

Math Lesson 2: Teacher Guide

The objective of this lesson is to help students compare college tuitions in their state as well as learn about the amount of financial aid available at institutions they are interested in attending.

Discussion

Start this lesson by asking students if they've thought about the type of college they wish to attend and how much it would cost to go to that kind of school. Ask if they have any ideas about the types of financial aid that are available at different colleges. Here are some sample questions that will help facilitate discussion:

- Do you have any idea of the tuition differences amongst colleges within your state?
- What are some of the different types of financial aid available to students?
- What is the difference between a loan and a grant?

This lesson is based on in-state tuition only. You may want to spend some time discussing the difference between in-state tuition and out-of-state tuition. It would also be good to mention the fact that the total cost of a year at college includes not only tuition, but also room and board (if you live on campus), books, and fees.

Online Activity

Log in to Kuder Navigator® (<http://navigator.kuder.com/>) or your custom website and hand out the student worksheet(s). Your students should all have individual accounts. If they do not, you can obtain their login information from your Kuder Administrative Database Management System® or check with your site administrator (typically your career teachers or school counselors). Even if students only have their user names, they can still reset their passwords.

Although the worksheet is self-explanatory, you may want to walk through the assignment yourself prior to leading students through the activity in case they need assistance.

Post-Online Activity

Divide students into discussion groups of four to five students. Have them discuss the results they found online about tuition and financial aid for different colleges in their state. Ask each group to share one interesting thing they learned from this activity that might impact their college choices.



Post-Activity Discussion

Ask students if they think the cost of attending a college indicates the quality of the college. Have students share why they think tuition varies amongst schools. Did the percentage of students receiving aid seem to vary based on the cost of tuition for that college?