

The Three Phases of College Funding



Phase 1

Start saving for college early.

Get a realistic picture of how much you'll need.

Visit the U.S. Department of Education¹ then give one of these helpful cost calculators a try:

- Consumer Finance²
- SalleMae³
- College Savings.org⁴

Choose a savings vehicle.

ONE POPULAR OPTION: 529 plans

- Flexible
- Grandparents and friends can contribute
- Savings are transferable to another student

Start early and automate your savings plan.

TWO ESSENTIALS:

- Use compounding interest to your advantage.
- Use auto-deduction to stay on track.

Phase 2

Search for financial aid with three steps:

- Research scholarships and grants.
- Consider loans.
- Mind the timelines.



Phase 3

Control cash-flow throughout college.

- Set smart spending expectations.
- Use campus resources.
- Explore options for books.
- Look for part-time work opportunities.
- Minimize transportation costs.
- Send care packages around exam time.



1. US Department of Education
2. Consumer Finance

3. SalleMae
4. College Savings.org