

My COLLEGE FINANCIAL PLAN



www.mycollegemoneyplan.org
info@mycollegemoneyplan.org
[@CollegeCostTips](https://twitter.com/CollegeCostTips)



College attributes

Here's a list of things to consider when choosing a college.

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| LOCATION | ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS |
| HOUSING OPTIONS | ACADEMIC PROGRAMS |
| REC/FITNESS | STUDENT CENTER |
| SPORTS | FACULTY CREDENTIALS |
| AFFORDABILITY | TYPE OF SCHOOL |
| CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES | GREEK LIFE |
| SIZE (ENROLLMENT) | GRAD JOB STATS |
| STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS | COMMUNITY |



How do the schools compare?

If you're having trouble choosing between two or more schools, we can help! From the list above (or from your own list) choose five attributes you find valuable in a college and list them in the chart below in column A. Next, in column B, independently rank the attributes on a scale from 1 to 10. Then, decide how each of your top three schools ranks for each of the attributes in columns C, D and E. Next, multiply the numbers in columns B and C; B and D; and B and E. Finally, add up the scores for all three schools to determine a final score. The school with the highest number is the one that best represents what you're looking for in a college.

A. Attribute (Ex: Location)	B. Importance (1-10)	C. School 1 _____	D. School 2 _____	E. School 3 _____	Score for School 1 (B x C)	Score for School 2 (B x D)	Score for School 3 (B x E)
1.							
2.							
3.							
4.							
5.							
Totals:							

My top school: _____



➔ GRADUATION PLAN

Now that you've considered what your top schools have to offer, complete a financial plan for the school you're most interested in, and see if you can meet the costs.



1 How much will it cost?

After selecting your favorite college, add up the costs of attendance. If you can't find the information on the school's website, you can use the "College Navigator" tool at nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator. You can also estimate federal student loan eligibility by visiting the FAFSA4Caster website through the Department of Education.

Name of school: _____

What It Costs	
Tuition	
Fees	
Books/Supplies	
Equipment	
Room and Board	
Transportation	
Personal Expenses	
Other	
Total Costs =	

2 Add up your financial resources for college here.

FAMILY RESOURCES	MY SAVINGS
Total:	Total:
SCHOLARSHIPS/GRANTS	WORK STUDY/JOB:
Total:	Total:
FEDERAL STUDENT LOANS IN YOUR NAME	PARENT + LOANS
Total:	Total:

3 How will you meet the costs?

Add up your resources from the left to see how you will meet the costs. Your "Total Available to Meet Costs" should meet or exceed the "Total Costs" from above. Green funding sources are most desirable because it is money you don't have to pay back. If you have to use funding sources from the red section to meet the college costs, you'll likely want to consider other options, as your debt load may be too high. Not all costs or sources of funds may apply to you.

YEAR 1

How I'll Pay	
Family Resources	\$
My Savings	\$
Scholarships	\$
Grants	\$
Work Study/Job	\$
My Federal Ed Loan (Perkins/Stafford)	\$
Parent PLUS Loan	\$
Other Loans	\$
Other Resources	\$
Total Available to Meet Costs =	

4 Now, look at your yearly costs until graduation.



YEAR 2

What It Costs		How I'll Pay	
Tuition		Family Resources	\$
Fees		My Savings	\$
Books/Supplies		Scholarships	\$
Equipment		Grants	\$
Room and Board		Work Study/Job	\$
Transportation		My Federal Ed Loan (Perkins/Stafford)	\$
Personal Expenses		Parent PLUS Loan	\$
Other		Other Loans	\$
		Other Resources	\$
Total Costs =		Total Available to Meet Costs =	

YEAR 3

What It Costs		How I'll Pay	
Tuition		Family Resources	\$
Fees		My Savings	\$
Books/Supplies		Scholarships	\$
Equipment		Grants	\$
Room and Board		Work Study/Job	\$
Transportation		My Federal Ed Loan (Perkins/Stafford)	\$
Personal Expenses		Parent PLUS Loan	\$
Other		Other Loans	\$
		Other Resources	\$
Total Costs =		Total Available to Meet Costs =	

YEAR 4

What It Costs		How I'll Pay	
Tuition		Family Resources	\$
Fees		My Savings	\$
Books/Supplies		Scholarships	\$
Equipment		Grants	\$
Room and Board		Work Study/Job	\$
Transportation		My Federal Ed Loan (Perkins/Stafford)	\$
Personal Expenses		Parent PLUS Loan	\$
Other		Other Loans	\$
		Other Resources	\$
Total Costs =		Total Available to Meet Costs =	