Financial Aid Resources

Financial Aid Applications:

Free application required at all colleges:

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid: https://fafsa.ed.gov/

Application with a cost required by highly selective colleges:

- CSS Profile: https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/

Tool for Evaluating Colleges & Earning Potential:

College Scorecard: https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/

- Useful to get a snapshot of graduation rates, loan debt at graduation, repayment rates of loans, median salary of graduates 10 years post graduation

Education Pays MN: http://www.mnedtrends.org/

- Useful to get a snapshot of trends in borrowing, earnings, job potential within MN

Site for information on federal student aid:

US Department of Education: https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/

- Useful for learning about federal loan programs including loan repayment and interest rates

Sample Spreadsheet to Create for Financial Aid Comparison

Carly's college search	Admission Application Deadline	Financial Aid Deadline	Completed Net Price Calculator	Net Cost to attend	Completed FAFSA	Award Letter Received	Cost after Gift Aid	Cost after gift aid and loans
Rural school	January 15th	January 15th	x	$ 38,230				
Urban school	November 15th	January 1st	x	$ 45,000				
School close to home	January 15th	March 1st	x	$ 21,000				
School very far away	March 1st	March 1st	x	$ 45,500				