# **FAFSA follow-up**

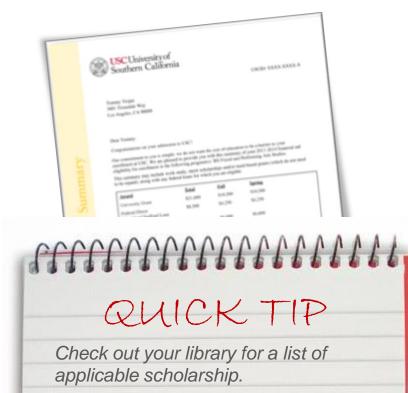
- EFC calculated
- Results sent electronically to schools
- You receive Student Aid Report
- Then school takes over

(It's your job to notify school of extraordinary circumstances)

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## Financial aid award(s)

- Grants
- Pell Grant (\$5,775 max)
- SEOG (if Pell Grant eligible)
- State Grants
- Institutional Grants
- Employment
  - Federal Work Study
  - On campus job
- Loans



## **Stafford loans**

### **Subsidized Stafford Loans**

- No interest accrues while in school
- Maximum annual loan amount \$5,500 for freshman, \$6,500 for sophomore, \$7,500 for juniors and seniors)
- Payments deferred until six months after graduation

### **Unsubsidized Stafford Loans**

- Interest <u>does</u> accrue while in school
- Maximum annual loan amount \$5,500 for freshman, \$6,500 for sophomore, \$7,500 for juniors and seniors)
- Payments deferred until six months after graduation

# What if it's not enough?

### **Parent PLUS Loans**

- Interest rate 7.2%
- Taken out in parent's name
- Payments begin right away

### **Alternative Education Loans**



### Where else can I get money?

- Home equity loans may be better deal
- Beware of variable rates though!



Don't forget, Roth IRA contributions can be withdrawn tax and penalty free anytime for any reason.



### **Tax breaks**

### **American Opportunity Tax Credit**

- Maximum credit of \$2,500
- Fully eligible if adjusted gross income under \$80,000 (\$160,000 if you file a joint tax return)
- Student must be enrolled at least half-time

### **Lifetime Learning Credit**

- Maximum credit of \$2,000
- Fully eligible if adjusted gross income under \$64,000 (\$128,000 if you file a joint tax return)

Francis Investment Counsel does not provide tax or legal advice. See an experienced tax advisor.

## **Deductibility of loan %**

- Deduct the interest you pay on student loans, up to \$2,500 a year
- Modified adjusted gross income must be less than \$80,000 (\$160,000 if filing jointly)
- Deductible only for the one liable for the loan
- Home equity loans also deductible (no income phase outs)

Francis Investment Counsel does not provide tax or legal advice. See an experienced tax advisor.



# **Paying For College**

## **Saving For College**



### How much must you save?

Investment Counsel L	S IC nt Income Str		Calculat	0.15	
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Calculators	College	Plan	ner		
- College Planner	Sonege	2 T 1011			
- Depletion Calculator	Use this calculator to set up a savings schedule for college tuition.				
- Distribution Planner	Estes informer				
Gap Analysis	Enter information for up to ten potential students below. Then, enter your savings, growth and inflation assumptions. After you've entered your information, press "Calculate" to determine your				
Loan Calculator	estimated monthly savings needed to reach your goal.				
Paycheck Calculator					Input Chudent Information
Plan Loan Calculator			_		Input - Student Information
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Trad IRA vs Tax Savings	Andrew	5	18	4	Avg Public (in-state) 🔹
Req Min Distribution					Public (in-state) - \$22,261
Social Security Calculator					
Roth Analyzer					Input - Savings & Inflation Information
Savings Goal Calculator	Monthly Co	vincer			
Credit Card Payoff				\$ 300	
Monthly Spending Plan	Current Savings Balance:			\$ 2000	
Budget/Cash Flow	Expected Savings Growth Percent:		t:	7 %	
Retirement Budget	Evented Tuitien Jefletien Descents		5 %		
Net Worth Calculator					3 %
Asset Allocation Planner	Source: The Coll	lege Board, A	nnual Survey o	of Colleges, 201	2. Calculate

Home Retirement Income Strategy Calculators

#### - Calculators

- College Planner

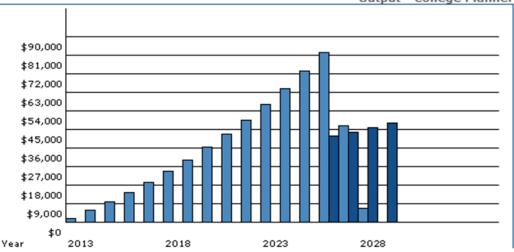
- Depletion Calculator
- Distribution Planner
- Gap Analysis
- Loan Calculator
- Paycheck Calculator
- Plan Loan Calculator
- Retirement Savings
- SEPP Calculator
- IRA Analyzer
- IRA Comparison
- Trad IRA vs Tax Savings
- Req Min Distribution
- Social Security Calculator
- Roth Analyzer
- Savings Goal Calculator
- Credit Card Payoff
- Monthly Spending Plan
- Budget/Cash Flow
- Retirement Budget
- Net Worth Calculator
- Asset Allocation Planner

### **College Planner**

Based upon the information and the assumptions you've entered, you will *not* achieve your college tuition goals.

This graph illustrates your savings balance versus your annual college tuition payments. Changes in personal circumstances and market fluctuations will affect actual results.

Click here for information on different ways to save for college (i.e. 529 plans, Coverdell, etc).



The savings schedule that you indicated would provide you with the following balance at the end of your last tuition payment. The negative amount indicates that you will not reach your savings goal. The tool has also determined the approximate monthly savings amount needed to reach your goal. Please note that these amounts are combined for all students indicated on the previous page.

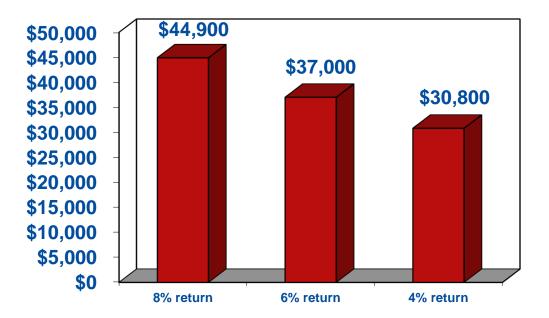
Savings balance at the end of your last tuition payment: \$-86,667 Approximate monthly savings needed to reach your goal: \$543

### Output - College Planner



## **Investment decisions matter**

\$100 per month for 18 years at varying rates of return



For illustration purposes only.



# **Picking an account**

- It matters who owns the account
- Uncle Sam might give you a break
- Investment options are endless



# Ways to save for college

Best: 529 Plans

**Good:** Coverdell Savings Accounts

Interesting Idea: Parents' Roth IRAs

**Bad Idea:** Custodial Accounts

## **Best: 529 plans**

- Roth-like tax breaks: after-tax going in, tax-free if used for college, state might also give you a tax break
- Considered parent asset for financial aid
- Easy to invest: age-based premixed funds
- Easy to start: available online with low minimums and systematic deposits
- Taxes and 10% penalty applies to ga

If Grandparents own the account, it doesn't count at all!

QUICK TIP





### 529 Plans ....

- 1. Can be used for any college expense
- 2. Can be transferred to siblings
- 3. Can be retained for student's own child
- 4. All of the above

A DESCRIPTION OF THE OWNER OF THE

## Wisconsin's 529 plan: Edvest



### into college

Opening an Edvest college savings plan is a smart way to save for a child's college education and features powerful tax advantages for parents and grandparents.

Click to Learn More

## **Good: Coverdell savings plan**

- Roth-like tax breaks: after-tax going in, tax-free if used for college
- Considered parent asset for financial aid
- Virtually unlimited investment options
- Low annual savings limits deposits
- Taxes and 10% penalty applies to gains if NOT used for college
- Can be used for private primary and secondary education





### idea: parent's Roth IRA

- Deposits can be withdrawn at anytime: gains are taxable penalized if used for college
- NOT considered as an asset for financial aid
- Virtually unlimited investment options
- No penalties if not used for college

### **Bad idea: custodial accounts**

- Considered student asset for financial aid
- No tax breaks (gains may be taxed at child's rate)
- s rate)

• No requirement to use for college

### **Great resource**

### savingforcollege.com



