Choosing a College:
How to find the right one for you

ACADEMICALLY
SOCIALY
FINANCIALLY

2020-21 Academic Year

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?

When you find the right college fit

• ACADEMICALLY
• SOCIALY
• FINANCIALLY

You're more likely to:
GRADUATE

Start by asking yourself some questions

GRADUATE
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

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

YOU LIKE WORKING WITH YOUR HANDS

HOW LONG DO YOU WANT TO GO TO COLLEGE?
DEGREES AND THE TIME IT TAKES TO EARN THEM

1. Certificate
2. Technical Diploma
3. Associate
4. Bachelor's
5. Master's
6. Doctorate (Ph.D.)

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
Public Nonprofit
Private Nonprofit
Private For-profit
What are the differences?

Public Nonprofit
• Eligible for State Aid
• Credits may transfer

Private Nonprofit
• 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 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

UW-Milwaukee vs. UW-Stout
APPLIANCE TECHNICIAN DIPLOMA

Milwaukee Area Technical College vs. Madison College

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)

WHAT FEATURES ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU?
THINK ABOUT

Location/setting
Size
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?
Technical colleges
Open enrollment
• Requires a high school diploma
• Typically no GPA requirement

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
Let's compare 4 COLLEGES that offer that major.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College Name</th>
<th>BACHELORS</th>
<th>MASTER'S</th>
<th>DOCTORAL</th>
<th>TOTAL ENROLLMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Wisconsin-Madison</td>
<td>Bachelor's</td>
<td>Master's</td>
<td>Doctoral</td>
<td>10000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee</td>
<td>Bachelor's</td>
<td>Master's</td>
<td>Doctoral</td>
<td>5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Wisconsin-Madison</td>
<td>Bachelor's</td>
<td>Master's</td>
<td>Doctoral</td>
<td>3000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The type of aid students receive and the average amount received.

The average prices students pay to attend by income.

The genders, racial/ethnicities, and ages of students attending.
### Table: College Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Campus Setting</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Madison</td>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>4-year, Private</td>
<td>City, Large</td>
<td>nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee, Wisconsin</td>
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#### Data Points:
- **Percentage of students admitted and SAT/ACT test scores**
- **Percentage of students who stay in college and the percentage of those graduating**
- **The number of students who earn a degree/certificate within 5 or 6 years**
PLANNING YOUR COLLEGE VISIT

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

SEE IT FOR YOURSELF

Let’s 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

- Available programs, majors, and degrees
- Cost
- Admission requirements
- Other features of the college
You have lots of options when it comes to college
- Over 6,000 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