

LOWER YOUR COLLEGE COSTS

1

Your college costs depend on the kind of college you choose:

- PRIVATE:** about **\$35,000** a year
- PUBLIC:** about **\$10,000** a year, in-state
- PUBLIC:** about **\$25,000** a year, out of state
- TECHNICAL & JUNIOR:** Less than **\$5,000** a year

SAVINGS TIPS

Two-year colleges offer associate's degrees and not bachelor's degrees.

Save money by starting at a junior or technical college and then finish at a public or private university to earn a bachelor's degree or higher.

2

School-year costs include more than tuition:

Books, transportation, and personal expenses: **\$2,000**

Room & Board:

Dorms on campus cost: **\$8,000 to \$12,000**

OPTIONS

Share (one or more roommates)

Single

Suite-style with multiple roommates

Off-campus housing (house or apartment)

SAVINGS TIPS

Find out if utilities and Internet included

Live at home

SAVINGS TIPS

Have a clear cost agreement with family

Roommates can help you save costs and are an important part of college life. If you live in a dorm, make sure the college helps you match your personalities for the most favorable outcome.

Food:

Meal plans cost as much as **\$3,000** per semester

SAVINGS TIPS

You can often choose between 10, 16, or 21 meals a week

No meal plan: **\$2,700**

SAVINGS TIPS

Can you eat some meals at home?

3

Paying for College

Look for financial aid and scholarships:

OPTIONS

See if your school provides a class about financial aid and scholarships

Dive into the school's website

Visit different campuses

Take tours

Grants and scholarships, often called "gift aid" because they don't have to be repaid, can come from the federal government, your state government, your college or career school, or a private or nonprofit organization.

Scholarship types:

OPTIONS

Arts

Academics

Sports

Financial need

Tours give you a chance to talk to admission officials about college costs and student financial aid.

Financial aid includes:

OPTIONS

Grants

Loans

Scholarships

Work study

It's always a good time to apply for a scholarship.

Resources:

Scholarship Works: How to Pay for College: <http://www.scholarshipworkshop.com/>
 College Board: College Search: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search>
 College Board: Net Price Calculators: <http://studentnpc.collegeboard.org/>
 Federal Student Aid: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/>