



Activity to Accompany St. Louis Fed College 101 Infographic (Answer Key)

This activity accompanies the St. Louis Fed’s *Econlowdown* [College 101 infographic](#). You can assign the activity to students individually or as a group. If using a group format, divide students into five or six small groups. Distribute copies of Handout 1: “College 101 Infographic Activity” to each group. Designate one individual as the recorder who will add the group’s answers to the master document. Ask students to access the [digital](#) version of the infographic on their devices. (If devices are not an option, please order print copies of the infographic by emailing economiceducation@stls.frb.org.) Use a competition format, awarding a small prize to the group with the most correct answers who finishes the most quickly, or ask the groups to complete the activity at their own pace.

Following the group activity, consider showing students one or all of the three videos embedded in the [digital](#) version of the *Econlowdown* College 101 infographic. The College 101 video is about five minutes long and illustrates the costs associated with college and the potential returns to different college degrees. The FAFSA 101 video is over eight minutes long and walks students through the process of completing the FAFSA form. The Financial Aid 101 video is also over eight minutes long and explains college-funding sources.

When your students have reviewed all the materials, ask them to complete Handout 2: “Exit Ticket.” This assignment asks students to reflect on the college selection and funding process as well as create a college “to do list” they can follow as they approach graduation.

Submitted by

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About the author

Michelle Head grew up in Harlem, New York. She has been teaching for 28 years (K–college) and has spent the last four years teaching economics at Berkmar High School. Head creates thematic units, the latest is a hands-on approach for personal finance. Her teaching philosophy is to provide an environment in which all students feel comfortable enough to allow the learning process to take place. She currently resides in Lawrenceville, Georgia, with her son, Jeremy.



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Handout 1: College 101 Infographic Activity

Access the infographic on your device: <http://bit.ly/2xXMqXw> or use print copy.

1. List three reasons for selecting a college.
 - a. Admissions representative
 - b. Cost/tuition/job prospects
 - c. Financial aid/campus visit

2. If Mt. Ivy College costs \$31,000 for one year, what is total tuition, room, and board?

\$125,000

3. If Towney State University costs \$13,750 for one year, what is total tuition, room, and board for four years of study?

\$55,000

4. Where can you find information on what occupations pay?

www.bls.gov/bls/blswage.htm

5. Choose three fields of study and give their average starting salaries:

Field 1 answers will vary
 Salary \$
 Field 2
 Salary \$
 Field 3
 Salary \$

6. What are three types of government aid (transfer payments)?
 - a. loans
 - b. grants
 - c. work study

7. Based on the median annual earnings by educational attainment, how much more can a master's degree earn than a high school diploma over 40 years of working?

\$1.41 million

8. List the difference between loans and grants.

Loans must be repaid

Grants do not have to be repaid as long as you follow all eligibility requirements

9. List the difference between subsidized versus unsubsidized loans.

Subsidized need-based, interest does not accrue while a full-time student
 Unsubsidized available to all students, interest accrues throughout your college years

10. What are the median annual earnings for the following?

High school diploma \$33,852
 Some college \$37,804
 Bachelor's degree \$57,616
 Master's degree \$69,108



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Handout 2: Exit Ticket

EXIT TICKET

REFLECT ON ALL YOU HAVE LEARNED ABOUT COLLEGES, CAREERS, AND FUNDING SOURCES. (IN ADDITION TO THE COLLEGE INFORMATION, CONSIDER RESEARCHING TECHNICAL SCHOOLS AND APPRENTICESHIPS.) IN THE SPACE BELOW, CREATE A "TO-DO LIST" WITH DUE DATES TO HELP YOU STAY ON TRACK WITH YOUR POSTSECONDARY PLANNING.

Answers will vary.

EXIT TICKET

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