

 **BUILDING BLOCKS STUDENT WORKSHEET**

Comparing financial aid offers

Comparing college costs and financial aid offers can help you understand how the education choices you make can affect your financial future. This can support you in making informed decisions about your education.

Instructions

- 1** Review the “Emmett compares three financial aid offers” handout.
- 2** Answer the analysis questions.
- 3** Answer the reflection question.

Analysis questions

1. Which school initially has the lowest cost of attendance? Explain.

2. Which school initially has the highest cost of attendance? Explain.

3. After factoring in the grants and scholarships offered (financial aid that generally doesn't need to be paid back), which school ended up with the lowest cost of attendance? Explain.



4. Describe how the cost of attendance might change if Emmett decided to live at home instead of on campus. Show your calculations to back up your response.
5. How much debt would Emmett and his parents owe over four years if he lives on campus?

	Large University in the City	Mid-Sized University in the Country	Small College on the Hill
Emmett's total amount in federal subsidized loans (over four years)			
Emmett's total amount in unsubsidized loans (over four years)			
Emmett's parents' total amount in Parent PLUS loans (over four years)			

Reflection question

Imagine that you're Emmett. Your college counselor at school asked you to write a brief paragraph on which school you chose to attend and why. Choose a school and write a paragraph describing why you selected it. Try to include the following details.

- Total cost of attendance (after factoring in grants and scholarships) as compared with the other schools.
- Total amount of loans for you and your parents.
- Estimated monthly loan payments you'll need to make after graduation.