



Your Education After High School

Going to a college, university or career school can help you get the career you want. You might make more money and have more freedom. But it is important to choose the right school for you. And it is important to know that you can afford to pay for that school.

How do I know I'm getting a good career school, college or university?

Do research before you choose a school. Check [CollegeScorecard.ed.gov](https://collegescorecard.ed.gov). Learn more about the schools you are thinking about.

Be sure class credits from the school you like will transfer to another school.

- Call your local community college or university.
- Ask if they would take credits from the school you are thinking about.

Figure out how you can pay for the school you choose. Find out more about financial aid before you choose a school.

How do I pay for college, university or career school?

Go to [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov). Learn about:

- Choosing a school.
- The kind of financial aid you can apply for.
- How to apply for financial aid.

Then use the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. It is also called the FAFSA form. You find the application at fafsa.gov. It is managed by the Department of Education.

The FAFSA form is the only way to apply for federal student aid. States, colleges, and many private and nonprofit groups also use your FAFSA information to decide how much financial aid you can get. It is free. Do not pay for your FAFSA form. Fill out your FAFSA form for every year that you will be in school.



Any tips on repaying my student loans?

Go to [StudentAid.gov/repay](https://studentaid.gov/repay). Do this before you start repaying your loans.

Some companies might offer to help you repay your student loans. Here are some important things to know:

- Only scammers promise quick loan forgiveness.
- Never pay a fee up front for help.
- Scammers can fake a government seal.
- Do not share your FSA ID with anyone.