Webinar on tools for students, student loan borrowers, and educators

Department of Education and Consumer Financial Protection Bureau | April 2022
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About the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau is a 21st century agency that implements and enforces Federal consumer financial law and ensures that markets for consumer financial products are fair, transparent, and competitive.
The Bureau’s Office of Consumer Education seeks to prevent harm

We serve the general public and focus on special populations:

- Servicemembers, veterans, and their families
- Older Americans, their families and caregivers
- Traditionally underserved and economically vulnerable consumers
- **K-12 students**
- **Students and young consumers**: Educate and engage students to prevent student loan default
College Scorecard
Primary Goals of College Scorecard

College Scorecard is a consumer information initiative. Scorecard brings together information on college costs, graduation rates, student loan debt, post-college earnings, and more. The goals of this effort are to:

1. Provide students and families with information to make more informed choices:
   - User-centered website (https://collegescorecard.ed.gov) for students, their families, and their counselors

2. Provide policymakers and stakeholders information to enable more informed decision making:
   - Unprecedented amounts of data released on institutional outcomes, including former students’ earnings, the debt loads of college graduates, and repayment rates of borrowers

3. Make data widely available so others can multiply these efforts:
   - Open API so that developers could access and analyze the data easily
College Scorecard provides 2,000+ data elements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data element</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Measured students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Post-college salary</td>
<td>IRS, FSA</td>
<td>Federally-aided students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative median debt</td>
<td>FSA</td>
<td>Federal loan borrowers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduation rate</td>
<td>NCES/IPEDS</td>
<td>All students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average annual cost</td>
<td>NCES/IPEDS</td>
<td>Federally-aided students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment</td>
<td>NCES/IPEDS</td>
<td>All students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repayment Rate</td>
<td>FSA</td>
<td>Federal loan borrowers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. STUDENT INFORMATION

https://studentaid.gov/aid-estimator/

- Also available from the FAFSA landing page

Students fill out three simple sections: Student Information, Household Information, and Financial Information.

2. HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

Number in Household

3. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Did you file taxes in 2020?

- Yes
- No

What was your household’s income in 2020?

Include all income in your household, including your

Total Household Income:

$ .00
FEDERAL STUDENT AID ESTIMATOR

The results page includes non-binding estimates for:

- Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
- Pell Grants
- Work Study
- Direct Loans

This page also links out to College Scorecard so students can calculate and compare cost of attendance.
Grad Path: tool demonstration
We built a tool based on our research that equips students to turn financial aid offers into plans to pay for school.

www.consumerfinance.gov/gradpath

Grad Path provides students and families with:

• An interactive plan that can be saved and revised
• Simple explanations of jargon and financial concepts
• Money saving tips
• Running total of uncovered costs
• Projected debt and information to help decide if it’s affordable
• Apples-to-apples comparisons of multiple aid offers
• Suggested next steps
Repay Student Debt: tool demonstration
Repay Student Debt

Find advice for your student loans

This page offers guidance using basic information about your student loans. Learn about your options and find a strategy that works for your situation.

Let's get started. Select the situation that best describes where you are with your loans.

- I've missed a payment or my payment is too high
- My loan is in default or collections
- I'm starting to pay and want to maximize every dollar
Classroom activities
Find youth financial literacy activities

www.consumerfinance.gov/teach-activities/
Try a youth financial literacy activity

Creating a buying plan

UPDATED FEB 21, 2020

Students practice creating a buying plan and apply this strategy to provide buying advice to others.

Big idea

A buying plan can support the purchase of expensive products or services.

Essential questions

- What is a buying plan?
- Why is a buying plan helpful?

Objectives

- Understand situations when a buying plan may be useful
- Apply a five-step buying plan process to making a major purchase

What students will do

- Discuss their personal experience with spending money on big-ticket items.
- Create buying plans for two big-ticket items they may purchase in the future.
- Write an advice column with answers to readers’ questions.

Key information for this activity

Building block
- Executive function
- Financial knowledge and decision-making skills

School subject
- CTE (Career and technical education), English or language arts, Social studies or history

Topic
- Spend (Buying things)

Audience
- Grade level: High school (9-10), High school (11-12)
- Age range: 13-15, 16-19
- Student characteristics: English language learners, Special education, Rural

Activity characteristics
- Activity type: Individual, Small group, Whole class
Activity: Planning your financial path to college graduation

- Scenario: Imagine that your friend Emmett has been accepted to three colleges, and each school offered him a financial aid package. He’s asked for your help understanding these financial aid offers so he has a true sense of what his actual costs will be.
- Use Emmett’s financial offer and the CFPB “Your financial path to graduation” tool to help him out.
  - Look for strategies to cover costs
  - Can he afford his loans?
  - Are these loans worth the investment?
  - Reflect on strategies that high school students can use to help pay college costs.

Activity: Comparing higher education choices

- Students explore higher education options by comparing similarities and differences between two colleges near where they live.
- Students will use the U.S. Department of Education’s College Scorecard website to find nearby colleges and universities.
- Choose two schools to compare and contrast by reviewing features such as public vs private, average annual cost, overall graduation rates and majors available.

The Federal Student Aid Estimator tool helps students estimate the type and amount of federal financial aid they may be eligible for to help pay for college or career school.

- In groups, students will use the information on an imaginary college applicant who is applying for financial aid to attend Pretend University in New Mexico to experience how the Estimator tool works.
- Students then discuss the similarities and differences between the Estimator results received by the four students.
- At the end, the teacher can have students enter their own information into the Estimator to begin planning for their own experience.

Activity: Learning how FAFSA works

consumerfinance.gov/consumer-tools/educator-tools/youth-financial-education/teach/activities/learning-how-fafsa-works/
Activity: Using a student loan calculator

- Use a student loan calculator to calculate monthly loan payments and how much you can save on interest by paying a little extra each month.
  - Explore how paying extra on a loan can reduce the loan’s total cost.
    - This includes the benefits of prepayment.

  Prepayment calculator:  
  https://finaid.org/calculators/prepayment/

  Make a repayment plan:  
  https://studentaid.gov/manage-loans/repayment/plans

consumerfinance.gov/practitioner-resources/youth-financial-education/teach/activities/using-student-loan-calculator/
**Activity: Talking with your family about paying for post-secondary education**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan a conversation</th>
<th>Some talking points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>▪ Who will you speak with? When would be a good time to have a conversation?</td>
<td>▪ Discuss the different types of financial aid and how it can help you pay for higher education.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Why is post-secondary education important to you? Why is it worth the cost?</td>
<td>▪ Determine whether you would be eligible for each financial aid option.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ What questions and concerns will you get from the person you talk to? What information do you need to answer those questions?</td>
<td>▪ Think about how you would pay this money back after you finish your education.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An important step, complete the FAFSA.
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