



    
Family & Friends

    
Interests

    
College



# The Step-by-Step Guide to College Planning



**Earn + \$22k/yr**

### College matters — for life

A college education is a gateway to success in today's knowledge-based, global economy.

College graduates earn an average of \$22,000 more per year than high school graduates.

College is more than a classroom. It's an important opportunity to learn and grow as a person, gaining independence, confidence and life skills.



### The website to help your student plan for college

BigFuture™ by the College Board is a free, comprehensive website that guides families — step by step — in preparing for, finding and enrolling in college. At bigfuture.org, you can:

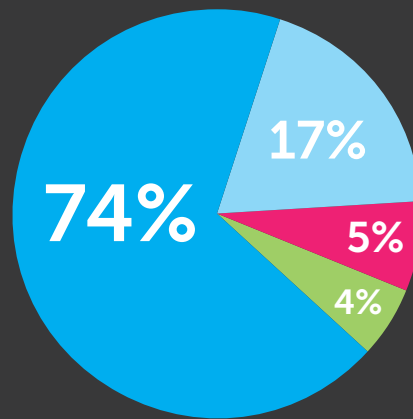
- Use intelligent search-and-match tools and informative videos to find colleges that are a good fit for your student;
- Learn how families like yours have paid for college; and
- Create a personalized plan for college so you and your student know what to do and when to do it.

**Help your student navigate the steps to college using BigFuture.**

## Financial aid comes from many sources:

Federal government grants, loans and other aid: **74%**  
 College grants and scholarships: **17%**  
 State government grants and scholarships: **5%**  
 Private employer grants and scholarships: **4%**

Be sure to take advantage of federal- and college-provided funds that add up to 91% of all aid.



BigFuture guides students as they find, afford and enroll in a college that's a good fit for them.



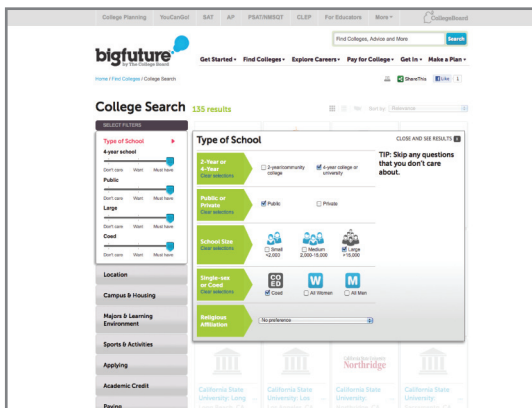
## Using BigFuture™

The College Board developed BigFuture in collaboration with parents, students and educators to make the college planning process easier and less overwhelming. Students can:

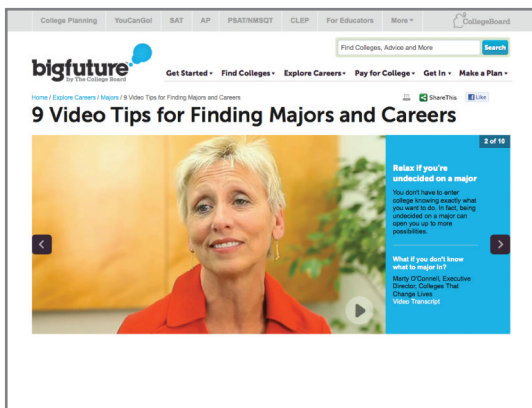
- **Start with a focus on themselves;** their interests, what and where they want to study, how much financial assistance they think they'll need and other important considerations;
- **Search for colleges** and easily compare them based on factors ranging from majors to size and location;
- **Watch videos from real students** who explain what they did to get into college and what their college experience has been like;
- **Hear from education professionals** who provide the inside story on preparing for and getting into college;
- **Learn about the different kinds of colleges** and how to find one that is the right fit for them;
- **Find valuable help in paying for college** by discovering what goes into college costs and how to find financing; and
- **Build a personalized plan** for realizing their goals and getting into a college that meets their needs.

BigFuture will make you feel more confident about your student's ability to go to college. And it will give you the tools you need to help your student get there.

**Get free expert guidance in helping your student go to college. Go to [bigfuture.org](http://bigfuture.org).**



Search and compare colleges.



Hear the inside story from educators.