

Cost of Attendance Comparison Worksheet

The actual cost of attendance (or COA) is unique for each student at each school. While some expenses are fixed (like tuition and fees), others are influenced and controlled by the student's lifestyle (like housing and personal expenses). When considering the award package from a particular school, or in comparing packages from multiple schools, you can use this worksheet to compare your cost expectations to each school's estimated total COA. The goal of this comparison is to better decide if the resulting difference is realistically manageable given the resources available to your family and the aid being offered by each school. Duplicate this worksheet as needed.

| School | 1. | | 2. | | 3. | |
|--|----------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| | My Expectation | School's Estimate | My Expectation | School's Estimate | My Expectation | School's Estimate |
| Tuition and Fees | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Room | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Board | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Books and Supplies | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Computer Costs | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Transportation | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Personal: | | | | | | |
| Clothing | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Laundry | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Medical | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Entertainment | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Other _____ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Other _____ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Other _____ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Total COA | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Difference between my expectation and school's estimate | \$ | | \$ | | \$ | |