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Extreme poverty affects many college students.

Aldemaro Romero Jr.
*CUNY Bernard M Baruch College*

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One of the most painful realities of higher education is that college costs for students get very little attention – in fact, the only time colleges talk about the cost of higher education is when they are trying to recruit students to sign a check. It’s a problem that’s been around for over a century, and yet the cost of higher education continues to rise.

According to the College Board, the average cost of tuition and required fees at four-year public institutions in 2022-2023 was $10,560, while the average cost at four-year private institutions was $38,550. This means that the average cost of a four-year college degree is now over $140,000, which is a significant burden for many students and their families.

The cost of higher education is a major concern for students and their families, and it’s one that colleges and universities need to address. But it’s also a concern for policymakers, as the high cost of college can limit access to higher education for students from low-income backgrounds.

There are several strategies that can be used to address the high cost of college. One approach is to increase federal and state funding for higher education, which would help to reduce the burden on students and their families. Another strategy is to increase the availability of financial aid, such as grants and scholarships, to help students pay for college.

Ultimately, the high cost of college is a complex issue that requires a multi-faceted solution. But by working together, we can make higher education more affordable for all students and ensure that the benefits of higher education are accessible to everyone.