

# HOW TO NAVIGATE YOUR FINANCIAL ROADMAP TO COLLEGE

College AVE

The journey from high school to college is exciting, exhilarating — and expensive. To help guide your college-bound child on the road to college this fall, here are tips from CollegeAve.com.



## Choosing Schools:

Create a school list based on factors you consider most important, including:

- Academic majors
- Reputation
- Campus environment
- Overall cost
- Location

Learn more about each school by:

- Exploring their website
- Going on their virtual tour
- Planning a campus visit



## Calculating expenses:

Many colleges offer tools to calculate tuition, room and board on their websites.

Be sure to add expenses like:

- Application fees
- Transportation
- Books and other materials
- Student activity fees
- Living expenses



## Complete the FAFSA

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is key to getting financial aid from the federal government and other funding sources, including schools.

The FAFSA determines eligibility for federal Pell Grants, which do not need to be repaid, plus federal work-study and federal student loans.

- Prepare to submit the FAFSA as soon as possible, starting December 1.
- Gather important financial information such as assets and income before getting started.

Find more information at [FAFSA.gov](https://fafsa.gov).

Note: Some schools also require the CSS Profile, which opens October 1.



## Scholarship search

Your student may qualify for scholarships to help bridge the gap between financial aid and total cost.

Search for scholarships based on factors like major, extracurricular activities, sports, region, community involvement and more, starting with:

- High school guidance office
- Bold.org
- State government website
- CareerOneStop.com
- Parents' or student's employer
- Scholarships360.org

How to enter online search using targeted keywords —

scholarships for "athletes"

scholarships for "engineering majors"

scholarships for "first generation"

Enter the College Ave \$1,000 scholarship monthly sweepstakes at [CollegeAve.com/scholarship](https://CollegeAve.com/scholarship).

No purchase necessary to enter or win.



## More resources to reach your education destination

For unexpected expenses or to help fill the gap between expenses and funding received, you can also explore a private student loan from CollegeAve.com.

Visit [CollegeAve.com](https://CollegeAve.com) for more tips, information and resources on planning and paying for college.

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