

Financial Aid Award Comparison Tool



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Calculating Net Price

College Name				
Fixed Costs (included on tuition bill, paid directly to the college)	Tuition & Fees			
	Room & Board			
Variable Costs (paid out of pocket throughout the year, estimates based on local cost of living)	Textbooks			
	Personal (toiletries, laundry, etc.)			
	Transportation (daily commute, travel home on breaks)			
Total Cost of Attendance	Fixed Costs + Variable Costs			
Free Money	Total Federal Grants (Pell, FSEOG)			
	Total State Grants (VGAP, Commonwealth Grant, etc.)			
	Total Institutional Aid (merit or financial need-based scholarships from the college itself)			
Total Free Money	Federal Grants + State Grants + Institutional Aid			
Net Price	Total Cost of Attendance – Total Free Money			

Calculating the Financial Aid Gap

Outside Scholarships*	Total Private Scholarships (SFA, Urban League, etc.)			
Initial Financial Aid Gap	Net Price – Outside Scholarships			
Total Financial Aid Gap (Fixed + Variable Costs)	Initial Financial Aid Gap – Total Student Self Help			
Fixed Costs Financial Aid Gap (Fixed Costs only)	Total Financial Aid Gap – Variable Costs			
Student Loans	Federal Subsidized			
	Federal Unsubsidized			
Student Earnings	Work-Study			
Total Student Self Help	Student Loans + Earnings			

