

TRIO

This exercise helps you understand the cost of college, so you and your family can make confident choices about your academics and finances.

Use the FLC website to fill in the table below. (FLC homepage, select “Cost” from the main horizontal menu bar.)

Let’s figure it out for one year—a fall semester and a spring semester.

TUITION FOR ONE YEAR	
COURSE FEES FOR ONE YEAR	
HOUSING FOR ONE YEAR (on or off campus, whichever applies to you)	
MEAL PLAN FOR ONE YEAR (or cost of food if you live off campus)	
APPROXIMATE COST OF BOOKS FOR A YEAR	
OTHER (GAS MONEY, LAUNDRY, ENTERTAINMENT) APPROX.	
TOTAL FOR ONE YEAR	

Now that you know the cost of college for one year, calculate it for *four* years. _____

Five years? _____ Six years? _____

Below are different ways you can pay for college. Most students use at least two or more.

The four below help you *pre-pay* costs—*before the semester starts*.

1. Savings: money you or your family have set aside to help you pay for college.
2. Scholarships: money you apply for based on academic or other achievement.
3. Grants: money given to you for educational purposes—sometimes you apply for it, sometimes you are given it automatically.
4. Student loans: money you borrow from a lender (usually not FLC) that is repaid over time, after you leave college.

The three below help you earn money *throughout the semester*.

1. Work-study: If you’ve been awarded work-study in your financial aid package, you work a job on campus which pays you an hourly rate, every two weeks.
2. Non-work-study: there are a few jobs on campus that don’t require you to be awarded work-study.
3. Get an off-campus job: but be careful you leave time for studying.