

Price comparisons are done in two ways.

During the Planning Phase a family can make price comparisons using the following method:

- 1) Find example colleges in all categories
- 2) Find the net price calculator for each of those example colleges
- 3) Calculate your net price at each school
- 4) Create a comparison chart
- 5) Apply to financial reaches, financial fits, and financial backups

During the Execution Phase a family can make price comparisons using the following method:

- 1) List all colleges of interest when filing the FAFSA
- 2) Complete all necessary requirements for each of those colleges
- 3) Receive your award letters
- 4) Compare out of pocket costs

To obtain your net prices using net price calculators, know the following:

Your EFC number (using fafsa4caster)

Your composite ACT or SAT score (use best composite and best superscore)

Your cumulative GPA (use weighted and unweighted)

To determine financial fits, each family has to determine what they can afford without excessive borrowing!