

B. COSTS AND USER CHARGES

An analysis of 148 projects financed under the Federal college housing program placed under construction during fiscal year 1965 reflects following information on unit costs of college housing facilities:

Structural costs per square foot, college housing program projects placed under construction, fiscal year 1965

Number of projects.....	148
Median square foot structural costs.....	\$41.25
Median square foot nonstructural costs.....	\$17.01
Median square foot total costs.....	\$8.29
Median square foot tile.....	\$19.70
Median square foot non-tile.....	\$14.78

Median costs for the same projects by regions were as follows:

Region	Number of projects	Median square foot structural costs
Northeast	17	\$19.70
Midwest	19	18.36
South	29	14.22
Southwest	31	16.24
Far West	27	16.41
Total	25	19.57
Total	148	

Historically, colleges have attempted to operate housing facilities on a break-even basis and only rarely have charges been so regulated as to produce an operating profit. It has been customary to segregate income from housing facilities and to employ that income to pay all of the services attendant to the occupancy and use of such facilities.

The revenue bond concept under which most college housing loans have been made developed as a method of financing under which a facility is required to produce sufficient income to pay all operating costs plus a debt service requirement which would amortize the cost of the facility, including interest, during the term of the loan. While this objective may be attainable during the early years of the college housing loan program, it is difficult of attainment now with current student charges and high construction costs.

The latest *Information for Applicants* published by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (August 1962) contains illustrations of the M. & O. expense ranging from \$70 to \$140 per student per year. Assuming the current college housing 3-percent interest rate, a per student construction cost of \$4,650, and a 48-year-loan term with 100-percent coverage, the annual debt service requirement is \$230. In addition of the M. & O. expenses above produces required income from \$300 to \$370 per student per year. Contrasted to this are the dormitory rates actually charged during 1963-64 as