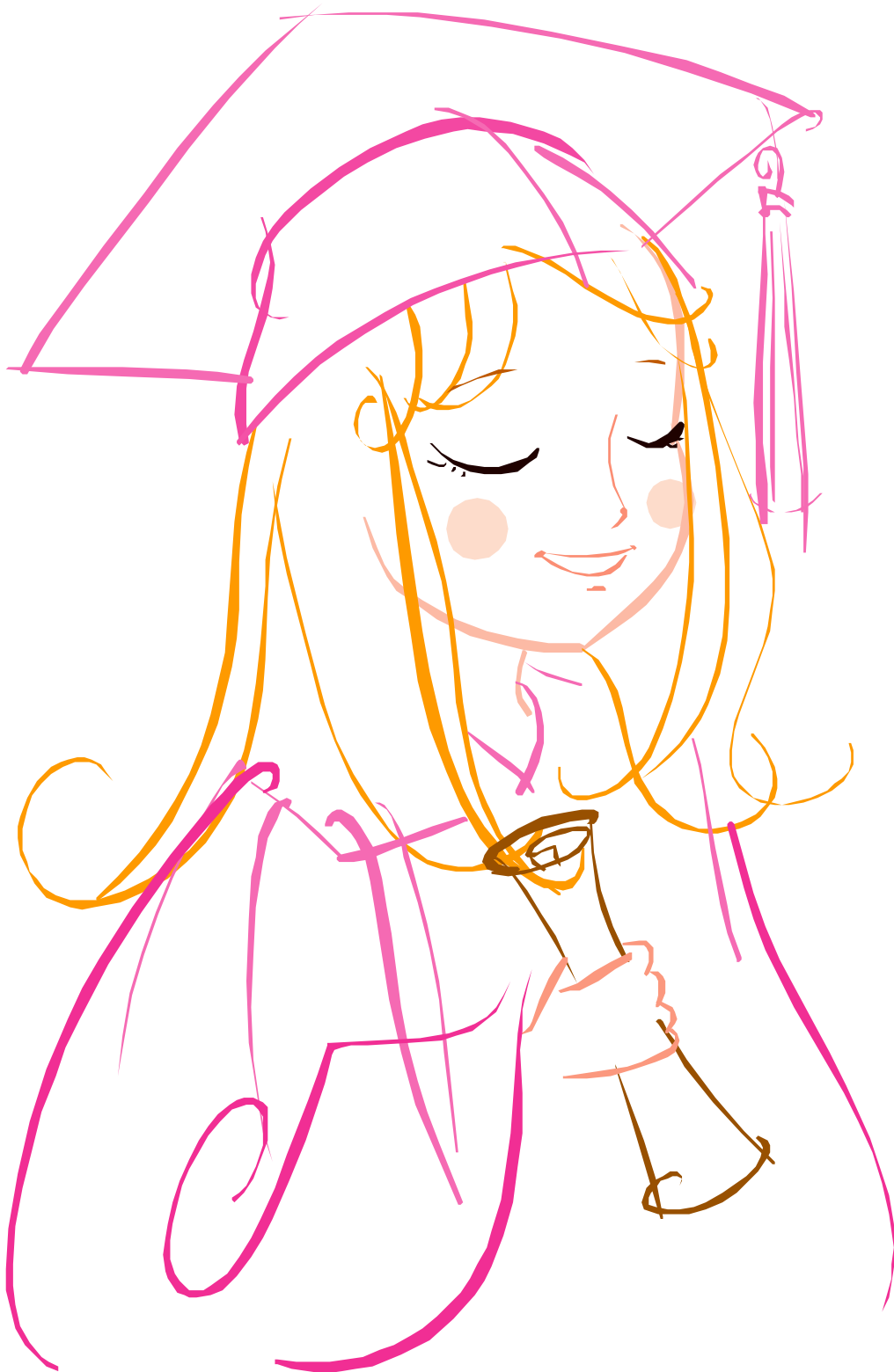


# Plan Your Child's Education.



According to the Oppenheimer Funds Web site, the cost of a college education during the 2004–2005 school year was \$20,082 for annual tuition at a private college or \$5,354 at a public college. With the addition of a year's room-and-board expenses, those numbers rose to \$27,516 and \$11,354, respectively. That's why no matter how young your child is; the time to start planning for financing his or her education is now.

Oppenheimer recommends the following four steps to optimize your college-fund plan:

- Ask yourself how long you have to invest your money. The longer you have to invest, the better chance you have at reaching your goals.
- Ask yourself how much the college education you want to give your child will cost. Will you send your child to a public or a private school?
- Decide how much money you will invest. This will depend on several factors. The college you choose to send your child to, the length of time you have to invest, the funds you have available to invest, and how your investments do over time.
- Create your college-fund investment plan. Look at your goals and the time you have, and you will be able to determine a reasonable plan for yourself. You may also want to consider 529 plans, a tax-advantaged way to save for higher education; Coverdell Education Savings Accounts, formerly known as education IRAs; and mutual funds.