

Now that you have been accepted...

Compare colleges – get more information

- MCIS can be a great tool to compare colleges. See the attachment below for step-by-step instructions.
- Compare: college size, location, activities and sports, cost of colleges, average amount of financial aid awarded to freshmen, percentage of freshman who return their sophomore year, just to name a few.
- Visit and revisit. See the checklist for visiting colleges. Here are a few questions to consider:
 - How did you feel when you were on campus?
 - Which colleges can I imagine myself as successful and happy?

Compare Financial Aid Awards

Compare the **Cost of Attendance**: Tuition and Fees, Room and Board, Books and Supplies, Travel and Personal Expenses, with the **Financial Aid Award**: Gift Aid (does not need to be repaid) – Grants, scholarships and other gifts, Self-Help Aid (requires repayment) – Federal Direct Loan, Federal Perkins Loans, Private Loans, and finally Work Study.

Make Your Decision

Decision do not need to be made overnight. Take your time and weigh your options. Most colleges have a deadline towards the end of April. Connect with your accepted schools and note when their reply deadlines are.

Respond to Colleges

Once you've decided which college you want to attend, inform all the colleges that accepted you about your decision.

Respond to the college you've decided to attend. Make sure to send in the following items by the deadline:

- Your acceptance letter
- A deposit
- A separate acceptance letter for financial aid, if required
- Any other required items
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Respond to the colleges whose offers you're declining. Send a brief note to the other colleges to thank them and turn down their offers. This frees up places for other students.

**<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/making-a-decision/you-got-accepted-now-what>