

# Tip of the Month

Staying the course to meet your education funding goals is as important as ever. Recent data released by The College Board puts this in perspective. The cost of a college education continues to climb, but the assistance of financial aid also provides families with a high degree of success to reach this important goal. Let's take a look:

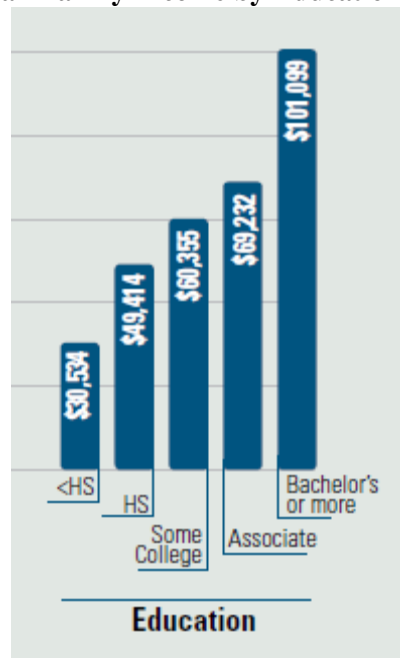
**Tuition & Fees, Room & Board Average (2009 – 2010)**

<i>Type of Institution</i>	<i>Annual Cost</i>	<i>Increase from 2008 - 2009</i>
Public 4 Year (New England)	\$18,394	N/A
Private (NFP) 4 Year (New England)	\$43,884	N/A
Public 4 Year In-State (National)	\$15,213	5.9%
Public 4 Year Out-of-State (National)	\$26,741	6.0%
Private (NFP) 4 Year (National)	\$35,636	4.3%

**Total financial aid per full-time equivalent (FTE) student** increased 42%, from \$8,354 (in constant 2008 dollars) in 1998-99 to \$11,842 in 2008-09. At the same time, nonfederal loans per student increased 133%, from about \$360 to about \$840 per student.

More importantly, the value of a college education reaps rewards throughout a graduate's life, as their potential for future income grows significantly depending on their achieved education level.

**Median Family Income by Education (2008)**



If you would like to discuss your education funding goals, please give us a call.

Source: *Trends in College Pricing*.

Source: *Trends in Student Aid*.

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*Trends in Student Aid* and its companion report, *Trends in College Pricing*, are supplemented by a website that makes detailed data available for reference and downloading. PDF versions of these reports, along with PowerPoint slides of all of the graphs, are available on the Web:

[www.collegeboard.com/trends](http://www.collegeboard.com/trends).