



High School & Beyond Planning — News & Information

April 2017



12th GRADE STUDENTS

Making a Decision

May 1st is the deadline for students across the nation to send in their commitment to the college or university that they will attend the following academic year. If you received acceptance offers from a college, university, or training program, congratulations! Now is the time for to decide which school is the best fit. If you are unsure of which school to select, try these ideas:

- 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.

If you have not used this tool, you definitely need to try it!

BigFuture's [Compare Your Aid Awards tool](https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/financial-aid-awards/compare-aid-calculator). 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. Talk about which colleges work best financially. 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 student's long-term goals?

Once you have decided which college you want to attend, inform all the colleges that accepted you about the decision. 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 cannot afford it, call the financial aid office for help. Additionally, make sure to send in any items that the school has requested.

Students, who are waitlisted or did not get in, should see your school counselor for information on next steps.

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



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It's SCHOLARSHIP season!!

Log into Naviance so you do not miss a due date!

Did You Know?

Research shows that furthering your education sets people on a path that leads to higher earnings, having access to healthier foods, and living in safer neighborhoods.

Source: [Education Pays 2013](#)