A recent poll of 500 registered Tennessee voters revealed important perspectives on the current state of higher education in Tennessee.

Most common obstacles keeping prospective students from earning a degree.

- **Cost of a degree**: 62%
- **Job or work responsibilities**: 60%
- **Family responsibilities**: 61%
- **Student loans**: 55%

What priority level should Governor Bill Lee’s administration give to these issues?

- **Affordability of college and technical training**
  - 9% (OTHER), 26% (LOW), 60% (MIDDLE), 6% (TOP)

- **Student debt**
  - 10% (OTHER), 17% (LOW), 31% (MIDDLE), 42% (TOP)

- **Ability of graduates to succeed in the workplace**
  - 7% (OTHER), 10% (LOW), 32% (MIDDLE), 50% (TOP)

86% said having some form of education after high school is important.

27% said they need more education for the job/career they want.
Should Governor Lee’s administration change the amount of resources dedicated to higher education?

- 35% Keep about the same
- 53% Allocate more resources
- 7% Allocate fewer resources
- 5% Don’t know/Declined

About the survey:
The Dallas-based market research firm Dynata surveyed 500 randomly selected registered voters who are currently employed to gauge attitudes and opinions regarding higher-education issues, including financial aid for traditional and online degree programs. It has a margin of error of plus or minus 4.4 percent at the 95 percent confidence level.