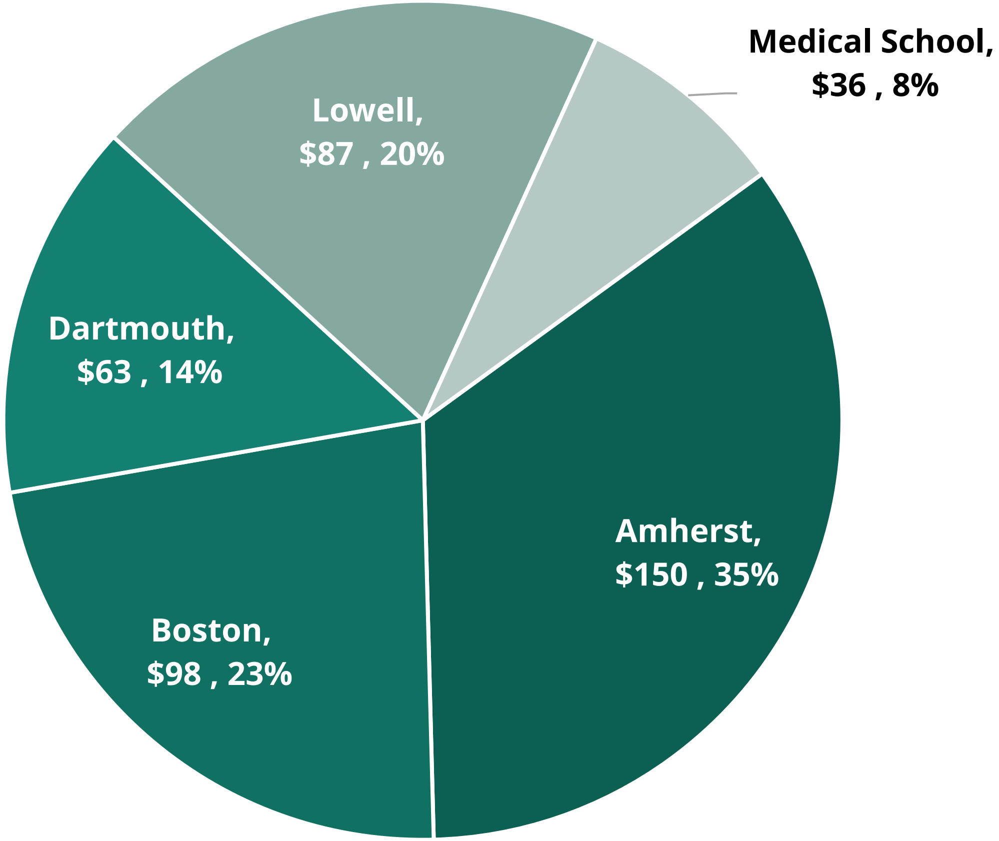
Federal Student Aid by Campus and Award Type

Annual Federal Student Financial Aid Revenue by Award Type: **$434M**



$ in millions

Annual Federal Student Financial Aid by Campus: **$434M**



$ in millions

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Source: FY25 Schedule of Expenditures for Federal Awards (SEFA)
*Represents SEOG, Work Study, Other Loans and TEACH grants

SPARC – Financial Aid

SPARC financial aid data for real-time analysis by campus users to understand impact

Total Financial Aid by Funding Source (*$ in Thousands*)

	Undergraduate	Graduate
Campus	296,250	103,824
Community College Advantage	200	
High Demand Scholarship	17,853	
In Demand Scholarship	3,704	444
Campus - Other	274,493	103,380
Federal	105,368	2,326
Pell Grant	98,839	
SEOG	4,357	
Federal - Other	2,171	2,326
State	108,262	778
Mass Grant	29,343	
Mass Grant Plus	25,780	
Mass Grant Plus Expansion	8,342	

- Data available by aid program detailing financial aid by funding sources providing insight at a more granular level and focus on key high-impact financial aid programs

	In State	Out of State
Campus	203,531	110,170
Community College Advantage	200	
High Demand Scholarship	17,968	5
In Demand Scholarship	4,660	
Campus - Other	180,703	110,165
Federal	102,112	10,293
Pell Grant	95,823	8,374
SEOG	3,719	382
Federal - Other	2,569	1,538
State	113,461	236
Mass Grant	30,062	49
Mass Grant Plus	27,354	
Mass Grant Plus Expansion	8,568	

- View of data by funding sources broken out by student residency
- Demonstrates the impact University-funded financial aid has on students specifically the significant investment for in state students

Note: SPARC screenshots using University FY25 data; there are slight data variances when comparing SPARC and SEFA reports based on reporting criteria and timing differences

Net Price Analysis

- Reframe pricing and aid data demonstrate what student's pay and University-funded financial aid.

- Build on pricing analysis (EY – September 2024) using updated data.

- Demonstrates affordability to policymakers.

- Increase clarity on impact of University-funded financial aid.

Key Metrics for Analysis

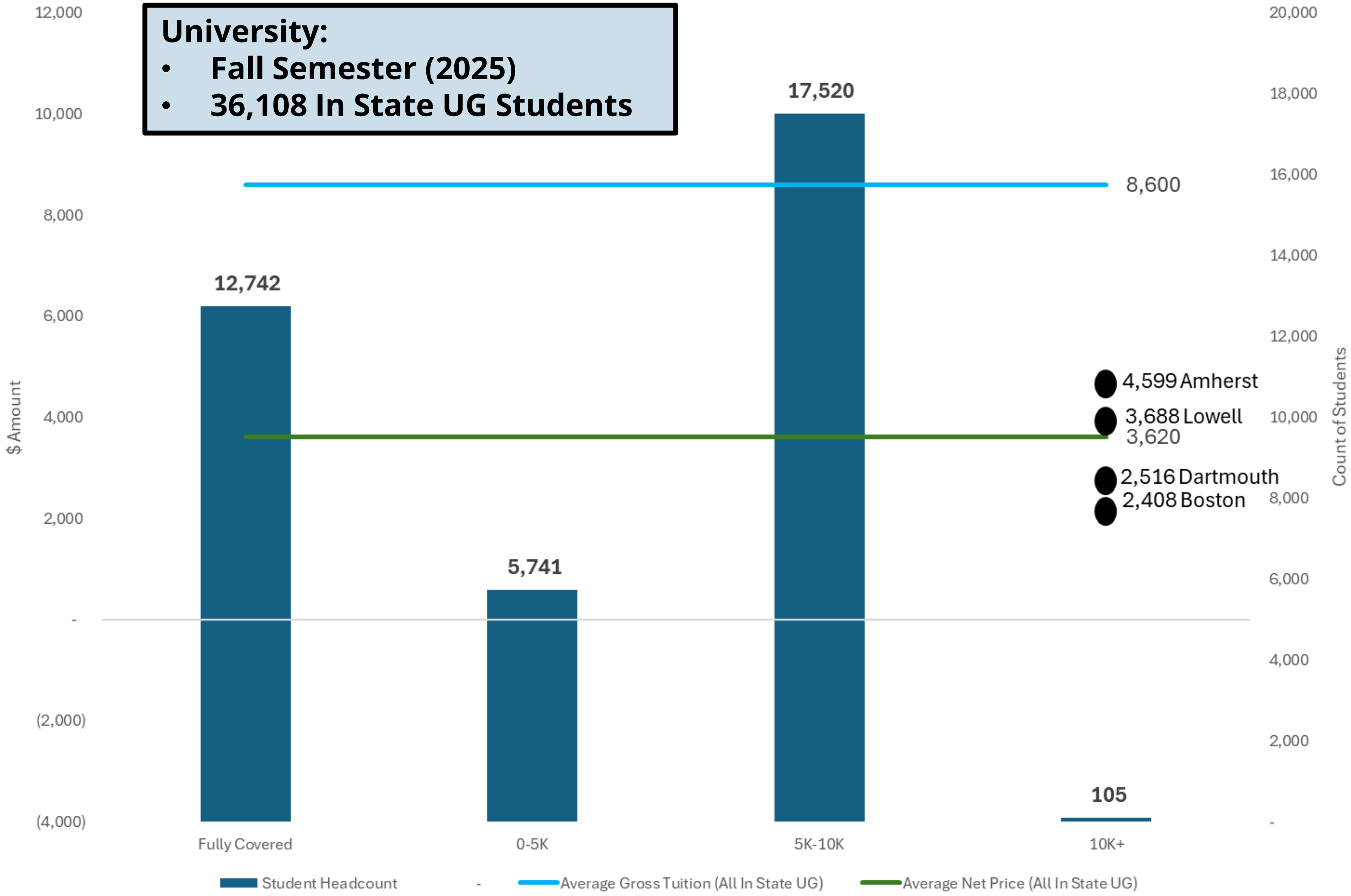
- Gross Tuition - the total amount of tuition & mandatory fees charged to an enrolled student before any financial aid applied

★ Net Price - true price a student pays to UMass; the gross tuition revenue reduced by the total amount of free financial aid awarded from any federal, state, campus sources

On average, In State Undergraduate students pay ~$7K annually; more than 1/3rd receive free tuition & mandatory costs

$ Students pay
$3,620 per semester
$7,239 annually

12,742 students
Fully covered by aid



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Note: University data from Fall 2025 based on In State Undergraduate students and reflects costs of tuition & mandatory costs only. Excludes room, board, and other cost of attendance factors.

Key Takeaways

- ***UMass Investments in University- generated Financial Aid Continue to Grow***
  - Annual financial aid generated by UMass **($449M)** tuition pricing/free aid strategy, up 73% over the past decade; 6.2% growth over FY25
  - 79% of UMass aid goes to in state students, well above their 71% share of total enrollment
- ***State's investment in MassGrant has significantly increased State share of free aid***
  - Increasing nearly 3X since FY22 to over $109M
- ***On average, in state undergraduates have an estimated annual net price of ~$7K***
  - More than 1/3rd of in state undergraduates receive free tuition & mandatory costs – qualifying students with family income under $75K guaranteed to be fully covered
- ***Student debt remains flat in recent years but a real decline in inflation-adjusted dollars***
  - The average amount of debt at graduation for FY26 is $32,838

FY26 Financial Aid Report Appendices

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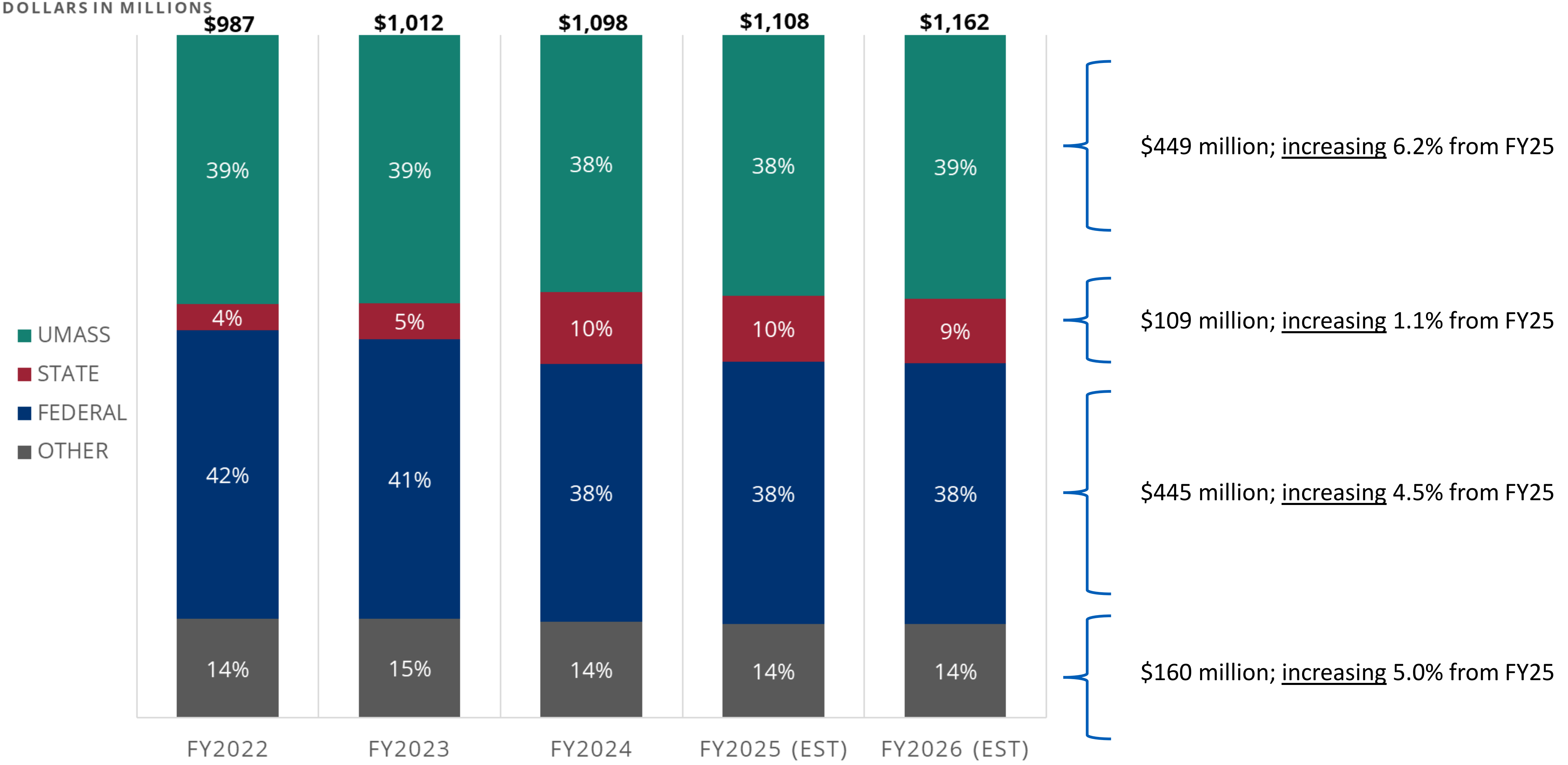
Appendix 1. – University Data

Total Sources of Financial Aid including Free Aid and Loans



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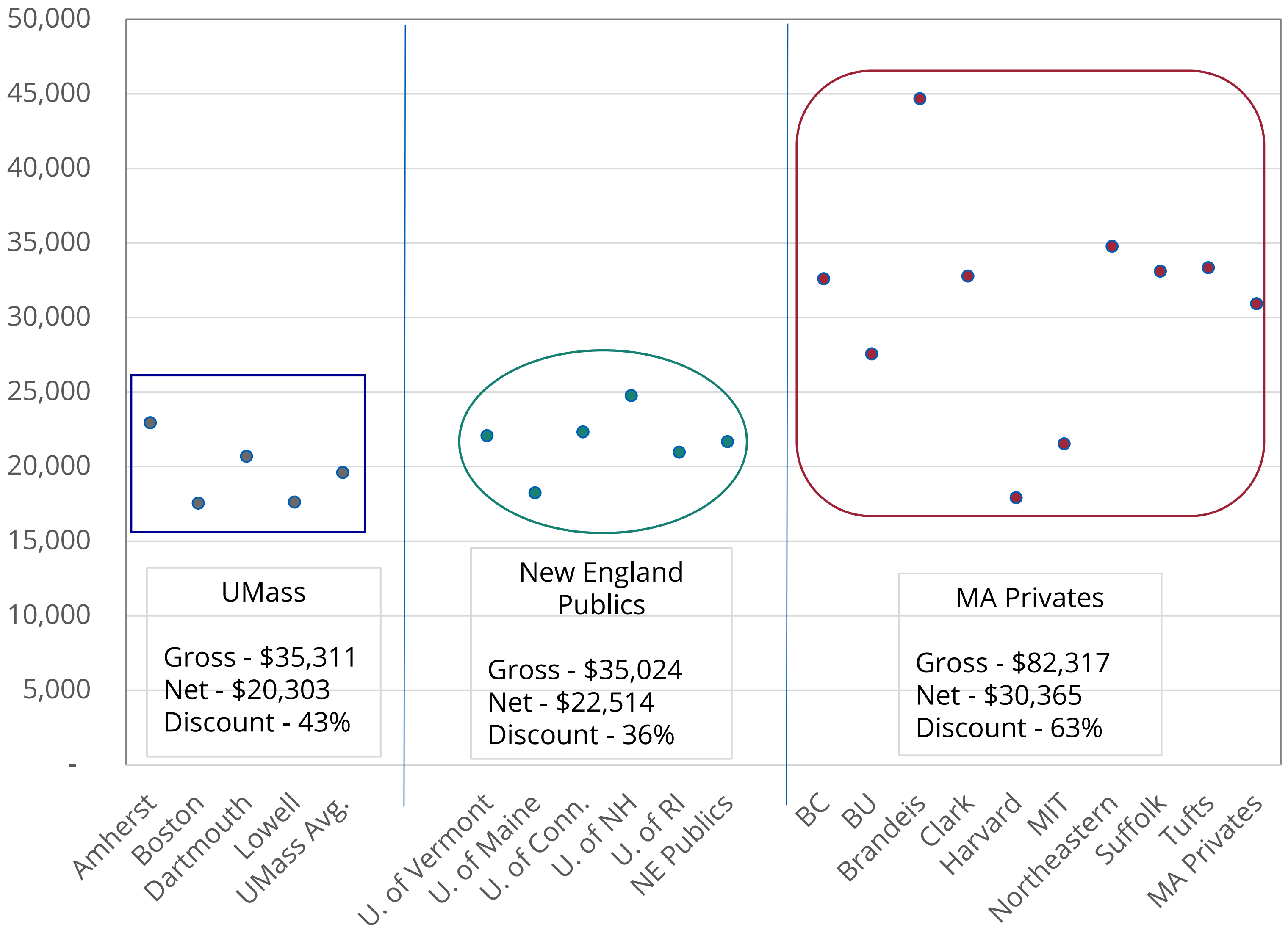
Note: In FY2022, Federal financial aid totals do not include grants provided to students under the CARES Act, HEERF II or HEERF III

UMass net price of Total Cost of Attendance remains competitive



- Peer comparisons typically measure net price using total cost of attendance (vs University analysis focused on tuition & mandatory fees)
- Using total cost of attendance, average net price at UMass is less expensive than the average of private institutions in Massachusetts by $10K

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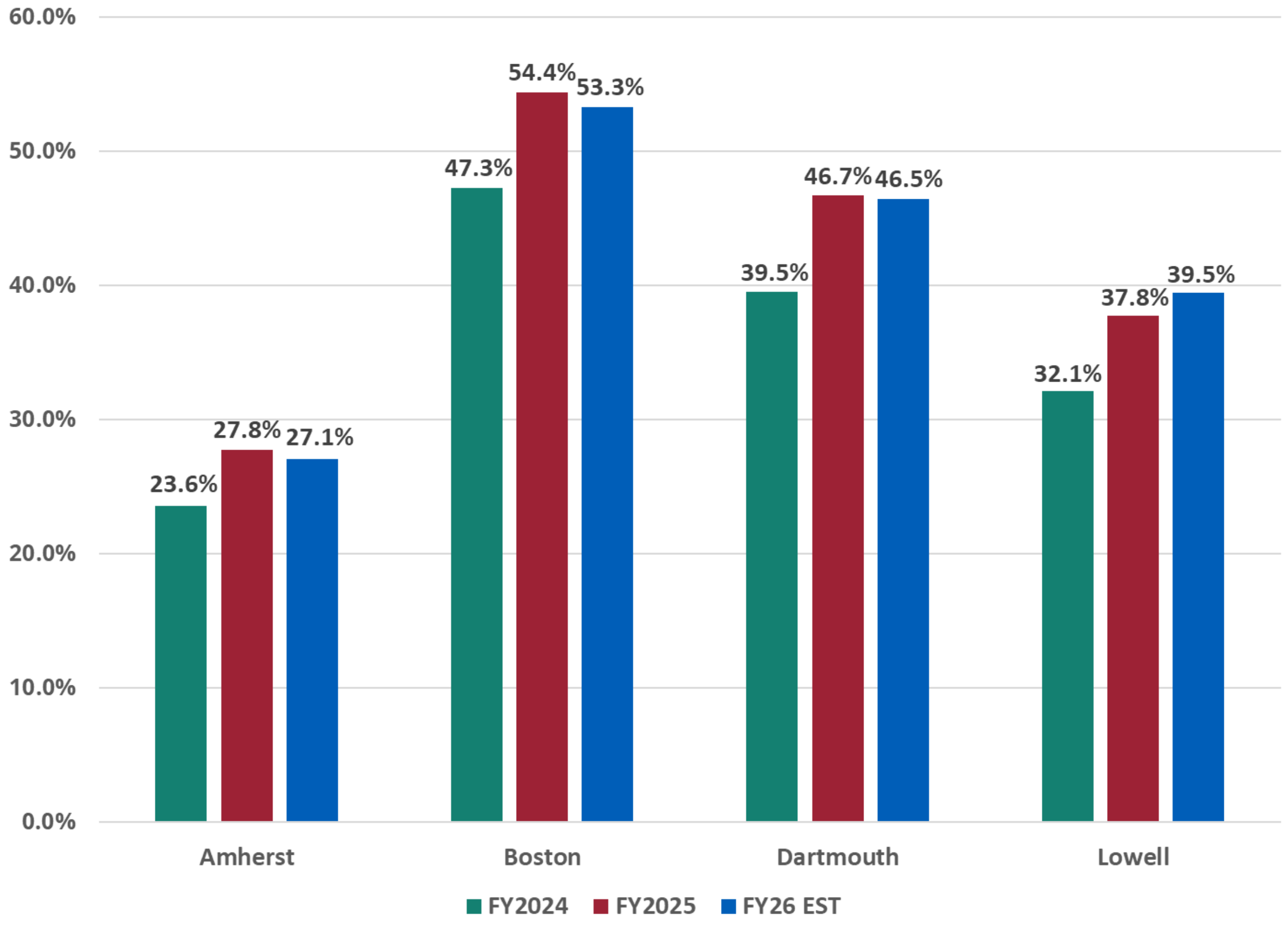
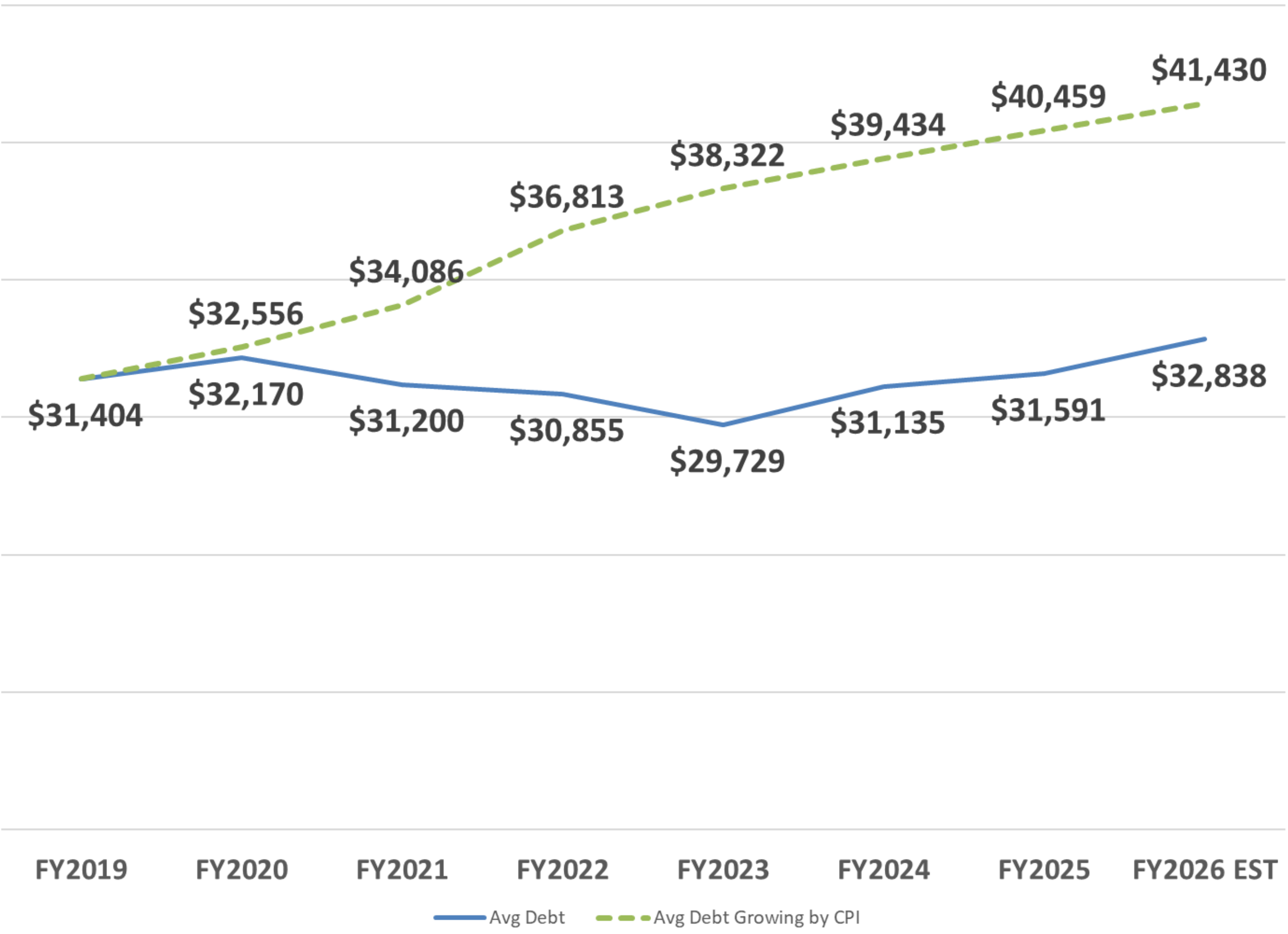
Note: Net Price on total cost of attendance of First-time/Full Time In-State Undergraduates receiving grant or scholarship (Source: FY24 IPEDS published data)

Percentage of In-State Undergraduates Receiving Pell Grants



Average Undergraduate student debt has remained stable and below inflation-adjusted dollars



- The percentage of Undergraduates graduating with debt has declined **5%** since 2016
- In FY25, scholarship/grant aid in total (**$697M**) exceeds student loan borrowing (**$419M**) by **$279M** illustrating the impact of free aid

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Note: Avg. debt (shown in graph) provided for first-time Undergraduate students with debt at graduation from any borrowing source; Avg Debt Growing by CPI based on annual CPI rate of inflation – Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis

Appendix 2. - Definitions

How you pay for college 101

FAFSA Application
Students and families complete the federal application to establish eligibility for need-based aid

Free Financial Aid
University awards free aid to students to address financial need and merit-based aid; establishes Net Price based on each students' financial circumstances

Net Price
If student's net price exceeds free aid, they have an "out of pocket cost" to be addressed

Student Employment & Work study
Student job opportunities & work study assignments are one major way to address unmet cost

Student Debt
Remaining cost can be met by private lenders or funding sources identified by school

Types of Aid

- Grants/Scholarships – gift aid to students which does not have to be repaid
- Waivers/Credits – a discount provided through programs which is applied directly to a student's bill without any financial transactions
- Loans – borrowed money from the federal government, financial institutions, or college which has to be repaid with interest
- Employment/Work Study - work program through which you earn money to help you pay for school or defray costs associated with your education

Grants / Scholarships	Waivers / Credits	Loans	Employment
Pell Grants	Adams Scholarship	Subsidized Loan Program	Institutional Employment
Academic Department Scholarships	Graduate Tuition Waiver / Credit	Unsubsidized Loan Program	Work Study
Chancellor's Scholarship	National Guard Waiver	Private Educational	
Mass Grant / Cash Grant	Need Based Waiver / Credit		

Net Price Analysis Data Definition

- Student Net Price analysis included in the report considers the following data parameters:
  - Fall 2025 In State Undergraduate student headcount
  - Enrolled in a Bachelors degree program
  - Includes Tuition & Mandatory Fee charges
  - Excludes students with no Tuition charges
  - Excludes students with Online Tuition charges

Student Eligibility

- FAFSA is utilized to define financial need for students and families; calculating the Student Aid Index (SAI) which determines the financial resources available for college expenses
- Within each source of funds, available financial aid is linked to specific eligibility requirements that vary by each program.
- For University funded aid, each institution will have different parameters against how funds are used to strategically assist students with the cost of education. The time limit on University funded aid varies and can be difficult to track due to student specific variables (i.e. part time students, transfer students, withdrawn students, etc.)
- All federal and state funded aid is mandated to monitor Satisfactory Academic Progress for all recipients.
- Federal aid like Pell Grants and Subsidized Direct Loan, are generally available for up to six full-time years at the undergraduate level.
- State aid including the Adams tuition credit, MASS Grant program, and some other tuition credits have a max of four full-time years.