

Saving for College Checklist



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General information	Yes	No	N/A
 Has relevant personal information been gathered? Child's name and date of birth 			
• Type of college child is interested in (e.g., public, private, two-year, or			
four-year) • Each parent's name and date of birth			
Names and dates of birth of other children			
2. Has parents' financial situation been assessed?Income			
• Expenses			
AssetsLiabilities			
• Tax rate			
Filing status			
Notes:			
Notes.			
Estimating college costs	Yes	No	N/A
1. Have any savings already been earmarked for child's college?			
2. If yes, has average rate of return been estimated for these savings?			
3. Have grandparents earmarked any funds for child's college?			
4. If yes, has average rate of return been estimated for these savings?			
5. Has type of college been narrowed? (e.g., public, private, two-year, or four-year)			
6. Has review been done of what expenses are included in the total cost of college?			
7. Has the college inflation rate been discussed?			
8. What percentage of college costs will be funded by parents?			
Notes:	·		
Investment planning	Yes	No	N/A
1. How many years does money have to grow?			

2. Has risk tolerance been evaluated?			
3. Is it important to retain complete investment control over assets on day-to-day basis?			
4. Is it important that assets are in parent's name and control?			
5. Is it important that funds be accessible, without penalty, in case of an emergency?			
6. Is it important to look for savings strategies with tax advantages?			
7. How much will be available to save each month or year?			
Notes:			
Specific savings options	Yes	No	N/A
 Have different college savings options been considered? Section 529 college saving plans Section 529 prepaid tuition plans Coverdell education savings account UGMA/UTMA custodial account Series EE bonds Gifting to child Other tax-advantaged strategies Other 			
Financial aid issues	Yes	No	N/A
Financial aid issues Has basic financial aid information been discussed? Loans, grants, scholarships, work-study Need-based aid versus merit aid Main sources of financial aid Federal methodology versus institutional methodology EFC (expected family contribution) and financial need Names and descriptions of major federal loan programs 	Yes	No	N/A
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Notes:

Other ways to lower college costs	Yes	No	N/A
 Have other ideas to lower future college costs been considered? Attend public over private college or two-year over four-year Attend community college for two years, then transfer Student lives at home while attending college AP courses in high school for college credit Three-year accelerated college degree program Joint undergraduate/graduate degree program Canadian schools Cooperative education Parents purchase housing for student Military programs 			
Notes:			
Balancing need for college savings with other goals	Yes	No	N/A
1. Are there any other children for whom college saving is a priority?			
2. If so, will their years of college overlap?			
3. Has a retirement savings program been implemented?			
4. Have expected retirement income needs been calculated?			
5. Have other short-term and long-term financial goals been examined?			
Notes:	<u>.</u>		

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