

Conquering College Costs

### Goals of Seminar

Learn every way to reduce college sticker prices

Learn how to find affordable college options

Learn how to pay for college without excessive debt

Learn what to do and when to do it



# Method of Presentation

PowerPoint

Handouts



### Changes in System

Much of what you hear applicable always to everyone

System undergoing changes (terminology and methodology)

Changes will impact current freshmen and sophomores as well as the back end of the college years for juniors and seniors.

### Define Prices/Three Column Chart

Sticker Price



listed charges (found on website)

**Net Price** 



your approximate costs
(found on net price calculator)

Out of Pocket Costs



your actual cost
(found upon receiving official award letter)

## Changes/Issues

EFC (Expected Family Contribution) number will be SAI (Student Aid Index)

Divorced Family filing will be different

Number of children in college will be viewed differently

How Pell Grants are determined

529 Plan change

Effectiveness of Net Price Calculators as four year planning tools

### Sticker Price Reduction/file FAFSA

#### **Direct Federal Student Loan**

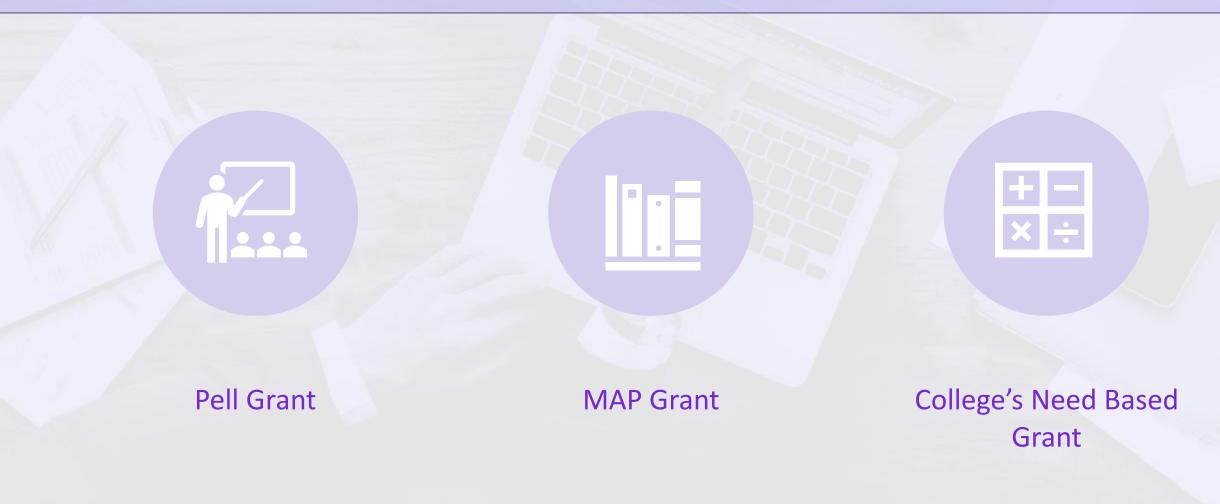
(\$5500, \$6500, \$7500, \$7500) (more options after 4 years)

### **Campus Employment**

(work and earn \$2500 or more)



### Sticker Price Reduction tied to FAFSA or Income levels



## Sticker Price Reduction

- Merit Scholarship (Academics)
- Athletes
- Talent (resume and relationship)
- Competitive scholarships
- Sibling/legacy scholarships
- Military scholarships
- Independent scholarships



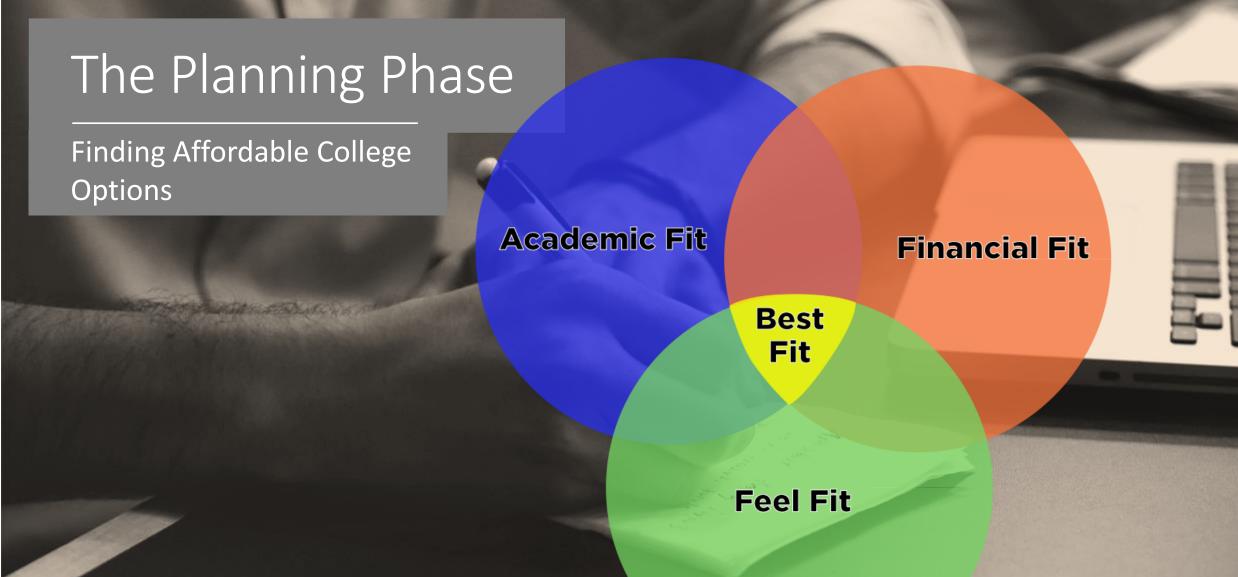
### Sticker price reduction/state schools

Pathways to residency

Midwest Tuition Exchange

Tri-State Initiative





## Identify Colleges Financially based on column two and column three

#### **Financial Reaches**

beyond affordability

#### **Financial Fits**

fit affordability

### **Financial Back-ups**

fit affordability ... just in case



## Steps of Planning Phase

Determine Reasonable Borrowing vs. Excessive borrowing (interest rates)

Assess your yearly affordability systematically (see handout)

Find college options in all pricing categories

Use college net price calculators (planning tool)

## College Pricing Categories

Flagships

Non-flagships

**Highly Selectives** 

Mid-size privates

**Traditional privates** 

Commuting

**Community Colleges** 



# Create your three column pricing chart (See handout)

Comparison of sticker prices

Comparison of net prices

Comparison of out of pocket costs

# Apply to colleges Now more important than ever

Apply to financial reaches

Apply to financial fits

Apply to financial back-ups

### **Execution Phase**

Complete FAFSA after October 1

Complete CSS Profile (if appropriate)

List all colleges of interest (up to 10)

Complete verification process if required

Appeal (if appropriate)

Await college award letters

Assess out of pocket costs and create column three on your chart



### Execution Phase (the kitchen table)

Determine merits of conversation

Make final college choice

**Explore Parent loan options if needed** 

Hunt for campus employment

Take online loan class

Sign promissory note

Establish payment plan



U.S. Department of Education

#### **Net Price Calculator Center**

◆ Back to CATC



Q. Do you want to know how much it will cost for you to attend college?

Enter the name of a college to find its net price calculator.

#### What does Net Price mean?

Net Price is the amount that a student pays to attend an institution in a single academic year AFTER subtracting scholarships and grants the student receives. Scholarships and grants are forms of financial aid that a student does not have to pay back.

#### What is a Net Price Calculator?

Net price calculators are available on a college's or university's website and allow prospective students to enter information about themselves to find out what students like them paid to attend the institution in the previous year, after taking grants and scholarship aid into account.



#### How do other students describe net price?

Click on one of the student video challenge winners to find out...



Net Price Calculator - Typography Video by Brian S.



Justin, Remo, Bilyana Net Price Calculator Video by Michael K., Remo K., John R., Bilyana P.

## Impact of Changes

More Pell eligible – more evident

Much shorter form

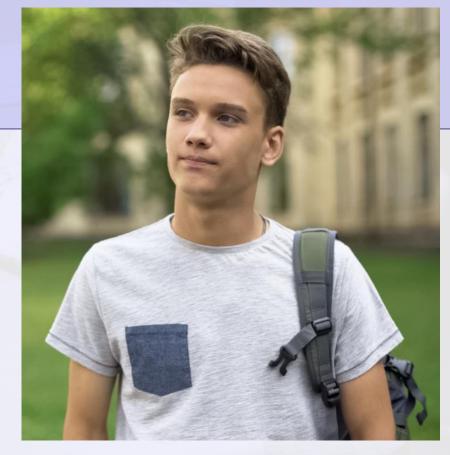
Multiple Family members in college

Divorced families – major change

Appeals (working with colleges) more important

Net Price Calculators (plusses and minuses)

Loan forgiveness???





**University of Tampa (Tampa, Florida)** 

St. Xavier University (Chicago, IL)

**Bradley University (Peoria, IL)** 

St. Ambrose University (Davenport, Iowa)