# College Costs Money, Here's the Basic Idea

What tuition means, why the sticker price isn't the real price, and how families start planning early.

Name: _____ Date: _____

**OBJECTIVE**

College Costs Money, Here's the Basic Idea

| Word | What it means |
|---|---|
| Tuition | What you pay to attend classes. |
| Financial aid | Money that reduces what you pay, from grants, scholarships, or loans. |
| Scholarship | Aid you don't pay back, usually for grades, talent, or need. |
| Loan | Borrowed money you DO pay back, plus interest. |

**STICKER PRICE VS. REAL PRICE**

A college might list a price of $60,000 a year, but most students don't pay that. Financial aid based on family income can cut the price a lot. The only way to know YOUR price is to apply.

*Ask a parent, guardian, or teacher what they know about paying for college. Write down ONE thing you learned that surprised you.*

**DISCUSS**

Is college the only path to a good career? Name two other options.