

College Vocabulary

College Types and types of Degrees Vocabulary

Public Institutions – are run primarily through the use of state and federal funds that are supplemented by tuition, fees, donations and endowment. In general, public institutions are less expensive than private institutions, but tuition is paid on two levels:

- State Residents – Students who can prove that they live in a particular state pay a lower tuition because it is assumed that their families taxes' support the institution.
- Out of State Residents – Students who reside in another state or internationally pay a higher tuition.

CUNY – City University of New York. A public 2 or 4 year institution within the five boroughs of New York City.

SUNY – State University of New York. – A public school system that has 2 or 4 year institutions within New York State. A majority of the schools are located upstate New York with the exception of The Fashion Institute of Technology, Farmingdale, Old Westbury, Stony Brook, Suffolk Community College, Nassau Community College and Maritime.

Private Institutions: These colleges and universities are run primarily through the use if tuition, donations and endowments.

Liberal Arts Colleges – focus on the education of undergraduate students. Classes are smaller than universities and more personal attention is available. As opposed to gaining information for a specific career path, students who attend liberal arts colleges are exposed to a broad base of courses in the humanities, social sciences and sciences. In addition, they select at least one area of in-depth study which is their college major.

Universities – are generally larger and include a liberal arts college, as well as some professionally-oriented colleges and graduate programs. Universities offer a greater range of academic choices than do liberal arts colleges. They will likely provide more extensive resources in terms of laboratory, library, fine arts and athletic facilities. At many large universities class size will reflect institutional size.

Technical Institutes, Conservatories and Professional Schools – enroll students who have made clear decisions about what they want to study. They emphasize preparation for specific careers, for example in music or fine arts, engineering or technical sciences (for example Julliard, Cooper Union, Pratt, Parsons). You will want to be quite sure of your future direction before selecting one of these options.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities – find their origins in the time when African American students were systemically denied access to most other colleges and

universities. Students at HBCU's have a unique opportunity to experience an educational community in which they are a part of the majority.

Men's and Women's Colleges – The majority of colleges and universities in the United States are coeducational, but there are schools where men and women study separately. In most cases, the institutions have relationships with other colleges and universities in their area that provide for both academic and social exchange.

Community or Junior Colleges – Generally offer the first two years of a liberal arts education in addition to specialized occupational preparation. An associate degree is awarded at the end of a two year program of studies, following which many students continue their education at a four-year institution.

Proprietary Colleges – are considered for profit companies that operate under investors. They attract adult learners and part-time students in search of a very specific field of study.

Associate Degree - This two-year degree is an Associate of Arts (A.A.) or Associate of Science (A.S.). Some students who earn this degree transfer to a four-year program to earn a bachelor's degree. Others complete associate degrees to prepare to go straight to work. Community colleges, career colleges and some four-year colleges offer these degrees.

Bachelors Degree - This degree requires completing a four- or five-year college program. Most students earn a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or Bachelor of Science degree (B.S.). Other types of bachelor's degrees include the Bachelor of Fine Arts or Bachelor of Architecture degree.

Graduate Degree - Graduate degrees are advanced degrees pursued after earning a bachelor's degree. Examples are a Master of Arts (M.A.) or Master of Science (M.S.) degree. Students generally can earn a master's degree after two years of study. A doctoral degree (for example, a Ph.D.) requires four or more years of study.

Professional Degree - Students earn professional degrees to become licensed to work in professions like medicine or law. The M.D. degree is an example. Professional programs generally require a college degree before you start them and then at least three years of study to complete.

Liberal Arts and Career Combination - In this program — also known as a 3-2 or dual-degree program — students usually complete three years of liberal arts study followed by two years of professional or technical study. In the end, students earn two bachelor's degrees, usually a B.A. and a B.S.

Associate of Applied Science Degree – AAS degree is designed for students seeking employment immediately upon graduation. Emphasis is placed on courses which enable

the student to gain theoretical knowledge important for working in human services and to apply concepts to specialized populations of their interest.

Certificate Programs - Certificate programs offer professional training in a specific field, such as real estate, refrigeration, computers or health care. More than half the certificate programs take a year or less to complete, which makes them a quick way to get a leg up in the job market

Testing and Grades

SAT – The SAT is used widely by college admissions offices. The SAT reasoning test has three sections—critical reading, math and writing. Each of these sections is graded on a 200-800 point scale. Once all three sections are combined the scores can range from 600-2400. SAT scores are cumulative, so colleges will see all of the student's test dates and scores. Colleges will however take the highest score of each section and add them together to combine them for a superscore. The SAT is given 7 times per academic year. Most students will take their first SAT in either May or June of their junior year and again in October, November or December of their senior year. The SAT may be taken multiple times .

SAT Subject Tests – These are one hour multiple choice exams given in specific subject areas. Some of the most competitive colleges require one or more of these tests for admission and other colleges use them for placement in college courses. Students need to ask the colleges if they require the SAT subject tests.

ACT – The ACT is a curriculum based test that includes four sections: English, Math, Reading and Science Reasoning. The writing section is optional. Each section is scored from 1-36 and students receive a single composite score of 1-36 which represents the average of the four scores. The test is administered six times a year and can be used for admissions testing in lieu of the SAT.

TOEFL – is the test of English as a Foreign Language. The TOEFL tests a student's ability in English and is a test for students whom English is not their first language. The test measures skills in reading, listening, speaking and writing in English and requires the student to combine two or more of these skills to respond to a question.

Advanced Placement Exams – AP exams are three-hour exams in specific subject

College Fair Tip Sheet

Before the Fair:

1. Ask yourself the following questions:
 - What major am I thinking about studying?
 - Would I consider commuting to college or would I prefer to stay in a dorm?
 - Do I want to attend college in New York or do I want to go out of state?
 - Do I want to participate in athletics, clubs, fraternities or sororities or special programs such as study abroad?
2. Research the colleges that are attending the fair to determine if they meet your search criteria.
3. Look at the list of questions to ask at a college fair and select which ones you would like to ask the college representatives.

At the Fair:

1. Visit the schools that match your search criteria.
2. Ask the same questions you have to each college representative that you visit.
3. Make notes about the information that you found most helpful.

After the Fair:

1. Review your information that the school gave you as well as your notes on the fair.
2. See Mrs. DeLillo to follow up with any of the schools or if you have questions.

Questions to ask at a college fair

1. What are some of the admissions requirements (SAT scores, Do they require SAT subject tests, GPA)?
2. What are some of the popular majors offered?
3. What is the average class size?
4. Do you have housing? Is it guaranteed for four years?
5. What kind of sports teams does your school offer? What division are they?
6. What is it like on campus on the weekends?
7. What special interest groups, activities, greek life are available?
8. How much does it cost to attend the school for a year?
9. What percentage of students receive financial aid at your school?
10. How many freshman return to campus for their sophomore year?
11. How safe is the campus and its surrounding neighborhoods?
12. What student services are offered (tutoring, career counseling)?

Write down your impression of the schools and the answers that the admission counselors provided. Then rate each school (10 is the highest) and keep this information in a college admission folder at home.

Name of School	Impressions of school	Rating

