

Financial Aid for Low-Income Students

cost over ten years, 2012-2021

Tax cuts for the wealthiest

\$1 trillion

Pell grants

\$544 billion

Living up to our desire to again lead the world in college completion by making sure the 9.4 million low-income students currently receiving Pell Grants can afford to stay in school and graduate . . .

. . . or giving away \$1 trillion in tax cuts to the wealthiest Americans then claiming we can no longer afford to help poor kids go to college while they take on crippling debt loads or dropout as proposed in the House Republican budget plan.

Choices. Our Future.



Sources: Senate Budget Committee for the tax cut amount. NEA calculations for the estimated cost of increasing the Pell Grant maximum award by \$400 each year as contained in the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-315). In 1979, the maximum Pell Grant award covered three-fourths of the total cost of attendance (tuition, fees, room, and board) at a four-year public institution of higher education. The purchasing power of the maximum award has declined ever since, covering only about a third of total college costs today.