



Types of Colleges

	Public	Liberal Arts	Two-year and Vocational Programs
Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • four-year program • subsidized by state governments which allows for lower tuition for in-state students • often large in size • wide variety of program offerings • include liberal arts but also offer additional programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • four-year program • often high tuition which can be countered by the school's own financial aid • generally small to mid-sized • small classes and low faculty to student ratios • less emphasis on a specific degree; more centered around an appreciation for learning and the interconnectedness of all subjects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • two-year programs and certificate programs that are usually twelve to eighteen-month programs • also called community college, junior college, technical institute or trade school • academic pathways • career-oriented training that is focused and can be obtained quickly • very affordable if accessed through a public school
Academic Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • range from open admission to more selective • English, social studies, science, math through algebra II and a year or two of a foreign language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • selective • Honors and Advanced Placement courses • four years of English, social studies, science, math through calculus and at least two years of a foreign language • GPA in the top 20% (or higher) of class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • open admission
Application Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • simple application process – paper or online • occasionally require personal statements or recommendation letters • ACT or SAT • submit FAFSA by school's priority deadline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • most accept Common Application • personal essays • recommendation letters • submit FAFSA and CSS by school's priority deadline • ACT or SAT (often with essay and sometimes SAT subject tests) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • simple application process – paper or online • no essays or letters of recommendation required • need to take placement test in lieu of SAT or ACT • submit FAFSA by school's priority deadline
Typical Degrees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor's degrees • Master's degrees • Doctorate degrees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor's degrees • some liberal arts schools offer Master's degrees • often students go on to graduate school to pursue Master's degrees and/or Doctorate degrees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Associate degrees • Associate degrees can be used as a way to easily transfer into a four-year program to obtain a Bachelor's degree • a variety of Certificates in technical and vocational fields of study such as mechanics, cosmetology, fire science, and health fields