Choosing a College:

How to find the right one for you

Ascendium

2019-20 Academic Year

WHEN YOU FIND THE RIGHT COLLEGE FIT

- ACADEMICALLY
- SOCIALLY
- FINANCIALLY

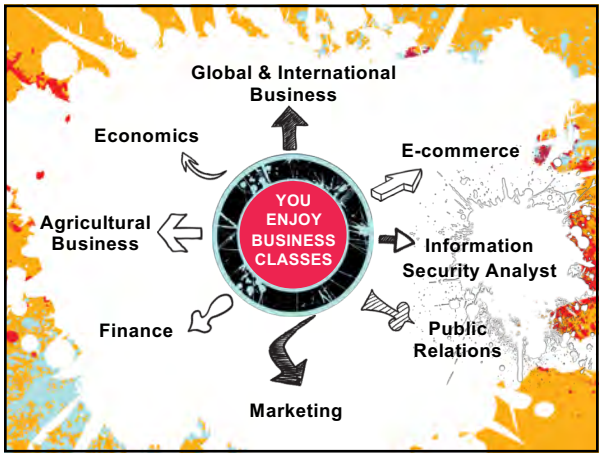
You're more likely to:

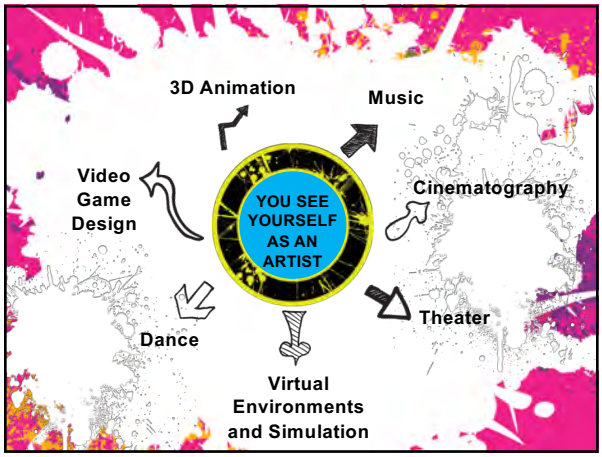
START BY ASKING YOURSELF SOME QUESTIONS

- What do you want to study?
- How long do you want to go to college?
- What features are important to you?
- Do you meet the admission requirements?
- What will it cost to attend?

WHAT DO YOU
WANT TO STUDY?

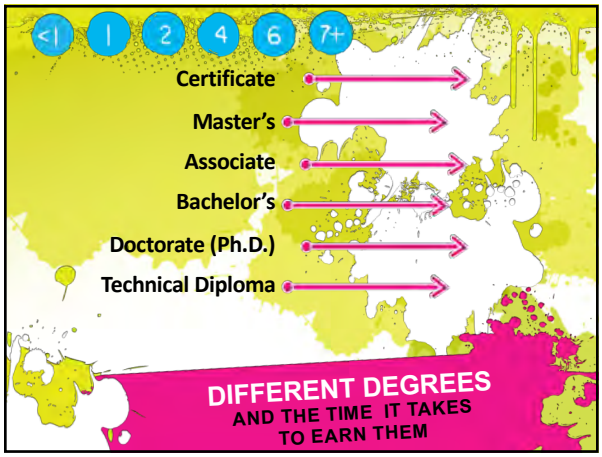
YOUR INTERESTS
CAN BECOME THE MAJOR
OR PROGRAM YOU STUDY
Think about:
What your favorite classes are
What your hobbies are
What you love to do
What you can see yourself doing after high school

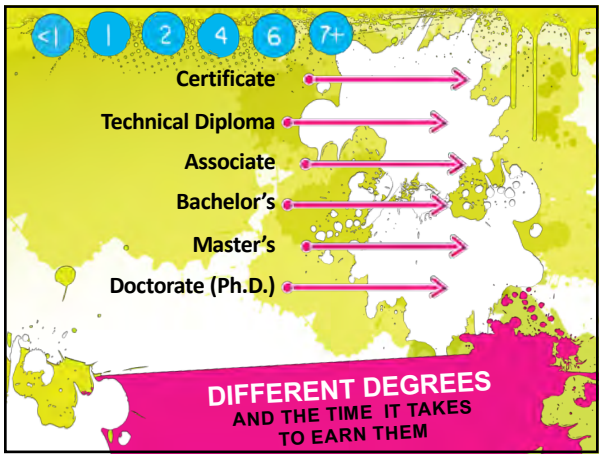

Global & International Business
Economics
E-commerce
YOU ENJOY BUSINESS CLASSES
Agricultural Business
Information Security Analyst
Finance
Public Relations
Marketing


3D Animation
Music
Video Game Design
YOU SEE YOURSELF AS AN ARTIST
Cinematography
Theater
Dance
Virtual Environments and Simulation

Fishing & Wildlife
Certified Nursing Assistant
Farming & Agriculture
YOU LIKE WORKING WITH YOUR HANDS
Welding
Machine Tool Operations
Culinary Arts
Construction and Remodeling

BASCOM HALL
HOW LONG DO YOU WANT TO GO TO COLLEGE?


<1
1
2
4
6
7+
Certificate
Master's
Associate
Bachelor's
Doctorate (Ph.D.)
Technical Diploma
DIFFERENT DEGREES
AND THE TIME IT TAKES
TO EARN THEM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DIFFERENT DEGREES
AND THE TIME IT TAKES
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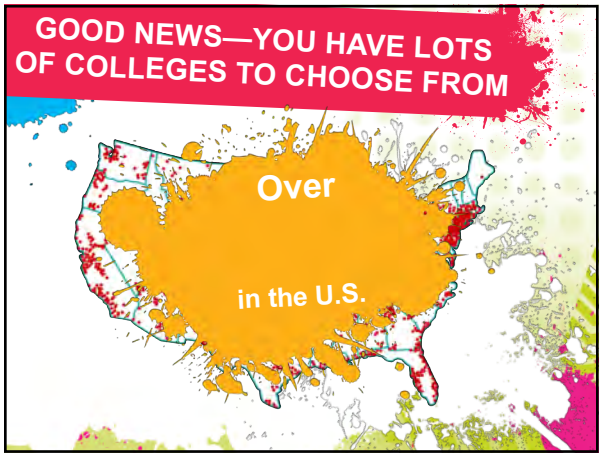
DIFFERENT COLLEGES OFFER
DIFFERENT MAJORS, PROGRAMS, AND DEGREES
TECHNICAL COLLEGE—
Certificate, Technical Diploma
and Associate Degree
2-YEAR COLLEGES—
Associate Degree
4-YEAR COLLEGES—
Bachelor's Degree

GOOD NEWS—YOU HAVE LOTS OF COLLEGES TO CHOOSE FROM



Public *Non*profit

Private *Non*profit

Private *For*-profit

What are the differences?

Public *Non*profit

- Eligible for State Aid
- Credits may transfer

Private *Non*profit

- Eligible for State Aid
- Credits may transfer

Private *For*-profit

- **NOT Eligible** for most State Aid
- Credits likely will **NOT transfer**
- Tuition costs could be up to **4.5 TIMES HIGHER**

DIFFERENT COLLEGES OFFER
DIFFERENT MAJORS, PROGRAMS AND DEGREES

- **Madison Area Technical College**
  - Technical Diploma in Nursing (1 year)
  - Associate Degree in Nursing (2 years)
- **UW-Madison**
  - Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing (4 years)
- **Edgewood College**
  - Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing (4 years)

DIFFERENT COLLEGES OFFER
DIFFERENT MAJORS, PROGRAMS AND DEGREES

- **Northcentral Technical College**
  - Welding Robotic Operation Technical Diploma (1 year)
  - Welding Technical Diploma (1 year)
  - Welding Fabrication & Robotics Associate Degree (2 years)
- **Mid-State Technical College**
  - Welding Technical Diploma (1 year)

DIFFERENT COLLEGES OFFER
DIFFERENT MAJORS, PROGRAMS AND DEGREES

BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN ENGLISH

☐ **vs.** ☐

UW-Milwaukee **UW-Stout**

DIFFERENT COLLEGES OFFER
DIFFERENT MAJORS, PROGRAMS AND DEGREES

APPLIANCE TECHNICIAN DIPLOMA

☐ **vs.** ☐

Milwaukee Area Technical College

Madison Area Technical College

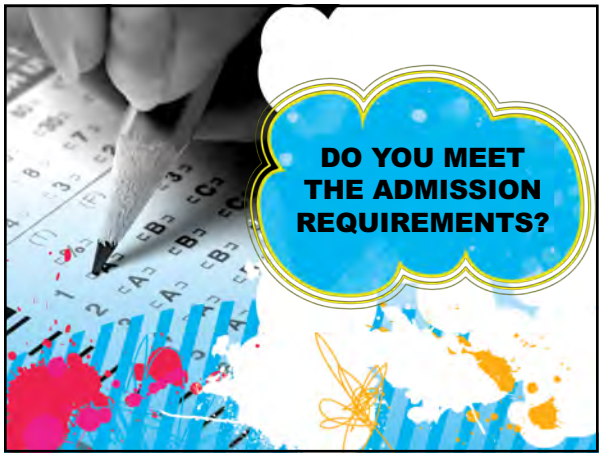
DIFFERENT COLLEGES OFFER
DIFFERENT MAJORS, PROGRAMS AND DEGREES

Do some research:

- Visit college websites to see what programs or majors they offer
- Ask your counselors and teachers for help
- Use websites to find and compare colleges
  - **bigfuture.org**
  - College Navigator (**nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator**)

Location/setting
Size
THINK ABOUT
Retention & graduation rates
Housing options
Student population

Are there things to do that interest you when you are not in class?
- Sporting events
- Music
- Theatre
- Cultural activities
- Religious activities
- Campus groups


DO YOU MEET THE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS?

KNOW WHAT IT TAKES TO GET INTO THE COLLEGES YOU ARE INTERESTED IN

Technical colleges

Open enrollment

- Requires a high school diploma
- Typically no GPA requirement

KNOW WHAT IT TAKES TO GET INTO THE COLLEGES YOU ARE INTERESTED IN

2-year and 4-year colleges

Search college websites

- Admission requirements
  - Required high school classes
  - Grade point average
  - Standardized test scores
    - ACT or SAT taken your junior or senior year

WHAT WILL IT COST TO ATTEND?

The cost of college includes

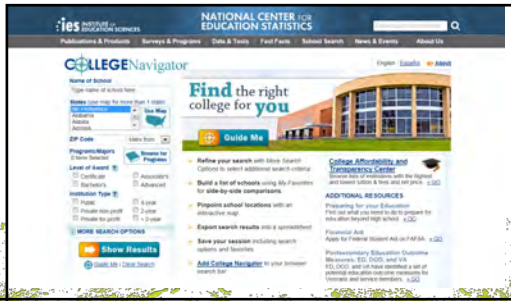
- Tuition and fees
- Room and board (where you live and what you eat)
- Books and supplies
- Travel and personal expenses

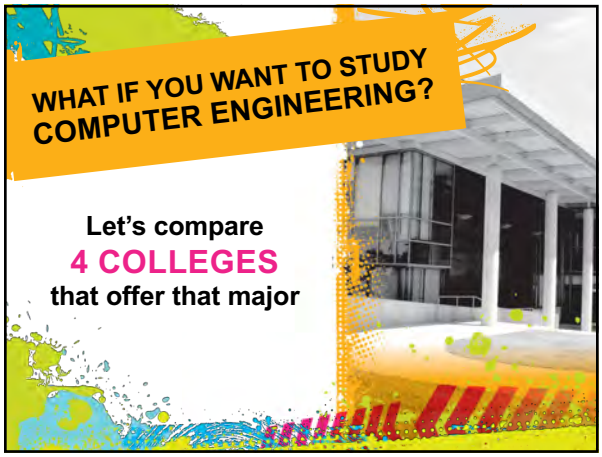
APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID

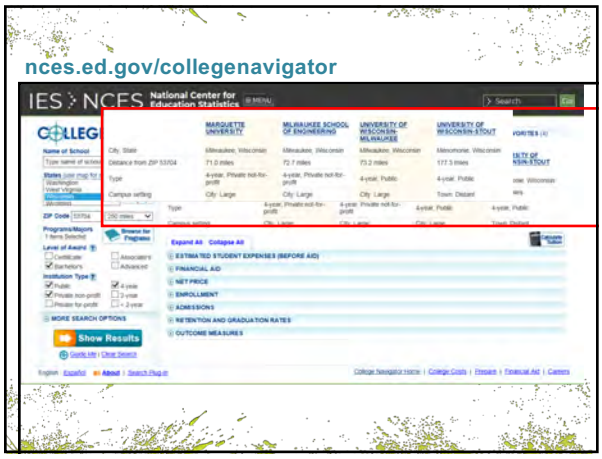
- **Complete the FAFSA®**
  (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
- **Financial aid can lower the cost of college**
  - Grants
  - Work-study
  - Scholarships
  - Student loans

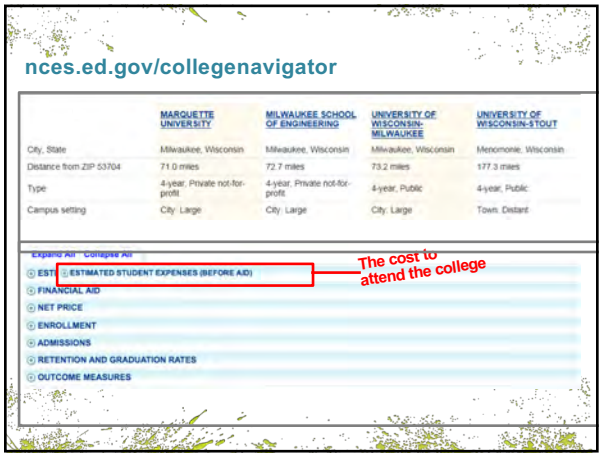
USE COLLEGE NAVIGATOR TO COMPARE COLLEGES

nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator




WHAT IF YOU WANT TO STUDY COMPUTER ENGINEERING?
Let's compare
4 COLLEGES
that offer that major


nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator
IES NCES National Center for Education Statistics
Show Results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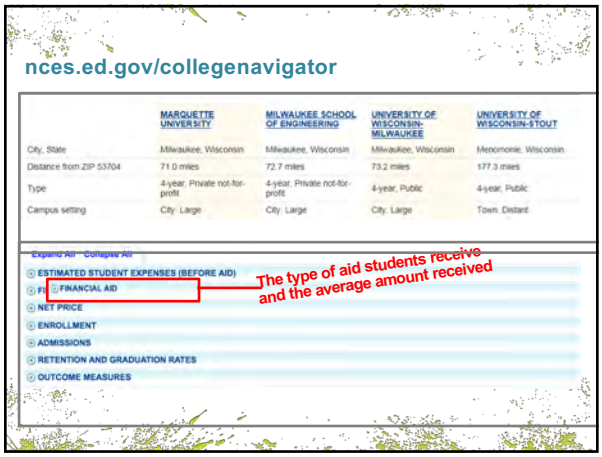
MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY
MILWAUKEE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-STOUT
City, State
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Menomonie, Wisconsin
Distance from ZIP 53704
71.0 miles
72.7 miles
73.2 miles
177.3 miles
Type
4-year, Private not-for-profit
4-year, Private not-for-profit
4-year, Public
4-year, Public
Campus setting
City: Large
City: Large
City: Large
Town: Distant
ESTIMATED STUDENT EXPENSES (BEFORE AID)
The cost to attend the college
FINANCIAL AID
NET PRICE
ENROLLMENT
ADMISSIONS
RETENTION AND GRADUATION RATES
OUTCOME MEASURES

nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator



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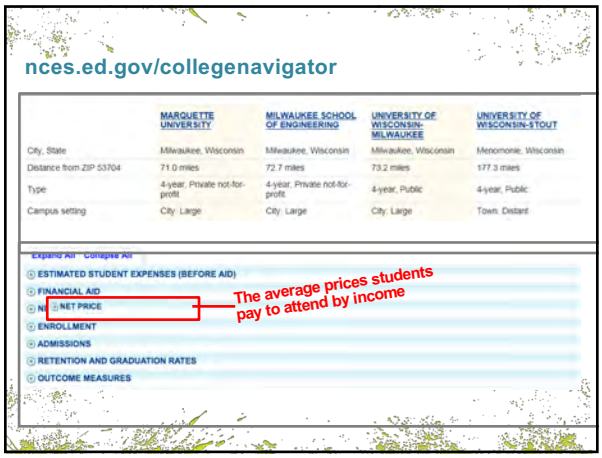

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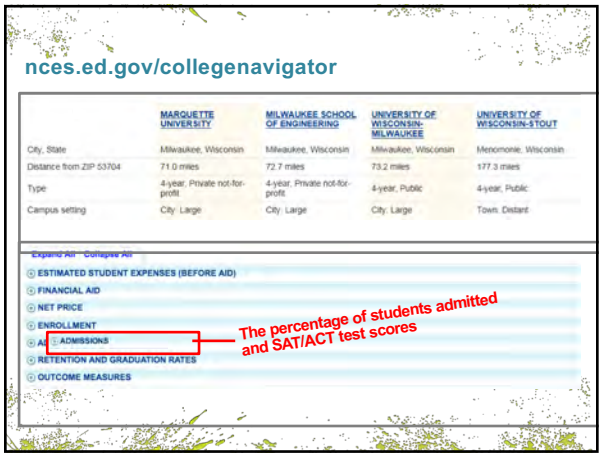
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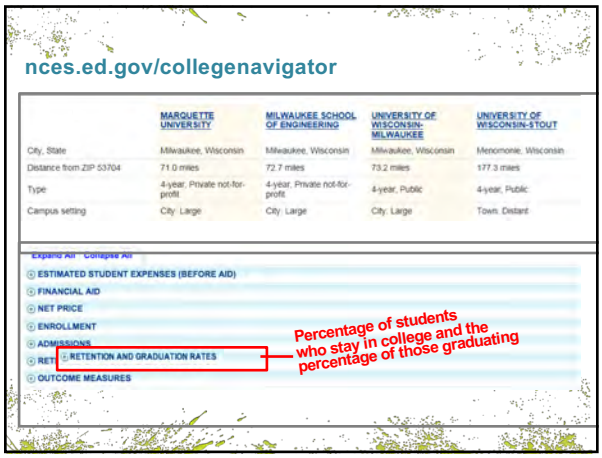
OUTCOME MEASURES
The percentage of students admitted and SAT/ACT test scores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RETENTION AND GRADUATION RATES
OUTCOME MEASURES
Percentage of students who stay in college and the percentage of those graduating

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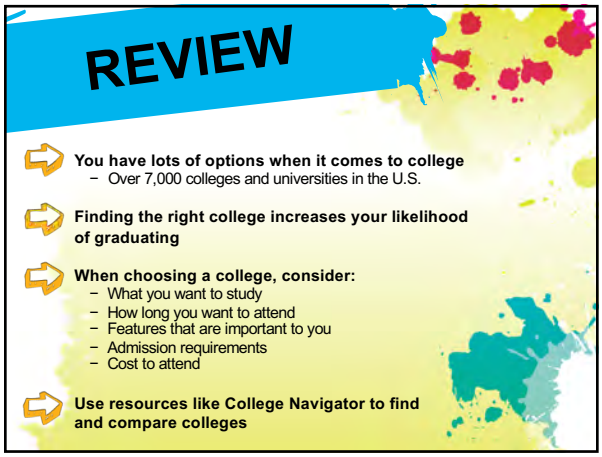
FINANCIAL AID
NET PRICE
ENROLLMENT
ADMISSIONS
RETENTION AND GRADUATION RATES
OUTCOME MEASURES
The number of students who earn a degree/certificate within 6 or 8 years

PLANNING YOUR
COLLEGE VISIT

SEE IT
FOR YOURSELF
Go to the college's website and search "visit" or "tour campus"
Find contact information to call and set up your visit or ask questions
Schedule your visit while college classes are in session (ideally Monday through Thursday)
Ask if the college sponsors an overnight program to get an even better feel for the campus

Lets you talk to college admissions representatives about:
Available programs, majors, and degrees
Cost
Admission requirements
Other features of the college
YOU SHOULD ALSO
ATTEND COLLEGE FAIRS


REVIEW
You have lots of options when it comes to college
– Over 7,000 colleges and universities in the U.S.
Finding the right college increases your likelihood of graduating
When choosing a college, consider:
– What you want to study
– How long you want to attend
– Features that are important to you
– Admission requirements
– Cost to attend
Use resources like College Navigator to find and compare colleges

THANK YOU
FOR ATTENDING
Ascendium
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