Comparing Colleges

## Who are you?          *START HERE: https://jobseeker.k-12.ohiomeansjobs.monster.com/ExploreIt/DefaultCci.aspx#/welcome* What do you like?  *Where* would you be happy?  Where is the best fit for you? TYPES OF COLLEGES

**Liberal Arts College**  
a. four year college education in the arts, humanities, social sciences, and the sciences  
b. emphasizes broad undergraduate education  
c. pre-professional or professional training may be available but is not stressed  
d. **examples:**Centre College, Hanover College, Kenyon College

**University**  
a. composed of a number of “schools” or “colleges” – includes a liberal arts college and other specialized colleges, such as business, engineering, agriculture, law, or medicine  
b. grants undergraduate and graduate degrees in a variety of fields  
c. supports at least two degree granting professional schools, such as medicine or journalism  
d. **examples:**Ohio State University, University of Cincinnati, Ohio Northern University, Case Western Reserve University

**Junior College or Community College**  
a. two year institution of higher learning  
b. provides academic, curricular, and vocational training (terminal or transfer)  
 1) terminal course – academic program is complete in itself  
 2) transfer course – academic course is designed to lead into a four year course at another university or college  
c. grants associate degrees (usually two years in length)  
d. **examples:**Sinclair**,** Raymond Walters College, Cincinnati State, Clark State

**Engineering or Technological College**  
a. independent professional school  
b. provides four year training in fields of engineering and the physical sciences  
c. often known as Institutes of Technology or Polytechnic Institutes  
d. **examples:**Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Georgia Institute of Technology

**Technical School**  
a. two year institution  
b. offers terminal occupation programs  
c. intended to prepare student for immediate employment  
d. may offer one or two year certificate programs in certain crafts and clerical skills  
e. may offer associate degrees  
f. **example:**Hocking Technical College

**Military Schools**  
a. offer a variety of degree programs  
b. concentration in various aspects of military service  
c. federal military academies  
 1) require recommendations and appointments by members of Congress  
 2) prepares officers for the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, and Coast Guard  
 3) **examples:**United States Military Academy, United States Naval Academy, United States Coast Guard Academy  
d. private and state supported military institutions  
 1) operate on college admission application basis  
 2) **examples:**Virginia Military Institute, The Citadel

**Public or private college?**Large vs. Small. Private colleges are smaller and more expensive.  
  
**Large or small?**500, 2500, 5,000, 10, 000, 25,000 students?  
  
**Hot or cold weather?**Sun, rain, snow?  
  
**Sports important?**

NCAA?   Use The College Handbook by College Board to find NCAA programs.  
  
**College major?**Use the College Board Book of Majors to find college majors.  
  
**Small town or large city?**In or near a big city? small town?, medium size.  
  
**In state or out-of-state?**How far do you want to be from your home?  
  
**How selective?**Look at the mid SAT range (cr510-610, m520-620, wr560-600)  
  
Are your scores above or below these numbers?  
  
Are you competitive or do you need to look at colleges with a different test score range?  
  
Students looking at highly selective colleges need to have a weighted GPA around 3.8 to 4.00 or higher. Some students enter with a 4.2, 4.4 or 4.6 GPA.  
  
**What is your grade point average?**3.00 or higher?  Top ¼ of your class?  Top half of your class? SAT scores?  Most colleges list the SAT range (cr510-610, m520-620,   
wr600-620)  
  
**Do you take AP classes?**Highly selective colleges expect you to take AP classes.  
  
**Special needs?**Learning disability? Use the K&W Guide to find special program.  
  
**Special interests?**ROTC, women only, historically black colleges, art colleges?  
  
**College Search Web Sites:**    
Princeton Review**www.princetonreview.com**Kaplan:**www.kaplan.com**College Board:**www.collegeboard.com**

Department of Education: **https://collegescorecard.ed.gov**

Voluntary Consortium: [**www.collegeportraits.org**](http://www.collegeportraits.org)

National Center for Education Statistics: **https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/**

**Web Sites for College Rankings:**U.S. News: http://colleges.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/college  
Forbes: http://www.forbes.com  
College Prowler: http://collegeprowler.com/rankings/