

HEOA Net Price Defined*

Institution's cost
of attendance for
first-time, full-time
undergraduate
students

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Total need- and merit-based federal, state, and
institutional grant aid awarded to first-time,
full-time undergraduate students

Number of first-time, full-time undergraduate
students receiving such aid

Cost of attendance:
average annual
cost of tuition and
fees, room and
board, books,
supplies, and
transportation

**Net price calculators must support this
definition of net price!*

Department of Education Net Price Calculator Template

The template is made up of two components:

- **Institutions input the following data:**
 - Price of attendance
 - Median amounts of grant and scholarship aid awarded to, and accepted by, first-time, full-time degree/certificate-seeking students by EFC range
- **Prospective students/families are then asked nine questions that establish:**
 - Their dependency status
 - Their estimated cost of attendance
 - Approximated Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

Department of Education Net Price Calculator Template

Behind the Scenes Process

- The template uses a “look-up” table populated with data from the Federal Application For Student Aid (FAFSA) database to identify a median EFC.
- Median EFC is then matched with the median grant and scholarship aid amount entered by the institution for the corresponding EFC range to determine the student's estimated amount of total grant aid.
- Estimated net price is calculated by subtracting estimated total grant aid from the estimated total price of attendance.

Minimum Required Net Price Calculator Elements

Institutions that choose to develop their own net price calculator
must include, at a minimum, the following elements:*

Input elements:

- Data elements to approximate the student's Expected Family Contribution.
**An institution may use their Institutional Methodology to approximate the student's EFC as long as no elements used in the Department's template to approximate EFC are eliminated.*

Output elements:

- Estimated total price of attendance;
- Estimated tuition and fees;
- Estimated room and board;
- Estimated books and supplies;
- Estimated other expenses (personal expenses, transportation, etc.);
- Estimated total grant aid;
- Estimated net price;
- Percent of the cohort (full-time, first-time students) that received grant aid;
- Caveats and disclaimers, as indicated in the HEOA.

**Deadline for website posting: 10/29/2011*

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- NCES/IPEDS – Net Price Calculator Requirement
http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/resource/net_price_calculator.asp
- US DOE Net Price Calculator Quick Start Guide.
http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/netpricecalculator/Download/QuickStart_IE.pdf
- US DOE Net Price Calculator Glossary of Terms
<http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/netpricecalculator/Download/Terms.pdf>
- Association for Institutional Research - Net Price Calculator Resource Center
<http://www.airweb.org/page.asp?page=2106>
- The Institute for College Access & Success, “Adding It All Up: An Early Look at Net Price Calculators”
http://ticas.org/files/pub/adding_it_all_up.pdf