

Junior Achievement \$ave, USA

Analyzing Tuition Costs

Middle School

What average semester tuition do you imagine you can afford? Plan to browse scholarships that you would be qualified for toward the end of high school. Talk to your parents or other trusted adults about ways to pay for college tuition. Start planning now. The directions below will guide you through the process of researching and analyzing tuition costs.

Family Directions:

Record Your Research on page 2

- 1) Research tuition costs of colleges you would consider attending and record on page 2
- 2) Group the colleges according to a factor that is important to you. (This may be two-year versus four-year, scholarship availability, location, housing, diversity, clubs/sports, size, religion, Division I vs. II, etc.)
- 3) For the chosen factor, record and analyze the tuition data for these groups of colleges. (For example, if you are trying to decide between attending a Division I or Division II college in your state, record one column of data for all Division I tuition costs and another column of data for all Division II tuition costs.)
- 4) Create a boxplot and histogram of one of the data fields (ex. cost) that you have at least five data points. Discuss the center and spread of the data and how it would impact the college you choose. Identify the most appropriate measure of center. Justify your thinking.
- 5) Explain the role, if any, that costs play in choosing a college.

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Family Directions

- 1) Research tuition costs of colleges you would consider attending. Record these costs.

College #1 Name: _____ Cost: \$ _____ semester

College #2 Name: _____ Cost: \$ _____ semester

College #3 Name: _____ Cost: \$ _____ semester

College #4 Name: _____ Cost: \$ _____ semester

College #5 Name: _____ Cost: \$ _____ semester

- 2) Group the colleges according to a factor that is important to you and check which colleges offer (two-year versus four-year, scholarship availability, location, housing, diversity, clubs/sports, size, religion, Division I vs. II, etc.)

Most Important Factor to You: _____

Check which colleges offer:

College #1 College #2 College #3 College #4 College #5

- 3) For the chosen factor, record and analyze the tuition data for these groups of colleges. (For example, if you are trying to decide between attending a Division I or Division II college in your state, record one column of data for all Division I tuition costs and another column of data for all Division II tuition costs.)

