The Truth About:
The Ohio College Opportunity Grant

Ohio is in Last Place
Ohio ranks in the bottom quarter nationally in providing need-based aid and is last in the Midwest. Even states like Michigan, which were hit significantly harder by the 2008 recession, are doing more to help their neediest students obtain a degree. The availability of state need-based aid is proven to increase degree attainment among students with the lowest incomes. In order to move ahead, Ohio must help its neediest students obtain a degree.

Supporting Our Own Students
At Ohio independents, about 90% of student aid grant dollars come from the college or university itself.

Skin in the Game
AICUO schools have nearly doubled the school-based financial aid given to their students over the last eleven years, reaching over \$1 billion invested in college affordability. Nearly 90% of the aid that a student receives at an independent college comes from the college itself. This dedication to college affordability is working as undergraduate student borrowing continues to fall across the country.

A Proven Return to the State
In a time of limited budget resources, investing in need-based financial aid is a wise use of state dollars. Obtaining a bachelor's degree is the key to economic security, and low-income students are more likely to graduate from Ohio's independent colleges. Investing in low-income students at Ohio independent colleges is a proven investment that pays the state back in increased tax dollars and decreased use of social services.