

CAREER CHOICES

After College—Where Do I Go Now?

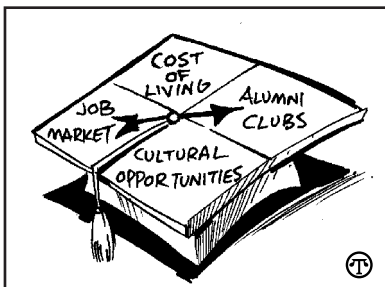
(NAPSA)—As college seniors face their final semester, one question looms large: Where do I go now? To help new graduates answer that question, the Metro Denver Network, a partnership of Colorado's leading businesses and economic development organizations, has compiled a list of key factors in deciding where to land after graduation.

- **Job market**—In the current market, competition for jobs can be fierce. Thorough research into the job market in the area of your choice will pay off when you choose a city with a robust economy that will serve you well in your post-college career.

- **Cost of living**—While \$350 might be enough for an apartment in college, the reality is, most large cities require much more than that for a decent post-college place. Do a cost-of-living comparison online to determine just how far your future salary will go.

- **Recreation facilities**—You got used to walking across campus, so you'll be looking for every excuse to get outside once you've entered the working world. Find a city that is conducive to your recreation of choice—whether that's a hip gym, a city park, a walking path, a winding river or a nearby pool.

- **Transportation**—Determine your comfort level with mass



The right job will be impacted by where you choose to live.

transportation. Many residents of large cities rely on buses, subways or carpools to get to work each day. Make sure you know how much traffic is too much for you.

- **Cultural opportunities**—Look into museums, concert venues, theaters, sports arenas, shopping centers and other attractions that interest you. The larger the city, the more likely it will [be to] have multiple outlets for culture.

- **Local alumni clubs**—Before you move, investigate whether your alma mater has a local alumni club in your future town. Staying in touch with fellow classmates after graduation will not only help you feel more at home in the new city, but also will help with networking for future job searches.

For more tips from the Metro Denver Network on post-graduate moves, visit www.denverchamber.org.