



WEEK 5:

Calculate the aid I may need

During Week 5, students will find out about cost of attendance and calculate the aid they may need.

Learning Objective: Participants will explore the five areas to budget for educational cost and utilize a cost of attendance worksheet to calculate the aid they may need to attend their institution of choice.

MCJ Tools: Downloadable Cost of Attendance worksheet

CAM Activity: Participants will use the cost of attendance worksheet to determine the aid they may need for each institution of choice.

Tips for Success:

- Encourage participants to capture the cost of attendance for institutions on the worksheet and download it into the education section of their profile.
- Encourage participants to sign into their My Colorado Journey account to complete their work to ensure that their work will be saved.

WEEK 5:

Take steps to reduce the aid I need

During Week 5, students will explore different ways to reduce the aid that they might need.

Learning Objective: Participants will complete the College Opportunity Fund (COF) application, explore in-state tuition requirements, and learn how to start saving.

MCJ Tools: College Opportunity Fund application site

CAM Activity: Participants will record the date they completed their COF application, the date of the call with their college admissions office, and reflect on how much they may be able to save.

Tips for Success:

- Encourage participants to complete the College Opportunity Fund application if they have not yet done so.



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- Remind students that may not be eligible for federal aid to apply for aid on the Colorado Application for State financial aid (CASFA).
 - It is never too late to start saving; even little bit helps when you're in school and develops a saving habit useful throughout life.
 - Encourage participants to sign into their My Colorado Journey account to complete their work to ensure that their work will be saved.

WEEK 5:

Estimate the federal aid I may receive

During week 5, participants will estimate the aid they could receive through federal financial aid.

Learning Objective: Students will understand the aid they may be able to receive.

MCJ Tools: FAFSA4Caster

CAM Activity: Participants will use the FAFSA4Caster tool and reflect on their net cost to attend college.

Tips for Success:

- Students will need parental/student financial information to complete the FAFSA4Caster

WEEK 5:

Create my FSA ID

During Week 5, students will fill out application for their FSA ID as well as with one parent if appropriate.

Learning Objective: To understand and complete the FSA ID application.

MCJ Tools:

CAM Activity: Participants will record the date that their FSA ID was created

Tips for Success:



- Encourage participants to sign into their My Colorado Journey account to complete their work to ensure that their work will be save.

WEEK 5:

File my FAFSA

During Week 5, students will find and gather the information needed to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and complete it.

Learning Objective: To understand what materials are needed for and to complete the FAFSA application and learn how to evaluate the Student Aid Report (SAR) they will receive

MCJ or other Tools: Studentaid.ed.gov

CAM Activity: Participants will reflect on the date that the FAFSA was completed and discover how to evaluate their Student Aid Report (SAR) to ensure it is correct

Tips for Success:

- Emphasize the importance of reviewing the SAR carefully

What the research says:

Completing the FAFSA helps predict a student's success in postsecondary education. Studies show that 90 percent of high school seniors who complete FAFSA attend college directly after high school, compared to just 55 percent seniors who do not complete.

WEEK 5:

Find and apply for my scholarships

During Week 5, students will create a scholarship profile and apply for scholarships

Learning Objective: To understand what is needed to fill out a successful scholarship application



MCJ and Other Tools: SuperCollege.com

CAM Activity: Students will create a scholarship profile and learn how to identify the goals of the scholarship and create winning essays. Students are encouraged to complete applications and record the date that they completed their profile.

Tips for Success:

- It sounds like a lot, but students should be encouraged to complete 20 to 30 scholarship applications or more.

WEEK 5:

Find funds for training programs

During Week 5, students will search for a training program of their choice to see if there is funding for that program in their region

Learning Objective: To understand how to find funding (in addition to financial aid) for a training program of their choice.

MCJ Tools: CoTrainingProviders

CAM Activity: The Colorado Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) website (CoTrainingProviders.org) contains many bootcamp, certificate and associate's degree programs that are eligible for federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funding for students. Students will explore whether a program in which they are interested is on the ETPL website and eligible for funding in their region. Students are encouraged to visit their local workforce centers to access opportunities.

Tips for Success:

- Encourage youth to visit a workforce center to access many resources for youth