



**SCHOOL OF BIOMEDICAL  
ENGINEERING**  
**COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY**

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS**

If you're comparing graduate programs in different cities and want to know the fiscal realities of living in Fort Collins, Colorado, we've prepared a chart showing the cost-of-living indices of major cities across the country and how they compare to Fort Collins.

2020 COST OF LIVING INDEX		
City, State	Cost of Living Indices*	Compared to Fort Collins, CO
Fort Collins, CO	118.3	
Atlanta, GA	107.5	Cheaper
Baltimore, MD	88.2	Cheaper
Berkeley, CA	235.2	More expensive
Cambridge, MA	181.8	More expensive
Durham, NC	95.2	Cheaper
Houston, TX	96.5	Cheaper
La Jolla, CA	160.1	More expensive
Philadelphia, PA	101.2	Cheaper
Seattle, WA	172.3	More expensive
Stanford, CA	463.1	More expensive

\*Cost of living indices are based on a U.S. average of 100. An amount below 100 means the city is cheaper than the U.S. average; whereas a cost of living index above 100 means a city is more expensive.

**The websites below provide further information to help you make an informed decision when comparing your options.**

Smart Asset (*calculator showing cost of living comparisons, including tax, housing, and food*)

<https://smartasset.com/mortgage/cost-of-living-calculator>

Compare Rents in U.S. Cities and Counties (*shows median monthly rent estimates for studio, 1BR, 2BR, 3BR*)

<http://www.rentingbycity.com/compare-rent-input.php>

Expatistan (*shows city comparisons for food, housing, clothes, transportation, entertainment and personal care*)

<https://www.expatistan.com/cost-of-living/comparison/>

Moving.com (*shows demographics, income, jobs, ethnicity, and residential data for U.S. cities*)

<https://www.moving.com/real-estate/compare-cities/>

Grad Sense (*graduate student budget calculator*)

<http://gradsense.org/gradsense/budget-calculator>

Colorado State University Off-campus Life Resources (*housing options, rental search & much more!*)

<http://ocl.colostate.edu/>