

VSA Net Price Calculator Webinar

Reintroduction to the VSA Net Price Calculator

- ☑ All callers will be muted during the webinar.
- ☑ To submit questions, please use the questions function.
- ☑ You can listen using your computer speakers or dial in on your phone – (914) 339-0030
 - ☑ Access code: in your emailed webinar confirmation
- ☑ This webinar is being recorded. We will post a link to the recording on the VSA website within a week.

Webinar Administtrivia

- ☑ History and purpose of the VSA
- ☑ Development history of the VSA Net Price Calculator
- ☑ Features of the VSA Net Price Calculator
- ☑ Setting up your VSA Net Price Calculator
- ☑ Demonstration of the public user interface

Overview

☑ Initiative by public universities to supply straightforward, comparable information on the undergraduate student experience through a common web report – the College Portrait



☑ www.collegeportraits.org

What is the VSA?

- ☑ HEOA compliant net price calculator
- ☑ Previously called “College Affordability Estimator”; changed summer 2014
- ☑ Free for use by VSA participants, but not required
- ☑ Updated annually: state tax tables, EFC calculations

VSA Net Price Calculator

2003 – TexasCollegeMoney.org

- Net Price Calculator for 9 institutions in U of Texas System



2007 – Voluntary System of Accountability

- Calculator part of College Portrait



2008 – VSA Cost Calculator (CCC)

- Stand alone application installed by institutions



2008/2009 – Higher Education Opportunity Act

- Net price calculator – all colleges and universities



2010-2014 VSA NPC (Previously College Cost Estimator)

Meets HEOA, delivered through College Portrait application

History of the VSA NPC

- ☑ The Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA)¹ requires all postsecondary institutions participating in Title IV federal student aid programs to post a net price calculator on their websites by October 29, 2011
- ☑ Use the Department of Education's Net Price Calculator template
- ☑ Develop a customized version that must include, at a minimum, the same elements as the Department's version

HEOA Requirements

¹ See all HEOA net price calculator requirements here:

http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/resource/net_price_calculator.asp

- ☑ Input elements – elements to approximate Expected Family Contribution (EFC), such as income, number in family, and dependency status
- ☑ Output elements
 - ☑ Estimated total cost of attendance, including tuition & fees, room & board, books & supplies, and other expenses;
 - ☑ Estimated total grant aid;
 - ☑ Estimated net price (total cost of attendance minus total grant aid);
 - ☑ Percent of the cohort (full-time, first-time students) that received grant aid; and
 - ☑ Caveats and disclaimers, as indicated in the HEA.

Minimum Required Elements

- ☑ Formula approach - Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is calculated
- ☑ Federal Methodology Simplified Needs Test
- ☑ Income included, assets not included
- ☑ Most accurate for lower income students

Flow charts detailing the calculations are available through the College Portrait Administrative website

VSA NPC Calculation Method

- ☑ Choice of three most recent academic years for data: 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15
- ☑ Ability to customize EFC ranges
- ☑ Net price estimates calculated separately for independent and dependent students
- ☑ Separate award tables for in-state and out-of-state students
- ☑ Additional questions for aid programs specific to institution or state (e.g., tuition reciprocity, need or merit-based scholarships or grants, etc.)

VSA NPC Features for Institutions

- ☑ Provides two net cost estimates
 - ☑ "net cost after grant aid" (HEOA)
 - ☑ "net cost estimate after grant aid, student loans/work study, and other aid"
- ☑ Displays typical range of aid (low and high) and median amount
- ☑ Estimates that take into account both residency and dependency status
- ☑ Includes special aid packages offered by institutions, states, systems, etc.

VSA NPC Features for Users

CONFIGURING THE VSA NET PRICE CALCULATOR

DC University

Washington DC

Home of the Fighting Chickens

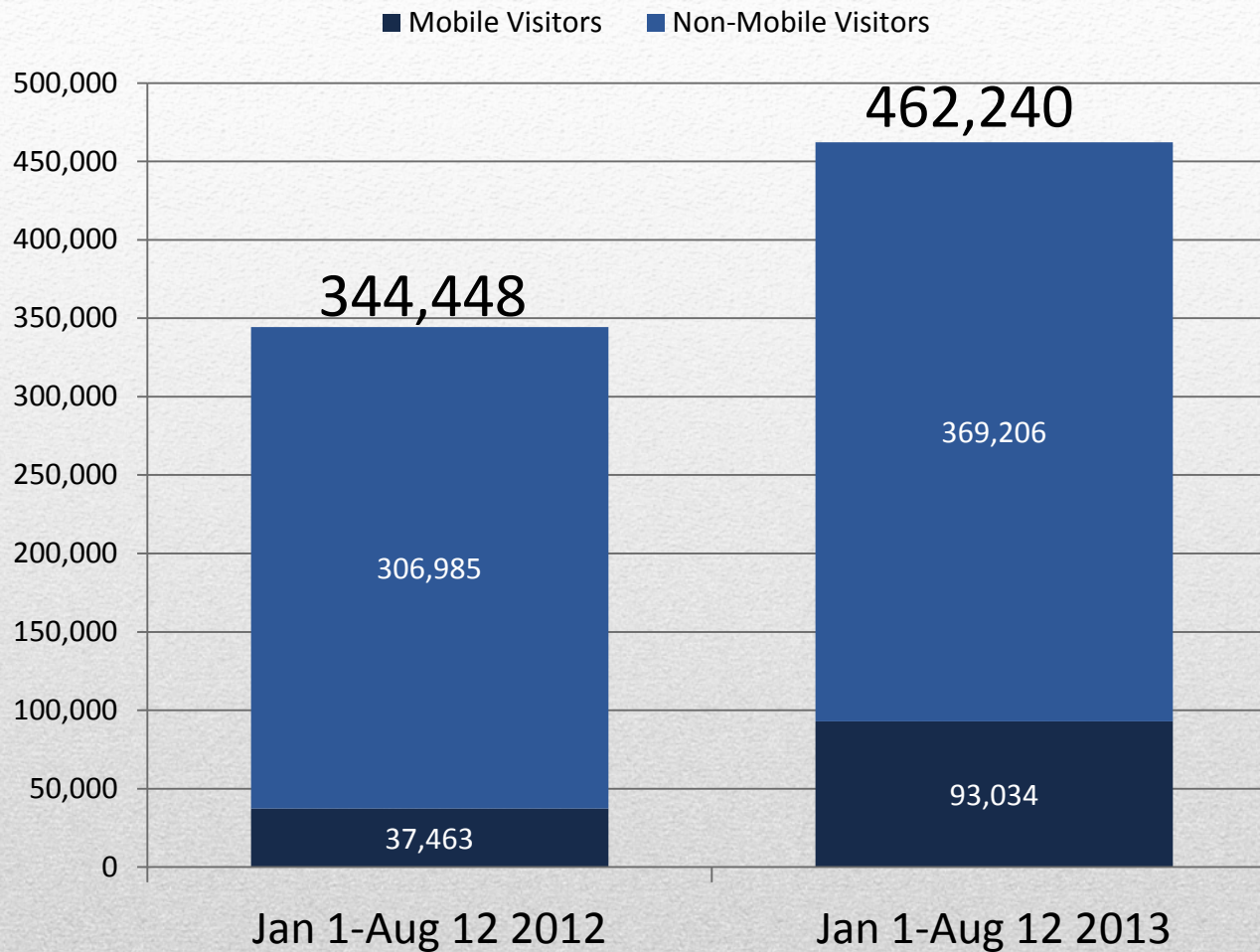
<http://www.collegeportraits.org/DC/vsadc/estimator/agree>

*Each VSA Calculator has a unique URL that
can be used outside the College Portrait*

Public Demo of the VSA Net Price Calculator

THE FOLLOWING **PREVIEW** HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR
ALL AUDIENCES

Coming Attractions!



Traffic to College Portrait Website



College Portrait Website Redesign

- ✓ Responsive layouts for mobile viewing
- ✓ Separate search tracks for different constituency groups
- ✓ Available October 2014



The desktop version of the College Portrait search interface is shown in a dark-themed window titled "Student Info". It features a search icon, a description, two search input fields with magnifying glass icons, a disclaimer checkbox, and two buttons: "Find School" and "Cancel".

Student Info

Get the student information you need to pick the right college and other words.

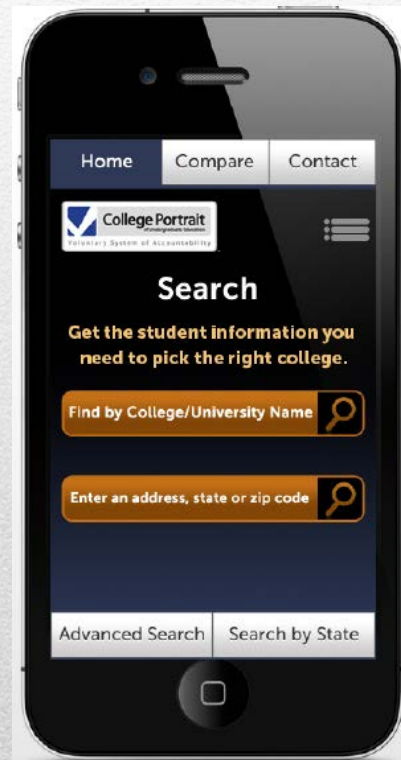
Get the student information you need to pick the right college and other words.

Find by College/University Name

Enter an address, state or zip code

☐ I have read and understand the disclaimer.


Find School Cancel



College Portrait Website Redesign


☑ 2-3 Featured Links to College Portrait pages returned in Search Results

State University



[2011-2012 College Portrait](#)
[College Cost Estimator](#)

[University Home Page](#)
Admissions Email:
admissions.records@csun.edu
Admissions Telephone:
818-677-3700

 **Featured Links**


[Featured Link One](#)
Some tease text here about the featured link.

[Featured Link Two](#)
Some tease text here about the featured link.

[Featured Link Three](#)
Some tease text here about the featured link.

College Portrait Website Redesign

✓ Responsive layouts for mobile viewing

 College Portrait
Voluntary System of Accountability

Skip to Content | Accessibility | Login

Start/Legal Disclaimer 1 Background Information 2 Financial Information 3 Calculator Results 4

College Affordability Estimator

This on-line tool will give you an estimate of your cost to attend this college or university in a few simple steps.

All information gathered to calculate the net price is anonymous and cannot be used to identify an individual user.


Get Started!

- Carefully read and agree to the legal disclaimer.
- Fill out a simple form about your background and plans for housing while in school.
- Complete a simple form about your family's finances.

Step 1. Legal Disclaimer


Please read. By clicking "I Agree", I acknowledge that the estimate provided using this estimator does not represent a final determination, or actual award, of financial assistance, or a final net price; it is an estimate based on price of attendance and financial aid provided to students in a previous year.

I Agree



State University


Based on the information you enter, the college cost estimator will return an estimate of typical expenses for a student like you to attend this college or university and an estimate of financial aid that you may be eligible to receive from this college or university. The estimates will help you determine your "net cost" - your likely out-of-pocket expenses - to attend this college or university. Please [contact the State University financial aid office](#) for more details.

 College Portrait
Voluntary System of Accountability

State University

Step 1 Step 2 Step 3

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State University

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Please read. By clicking "I Agree", I

Net Price Calculator

State University Affordability Estimator Results

The cost and aid estimates are for a student who has never attended college and will be enrolled full-time. The estimates based on academic year 2011-12. Costs and aid will vary for other years. Contact the [State University Financial Aid Office](#) for more information about your specific circumstances.

Cost of Attendance Breakdowns for this Institution

Your Estimated Total Cost of Attendance without Grant Aid \$ XX,XXX / yr

More Information on Grant Aid

Your Estimated Net Cost after Grant Aid \$ XX,XXX / yr

Estimated Grant Aid (typical range \$X,XXX to \$X,XXX) \$ XX,XXX

Tip: This net cost estimate is your approximate cost after grant aid. Grant aid is money that does not have to be paid back. Estimates of grant aid include federal aid programs and may include other need or merit aid.

More Information on Student Loans, Work Study and Other Aid

Your Estimated Net Cost after Grant Aid,
Student Loans, Work Study and Other Aid \$ XX,XXX / yr

[More Details About Financial Aid at this Institution](#)

Your Submitted Information

Dependency Status Dependant

In State/Out of State In State

Household Residency No

Household Size 3

Number In College 1

Total Income \$XX,XXX

Contact the [State University Financial Aid Office](#) for information about your specific circumstances.

State University
1234 State Drive
Willowbrook, PA.

Net Price Calculator Results

- ☑ **October 10, 2014:** Current College Portrait (2013-14) data entry cycle closes
 - ☑ NO CHANGES can be made to your College Portrait after 10/10/14
 - ☑ Data entry site will be unavailable from October 10 through October 20
- ☑ **October 20, 2014:** 2014-15 College Portrait data entry cycle opens
 - ☑ Student Learning Outcomes results will be required to publish 2014-15 College Portrait
 - ☑ Additional Success & Progress Rate cohorts will allow for part-time, non-Fall-start cohorts
 - ☑ Learn more September 18! Register for the webinar here: <https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/641523687>

Upcoming Dates & Deadlines

College Portrait website: www.collegeportraits.org

VSA Initiative website: www.voluntarysystem.org

LinkedIn: Voluntary System of Accountability

Twitter: @VSAvoice

Blog: <http://vsavoice.blogspot.com/>

Keeping Up with the VSA