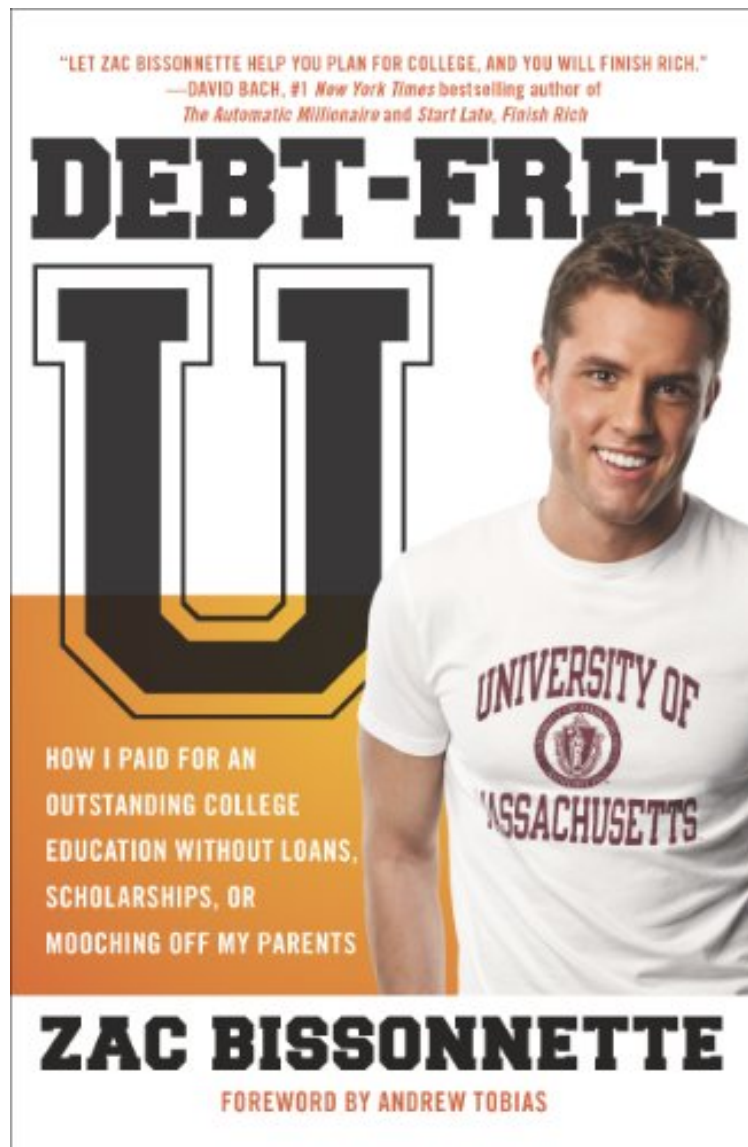


(Library ebook) Debt-Free U: How I Paid for an Outstanding College Education Without Loans, Scholarships, or Mooching off My Parents

Debt-Free U: How I Paid for an Outstanding College Education Without Loans, Scholarships, or Mooching off My Parents

Zac Bissonnette

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Zac Bissonnette : Debt-Free U: How I Paid for an Outstanding College Education Without Loans, Scholarships, or Mooching off My Parents before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Debt-Free U: How I Paid for an Outstanding College Education Without Loans, Scholarships, or Mooching off My Parents:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Must have for parents and the college bound
By S. Augusto
Really useful for shifting your thinking about college financial packages. Will change your mind about your misty-eyed thinking about the college experience. I will offer two caveats though: 1) a few of the chapters are obviously filler, especially towards the end, and 2) being a product of the ivy league experience, I can't fully endorse the idea that all ivy league education is crap (it did teach me how to think, I met a lot of diverse super-smart people, and the eyebrow raising effect has its moments, and much, much more).

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Must-read text for middle-class parents sending kids to college! Sound advice and good strategies for staying solvent.
By Blonde Bombshell
With one kid getting ready for college, and another only a year behind, I felt it was time to get informed about the college process. Debt-Free U by Zac Bissonnette is a perfect way to counter all your crazy parental notions about going into debt to send your precious babies to the best schools on earth. Zac talked sense into me (although my daughter wouldn't read it, so she's still gung-ho to go into debt). I've already recommended it to another parent, and wish all parents had to read it before they put a second-mortgage on the house. Hope we can live up to the message of the book...

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Recommended Reading for College Counselors
By Alison Cotter, College Application Essay Coach
As a Community College writing instructor for many years, I have a deep appreciation for Bissonnette's view that quality education is not synonymous with name recognition when it comes to choosing a college. His insight into the skyrocketing cost of a four-year college education, along with his smart and highly practical recommendations on how to avoid it, is eye-opening. His book should be required reading for college counselors at high schools everywhere, as well as for all of us who work in the field as independent consultants. I always advise parents NOT to read their student's college application essay. Now, I'll give them this book to read instead! Thank you, Zac, for this inspiring and important work. It will definitely alleviate some of the pressure that parents--and students--experience as they approach senior year. For piece of mind (and perspective), this book is fantastic!

This book can save you more than \$100,000. These days, most people assume you need to pay a boatload of money for a quality college education. As a result, students and their parents are willing to go into years of debt and potentially sabotage their entire financial futures just to get a fancy name on their diploma. But Zac Bissonnette is walking proof that this assumption is not only false, but dangerous—a class con game designed to rip you off and doom your student to a post-graduation life of near poverty. From his unique double perspective—he's a personal finance expert (at Daily Finance) AND a current senior at the University of Massachusetts—Zac figured out how to get an outstanding education at a public college, without bankrupting his parents or taking on massive loans. Armed with his personal knowledge, the latest data, and smart analysis, Zac takes on the sacred cows of the higher education establishment. He reveals why a lot of the conventional wisdom about choosing and financing college is not only wrong but hazardous to you and your child's financial future. You'll discover, for instance, that:

- * Student loans are NOT a necessary evil. Ordinary middle class families can- and must-find ways to avoid them, even without scholarships.
- * College "rankings" are useless—designed to sell magazines and generate hype. If you trust one of the major guides when picking a college, you face a potential financial disaster.
- * The elite graduate programs accept lots of people with non-elite bachelors degrees. So do America's most selective employers. The name on a diploma ultimately won't help your child have a more successful career or earn more money. Zac can prove every one of those bold assertions - and more. No matter what your current financial situation, he has a simple message for parents: "RELAX! Your kid will be able to get a champagne education on a beer budget!"

From Booklist
In keeping with the new frugality, this college guide, written by a senior attending the University of Massachusetts, offers practical advice on how to pay for college without taking out loans. Decidedly old school in approach, Bissonnette advocates that students should bear the brunt of paying for their educations by working while in college and during breaks. He also suggests that attending community college for two years before transferring to a four-year college or university would go a long way toward cutting costs. Systematically and amusingly debunking the selection criteria used by U.S. News and World Report and others to rank elite colleges, Bissonnette is a strong advocate of attending reasonably priced state schools. He makes good points about how debt from student loans often prevents recent grads from starting families or buying homes. He also presents convincing research that elite graduate programs and selective employers accept plenty of people who have attended nonelite schools. Although the strictly dollars-and-cents approach to higher education may not sit well with some parents, this is a timely guide to a decision that has important financial ramifications. --Joanne Wilkinson "If the National Association for College Admissions Counseling had anticipated the dire consequences of one of the smartest teenagers in America encountering the ill-examined assumptions of their profession, they might have found some way to buy him off, maybe a full ride scholarship to Harvard. Too late. Bissonnette is 21 now, a senior at the University of Massachusetts. He has written the best and most troubling book ever about the college admissions process." -Jay Mathews, "The Washington Post" "Let Zac Bissonnette help you plan for college—where to go, what to study, and how to pay for it—and you will finish rich" -David Bach #1 "New York Times" bestselling author of "The Automatic Millionaire" and "Start Late, Finish

Rich" "In the new economy, your college choice is critical. Zac Bissonnette's "Debt-Free U" is the one book you need to make this life-changing decision-- thoroughly researched, smart, and funny. Grade: A+." -Ali Rogers, CBS Moneywatch. Author, "Diary of a Real Estate Rookie" "With Bissonnette, college-bound students and their parents finally have an unbiased source to help make an educated decision about choosing and affording college. Not to mention, his advice can help you pocket tens if not hundreds of thousands of dollars. Want to make a smart investment in this economy? Buy "Debt-Free U"." -Farnoosh Torabi, financial expert and author of "Psych Yourself Rich" About the Author Zac Bissonnette wrote two acclaimed bestsellers before his 24th birthday: Debt-Free Unbound and How to Be Richer, Smarter, and Better-Looking Than Your Parents. He has written for Wall Street Journal, Boston Globe Magazine, Daily Beast, and NYTimes.com, among others. Andrew Tobias was born in New York, attended Harvard College and Harvard Business School, and has written extensively for 25 years on subjects relating to money, business, and personal finance. He has received both the Gerald Loeb Award for Distinguished Business and Financial Journalism and the Consumer Federation of America Media Service Award. He lives in Miami, New York, and cyberspace.