

Financing Higher Education: Parent/Guardian Discussion Guide for Students

Module 1: RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Question	Response
How should ROI factor into which higher institution I select?	
Which factors have the greatest influence on this decision?	

Module 2: UNDERSTANDING FINANCIAL AID

Question	Response
What, if any, is there set aside for higher education expenses?	
Are there characteristics from our family background, heritage or history that might help me qualify for certain scholarships or grants?	
What, if any, preference is there when it comes to working while I'm in school? Are full or part time work hours acceptable?	

Module 3: STUDENT LOAN BASICS

Question	Response
If there is a gap between total cost of attendance and what we have saved or scholarships/grants earned, will we consider taking out student loans?	
What type of student loans will we consider first?	
How can we prepare in advance to repay these loans?	

Module 4: BUDGETING FOR YOUR LOANS

Question	Response
Is there a set budget for higher education expenses?	
What are your expectations around college choice that might impact this budget?	
What are your views on student loans factoring into the budget for higher education expenses?	

Module 5: REPAYING LOANS RESPONSIBLY

Question	Response
If we feel that taking out student loan(s) is the best way to finance my higher education expenses, which repayment plan is the best option for my situation?	
How can I prepare to pay back my student loans in advance?	