



High School & Beyond Planning — News & Information

March 2017 

12th Grade

Deadlines & Decisions

May 1st is the deadline for students across the nation to send in their commitment to the college or university you plan to attend for the 2017-2018 school year. **If you received acceptance offers from a college, university, or training program, congratulations!** Now is the time to decide which school is the best fit.

If you are still unsure of which school to select, take the time to:

- Get more information.
- Ask questions.
- Visit — or revisit the campuses.
- Talk to current students at the college.
- Think things over.
- Compare the colleges.
- Compare financial aid awards.

Encourage your teen to use BigFuture's [Compare Your Aid Awards tool](#).

You can find it at: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/financial-aid-awards/compare-aid-calculator>.

It lets you compare up to four financial aid offers side by side. Is the school that offers the most financial aid the best match for finances overall? Which financial aid package is most workable for your family? Which financial aid package best matches your long-term goals?

Once you have decided which college to attend, you need to inform all the colleges that accepted you about your decision. Next, you must accept an offer of admission and submit a deposit to secure a spot at that institution. If the deposit is a hardship and you can't afford it, call the financial aid office at that school for help. Additionally, make sure to send in any items that the school has requested.

Sources: [Career Guidance WA](#), [BigFuture](#) & [WhiteHouse.gov](#)



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Did You Know?

If you have not completed the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**, make sure you do as soon as possible. In Washington State, the FAFSA opened on **Oct. 1st** and awards are made only until the funds are depleted.

Want more information about Financial Aid resources check inside **Naviance** and click on the page or go to <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/>.

[financial aid info](#)