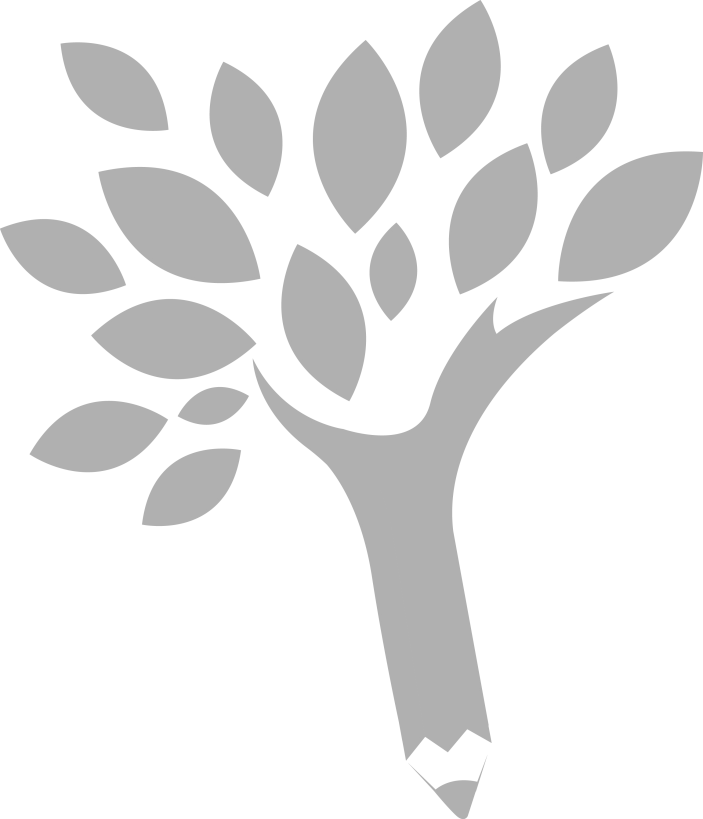
## 



Get Ready for Virtual Visits

A GEAR UP Toolkit FOR PROVIDING online VISITS FOR MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Contents

[Virtual Visits 3](#_Toc35862564)

[GEAR UP Portal Documentation 3](#_Toc35862565)

[Prepare Students 3](#_Toc35862566)

[Activity Ideas 4](#_Toc35862567)

[Virtual Tour Resources 4](#_Toc35862568)

[2- and 4- Year School Exploration & Preparation 4](#_Toc35862569)

[Washington State Institutions Offering Virtual Tours 5](#_Toc35862570)

[7th Grade Visit Benchmarks & Activities 7](#_Toc35862571)

[True/False College Quiz 8](#_Toc35862572)

[True/False College Quiz: Answer Key 9](#_Toc35862573)

[8th Grade Visit Benchmarks & Activities 10](#_Toc35862574)

[College Knowledge Rubric 11](#_Toc35862575)

[9th Grade Visit Benchmarks & Activities 12](#_Toc35862576)

[Student Leadership Opportunities 13](#_Toc35862577)

[10th Grade Visit Benchmarks & Activities 14](#_Toc35862578)

[11th Grade Visit Benchmarks & Activities 15](#_Toc35862579)

[12th Grade Visit Benchmarks & Activities 16](#_Toc35862580)

[Appendix 17](#_Toc35862581)

[Online Scavenger Hunt 18](#_Toc35862582)

[Why Go to College? 19](#_Toc35862583)

[Take a Closer Look: At Community & Technical Colleges 20](#_Toc35862584)

[College Research 21](#_Toc35862585)

[Graduation Requirements 22](#_Toc35862586)

[College Comparison Scorecard 24](#_Toc35862587)

[College Comparison Worksheet 26](#_Toc35862588)

[Pre-Visit Survey 28](#_Toc35862589)

The contents of this publication were developed under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. However, the content does not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

# Virtual Visits

Due to most spring college visits being cancelled due to the COVID-19 precautions, GEAR UP staff can use this guide to provide virtual college visits for students.

# GEAR UP Portal Documentation

Please document this activity in the portal as below, if you can verify and document that students complete a virtual tour:

|  |
| --- |
| Activity Name: Virtual College Visit – NAME OF COLLEGE |
| Activity Type: College Visit – Name of Institution |
| Activity Time: 1 hour |

If you are not able to verify and document, you are still encouraged to provide the information to students and families through any communication you have available to you. Questions? Please contact Beth Kelly, [bethk@wsac.wa.gov](mailto:bethk@wsac.wa.gov) for questions about the activities. Please contact Kelly Keeney, [kellyk@wsac.wa.gov](mailto:kellyk@wsac.wa.gov) for questions about documentation.

# Prepare Students

Once you have identified the goals of the visit, you can create and implement online activities.

The activities should encourage students to think about and question the different aspects of what makes a college good fit.

Students will learn about options, identify preferences, and get engaged. Sample activities in the appendix get students to consider the following aspects and their preferences:

* Type (liberal arts, technical, professional).
* Academics (types of degrees and majors offered).
* Location (distance from home, online, rural, urban, etc.).
* Number of students (small, medium, or large).
* Student life (on-campus housing, extracurricular activities, sports teams, academic support).
* Student body diversity.
* Independent or religiously affiliated.
* Cost and financial aid availability.

# Activity Ideas

These activities can be at home alone or with family members. Ideas, many of which can be found in the appendix, include:

* Online Scavenger Hunt for interesting facts about the college.
* Virtual tour, see appendix, for a list of recommended websites.
* Budgeting/math activities on college tuition and fees.
* Encourage students to think about and ask questions about the different aspects of what makes a college a good fit when visiting.
* Have students research and compare colleges based on their preferences, academic record, connection to future careers and financial needs.
* Have students prepare for the transition to college, by completing the resource and support services handout.

# Virtual Tour Resources

In addition to exploring the resources available on two- and four- year school’s website, check out the following websites for more virtual visit information: [CampusTours.com](http://campustours.com/) and [YouVisit.com](http://www.youvisit.com/search/colleges)

# 2- and 4- Year School Exploration & Preparation

* [Big Future.](https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/) Free, step-by-step approach college and career exploration and planning tool.
* [Check Out a College](http://checkoutacollege.com/). Information about Washington state community and technical colleges.
* [Get Schooled](https://getschooled.com/). A free, digital college and job advisor.
* [Unigo.com](http://unigo.com/?fbclid=IwAR2R2mbK874EFFdCbMMks4y3WnKRYRX4_MfFehvJL7D50G5gETATiR1q5Cg). An online resource that allows you to explore colleges, connect with current students, and get expert advice on how to succeed in college and beyond.

# Washington State Institutions Offering Virtual Tours

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| School | Provide Online Tours | No Tour on Website.   * Use an online scavenger hunt to help navigate. * *Or find other virtual tours using sites such as YouVisit.com* |
| [Bates Technical College](https://www.batestech.edu/) |  | **X** |
| [Bellevue College](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/) | [Virtual Tour & Facts](https://www.youvisit.com/tour/bellevuecollege?pl=v) |  |
| [Bellingham Technical College](http://www.btc.edu/) | [Videos & Facts](https://www.btc.edu/AboutBTC/Videos/indexVideos.aspx) |  |
| [Big Bend Community College](http://www.bigbend.edu/) |  | **X** |
| [Cascadia College](http://www.cascadia.edu/) | [Online Sessions/Tour](http://www.cascadia.edu/future/visit/default.aspx) |  |
| [Central Washington University](http://www.cwu.edu/) | [Online Sessions/Tour/Advising Appts](https://www.cwu.edu/admissions/online-admissions-experiences-cwu) |  |
| [Centralia College](http://www.centralia.edu/) |  | **X** |
| [Clark College](http://www.clark.edu/) |  | **X** |
| [Clover Park Technical College](http://www.cptc.edu/) |  | **X** |
| [Columbia Basin College](http://www.columbiabasin.edu/home/index.asp) |  | **X** |
| [DigiPen Institute of Technology](http://www.digipen.edu/main/Main_Page) |  | **X** |
| [Eastern Washington University](http://www.ewu.edu/) | [Interactive Map with Photos & Facts.](https://www.ewu.edu/apply/visit-ewu/) |  |
| [Edmonds Community College](http://www.edcc.edu/) | Virtual Tour Of A [Residence Hall.](https://www.edcc.edu/housing/residence-hall/rainier-place.html) |  |
| [Everett Community College](http://www.everettcc.edu/) | Virtual Tour Of A [Residence Hall.](https://www.everettcc.edu/administration/college-services/housing/mountain-view-hall) |  |
| [Gonzaga University](http://www.gonzaga.edu/) | [Photos, Videos, & More.](https://www.gonzaga.edu/undergraduate-admission/why-gonzaga/explore-gu/videos) |  |
| [Grays Harbor College](http://www.ghc.edu/) |  | **X** |
| [Green River College](http://www.greenriver.edu/) | [Virtual Tour.](https://www.greenriver.edu/international/virtual-tour/) |  |
| [Heritage University](https://www.heritage.edu/) | [Virtual Tour.](https://www.heritage.edu/schedule-a-visit/) |  |
| [Highline College](http://www.highline.edu/) | [Webcam Views.](https://www.highline.edu/campus-guide/take-a-tour/) |  |
| [Lake Washington Institute of Technology](http://www.lwtc.edu/) |  | **X** |
| [Lower Columbia College](https://lowercolumbia.edu/) | [Virtual Tour.](https://lowercolumbia.edu/future/campus-tour.php) |  |
| [North Seattle College](http://www.northseattle.edu/) |  |  |
| [Northwest Indian College (A 4-year tribal community college)](http://www.nwic.edu/) |  | **X** |
| [Olympic College](http://www.oc.ctc.edu/) |  | **X** |
| [Pacific Lutheran University](http://www.plu.edu/) | [Virtual Tour.](https://www.plu.edu/admission/visit/) |  |
| [Peninsula College](http://www.pc.ctc.edu/) |  | **X** |
| [Perry Technical Institute](http://perrytech.edu/) |  | **X** |
| [Pierce College - Fort Steilacoom/Puyallup](http://www.pierce.ctc.edu/). |  | **X** |
| [Renton Technical College](https://rtc.edu/) |  | **X** |
| [Saint Martin's University](http://www.stmartin.edu/) | [Create A Personalized Viewbook](https://customviewbook.stmartin.edu/2) & [Explore an Interactive Map](http://stmartin.university-tour.com/). |  |
| [Seattle Central College](http://www.seattlecentral.org/) | [Virtual Tour.](https://intl.seattlecentral.edu/campus-tour.php) |  |
| [Seattle Pacific University](http://www.spu.edu/) | [Videos, One-On-Advising, Virtual Tours, And Webinars.](https://spu.edu/undergraduate-admissions/visit/virtual-visit) |  |
| [Seattle University](http://www.seattleu.edu/default.aspx) | [Virtual Tour.](https://www.seattleu.edu/undergraduate-admissions/visit/campus-tours/) |  |
| [Shoreline Community College](http://www.shoreline.edu/) | [Online Info Sessions.](https://www.shoreline.edu/apply-and-aid/campus-tour.aspx) |  |
| [Skagit Valley College](http://www.skagit.edu/) |  | **X** |
| [South Puget Sound Community College](http://www.spscc.ctc.edu/) | [Virtual Tour.](https://spscc.edu/tours) |  |
| [South Seattle Community College](http://www.sccd.ctc.edu/south) | [Virtual Tour.](https://ip.southseattle.edu/about-us/locationfacilities) |  |
| [Spokane Community College](http://www.scc.spokane.edu/) | [Virtual Tour.](https://scc.spokane.edu/About-Us/Locations/Campus-Tours/SCC-Virtual-Tour-Home-Accessible-Version) |  |
| [Spokane Falls Community College](http://www.spokanefalls.edu/) | [Virtual Tour.](https://sfcc.spokane.edu/About-Us/Contact-Us/Campus-Tours/SFCC-Virtual-Tour-Home-Accessible-Version) |  |
| [Tacoma Community College](http://www.tacomacc.edu/) | [Short Video.](https://www.tacomacc.edu/costs-admission/visitcampus) |  |
| [The Evergreen State College](http://www.evergreen.edu/) | [Virtual Tour](https://www.evergreen.edu/admissions/visit--alt) In English | [Pǔtōnghuà (Mandarin)](http://www.youvisit.com/tour/evergreen?loc=trail1:0:1:1&language=Mandarin&pl=v) | [Português](http://www.youvisit.com/tour/evergreen?loc=trail1:0:1:1&language=Portuguese&pl=v" \o "Portuguese)[(Portuguese)](http://www.youvisit.com/tour/evergreen?loc=trail1:0:1:1&language=Portuguese&pl=v) | [Español (Spanish)](http://www.youvisit.com/tour/evergreen?loc=trail1:0:1:1&language=Spanish&pl=v" \o "Spanish) |  |
| [University of Puget Sound](http://www.ups.edu/) | [Interactive Virtual Tour.](https://www.pugetsound.edu/admission/visit/) |  |
| [University of Washington](http://www.washington.edu/) | Numerous [Virtual Tours.](https://www.washington.edu/search/?q=virtual+tour) |  |
| [University of Washington Bothell](http://www.bothell.washington.edu/) | Numerous [Virtual Tours.](https://www.uwb.edu/admissions/visit) |  |
| [University of Washington Tacoma](http://www.tacoma.washington.edu/) | [Virtual Admitted Student Day.](https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/admissions/admitted-student-day) |  |
| [Walla Walla Community College](http://www.wwcc.edu/) | [Virtual Tour.](https://www.wwcc.edu/visit-us/) |  |
| [Walla Wall University](https://www.wallawalla.edu/) | Multiple [Virtual Tours.](https://www.wallawalla.edu/search/?q=virtual+visit) |  |
| [Washington State University](http://www.wsu.edu/) | [Virtual Tour & More.](https://admission.wsu.edu/visits/campus-tours/virtual-campus-visits/) |  |
| [Washington State University Spokane](http://spokane.wsu.edu/" \t "_blank) | See Info For WSU. |  |
| [Washington State University Tri-Cities](https://tricities.wsu.edu/) | [Virtual Appointments, Email, And Text Messaging](https://tricities.wsu.edu/admissions/contact-connect/). |  |
| [Washington State University Vancouver](http://www.vancouver.wsu.edu/) | See Info For WSU. |  |
| [Wenatchee Valley College](http://www.wvc.edu/) | [Photos.](https://www.wvc.edu/visit/index.html) |  |
| [Western Washington University](http://www.wwu.edu/) | [Virtual Tour.](https://admissions.wwu.edu/visit) |  |
| [Whatcom Community College](http://www.whatcom.ctc.edu/) |  | **X** |
| [Whitman College](http://www.whitman.edu/) | [Student-Led Virtual Tours.](https://www.whitman.edu/admission-and-aid/virtual-tours) |  |
| [Whitworth University](https://www.whitworth.edu) | [Videos & A Virtual Tour.](https://www.whitworth.edu/cms/administration/admissions/visit/) |  |
| [Yakima Valley Community College](http://www.yvcc.edu/) | [Virtual Tour.](https://www.yvcc.edu/students/campus-tours/) |  |

# 7th Grade Visit Benchmarks & Activities

**Focus**

Build College-Going Identity

**Goal**

* Introduction to college campuses.
* Demystify college.
* Make welcoming.
* Allow students to see themselves as college material.
* Introduction and exposure to different types of colleges for students and families.

**Pre-visit Activity**

* Provide overview of institution.
* Ask each student to make a list of **five things** they believe to be true about a college campus. Ask them to put their name on the list and collect the lists before the visit.
* You can use the **True/False College Quiz** included in following pages as a pre-test.

**Campus Visit Could Include**

* Scavenger hunt, trivia games, or other fun activities.

**Post-visit**

* Have each student revisit the list of **five things** they believed to be true about a college campus they made before the visit. Identify what was true or untrue about the college campus.
* Conduct the **True/False College Quiz** as a classroom discussion to assess students’ learning (post-test).

# True/False College Quiz

1. **Ninety percent of teens want to go to college.**

True  False

1. **Some of the best colleges are ones you’ve never heard of.**

True  False

1. **There are about 2,500 two- and four-year colleges and universities in the country.**

True  False

1. **Washington State has more than 60 two-year and four-year colleges and universities.**

True  False

1. **It’s best to wait to visit colleges until after you have been admitted.**

True  False

1. **Colleges are concerned with more than just your academic development.**

True  False

1. **You won’t get financial aid unless you are a straight-A student.**

True  False

1. **The college with the lowest price will be the most affordable for you.**

True  False

1. **In Washington, most jobs will require a college certificate or degree.**

True  False

1. **A college degree takes four years to complete.**

True  False

# True/False College Quiz: Answer Key

1. **Ninety percent of teens want to go to college.**

**TRUE:** In national surveys, 90 percent of students say they aspire to attend college.

1. **Some of the best colleges are ones you’ve never heard of.**

**TRUE:** Some of the nation’s finest colleges don’t play big-time athletics, which is usually the most common source of name recognition. Students should do plenty of research outside of the sports roster.

1. **There are about 2,500 two- and four-year colleges and universities in the country.**

**FALSE:** There are more than 4,000. With these many options, students are bound to find a school or program that fits their needs and personality.

1. **Washington State has more than 60 two-year and four-year colleges and universities.**

**TRUE:** Washington State offers a wide variety of high-quality education options throughout all regions of the state.

1. **It’s best to wait to visit colleges until after you have been admitted.**

**FALSE:** Students should visit colleges early and often to make sure they understand their options and apply to colleges they could be happy attending.

1. **Colleges are concerned with more than your academic development.**

**TRUE:** Most colleges focus on developing the “whole person.” That means they offer lots of experiences to engage and teach students outside the classroom. Things like school clubs, free lectures or concerts, art shows, theatrical productions, student government organizations, and recreational opportunities can be an important part of student learning and development.

1. **You won’t get financial aid unless you are a straight-A student.**

**FALSE:** A great deal of financial aid is based on financial need — not grades or academic achievement. Plus, many organizations and colleges offer scholarships for students who have solid (but not perfect) grades or excel in other areas.

1. **The college with the lowest price will be the most affordable for you.**

**FALSE:** Someschools with a higher sticker price offer more financial aid. Larger financial aid packages may lower the total cost for students.

1. **In Washington, most jobs will require a college certificate or degree.**

**TRUE:** By 2020, 68% of jobs in Washington will require some postsecondary education.

1. **A college degree takes four years to complete.**

**FALSE:** Associate degrees usually take around two years, and certificates can be obtained in a matter of months.

# 8th Grade Visit Benchmarks & Activities

**Focus**

Build College-Going Identity

**Goal**

* Introduction to college campuses.
* Refine knowledge about college campuses.
* Debunk misconceptions.
* Introduction and exposure to different types of colleges for students and families.

**Pre-visit Activity**

* Have students complete a career inventory or learning style assessment.
* Use the **college knowledge rubric** in this toolkit to poll students and make a list of any prior knowledge they have about the college that they will visit online.
* If possible, discuss the campus with them and clarify any misconceptions.
* Additionally, use the rubric information to learn what your students are interested in.

**Campus Visit Could Include**

* An online scavenger hunt.

**Post-visit**

* Complete the third column of the **college knowledge rubric** after the visit.
* Consider sharing completed rubric and giving it to students who were unable to participate in online visits.

# College Knowledge Rubric

**College Name:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **What we already know about this college.** | **What we want to learn about this college.** | **What we learned about this college during our visit.** |
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# 9th Grade Visit Benchmarks & Activities

**Focus**

Build College-Going Identity

**Goal**

* Exposure to different types of colleges.
* Expand understanding of college culture.
* Explore clubs, organizations, and student life.
* Introduction and exposure to different types of colleges for students and families.

**Pre-visit Activity**

* Overview of college options and requirements.
* Encourage students to think about the types of clubs and organizations they are currently involved in both at school and within their community. Ask the students if they find themselves in leadership roles within their extracurricular work or during school.
* Ask students if they could see themselves being involved in extracurricular activities at the college level.
* Have students complete the first column of the Student Leadership Opportunities sheet.
* Have students write down questions they have about that school. Make sure the questions relate to learning experiences, scholarship dollars, leadership growth, and the college culture.

**Campus Visit Could Include**

* Review Admissions page.
* Review Student Life (clubs, organizations) pages.

**Post-visit**

* Have each student complete the **Student Leadership Opportunities** (see next page).
* Have students write down which clubs and organizations they may want to join in college and why.

# Student Leadership Opportunities

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Activities and organizations, I currently am or wish to become involved with in the future:** | **Is there a similar opportunity at the college level?** | **Is it possible to receive scholarships for participating in this opportunity?** |
| Example: Student Council | SGA (Student Government Association) | Yes |
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# 10th Grade Visit Benchmarks & Activities

**Focus**

College Exploration/Fit and Match

**Goal**

* Understand the relationship between college majors and careers.
* Exposure to different types of colleges for students and families.

**Pre-visit Activity**

* Overview of college options, financial aid.
* Virtual tours.
* Have students complete the free online career interest quiz, explore careers, view job trends, and find education programs or colleges using Career Bridge. They can also view apprenticeships, military options, and other career resources through [Career Bridge](http://www.careerbridge.wa.gov). Students should write down five possible careers from the career clusters they would like to consider pursuing.

**Campus Visit Could Include**

* Reviewing the school’s website section on majors and careers.

**Post-visit**

* Have students explore college options at <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search> Search by location, major, and much more.



# 11th Grade Visit Benchmarks & Activities

**Focus**

College Exploration/Fit and Match

**Goal**

* Selection for best match and fit.
* Preparation for transitions.
* Understanding of entrance requirements and institutional aid.
* Encourage families to participate to help in college selection.

**Pre-visit Activity**

* Understanding entrance requirements and how to apply.
* Explain the various admission exams: PSAT, SAT, ACT, SAT Subject Tests, ACCUPLACER, or ASVAB. Tell students that no matter what path they choose, they will probably need to take at least one entrance exam. Those exams begin in the junior year. The SAT and ACT are the main entrance exams for four-year college.
* Give overview of registration process and fee waiver options that they will need in the future.
* Provide overview of test preparation resources and GEAR UP services and activities.

**Campus Visit Could Include**

* Virtual tour.
* Look at school facts.
* Review entrance requirements and academic requirements for securing scholarships offered by the campus.
* Read any information on transferring.

**Post-visit**

* Encourage students to apply for scholarships.
* Remind students of the importance of taking the ACT/SAT early. Remind them that they can take the tests more than once to improve their scores.
* Go over the requirements for obtaining the College Bound Scholarship.

# 12th Grade Visit Benchmarks & Activities

**Focus**

College Exploration/Fit and Match

**Goal**

* Preparation for transitions.
* Learn how to apply for college.
* Determine which schools best suits needs.

**Pre-visit Activity**

* Narrow down selection. Ask students to review their college visit note cards from previous visits. Have them think about how their views have changed over time and identify their major postsecondary wants and needs.
* Review the [12th Year Campaign Student Workbook](https://readysetgrad.wa.gov/educators/grad/students-and-families) in detail with students. (Visit the education and outreach tab of readysetgrad.org to download the guide or request paper copies.)

**Campus Visit Could Include**

* A virtual campus tour.
* Review college facts.
* Review admissions and financial aid pages.
* Encourage them to email admissions office for questions or to provide a step-by-step overview of the steps to complete after applying to college.

**Post-visit**

* Ask each student to provide you with a list of schools or programs they are planning on applying to. Follow up throughout the next few weeks or months to ensure that students are on track.
* Make sure that students who are planning on attending a four-year college have taken the ACT or SAT. Assist students in preparing for the ACCUPLACER. Discuss scores required for admission. If students need to take or retake the tests, encourage them to use the free test prep resources.

# Appendix

The appendix contains templates and planning tools such as handouts, pre-visit activities, games, pre- and post-surveys, and additional resources. Customize these documents to fit your needs.

# Online Scavenger Hunt

**Before our visit to: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, you’ll need to do some detective work. Start out by going to the college’s website and answering the questions below.**

* In what town is the main campus located? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* How many students attend? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* How much are tuition and fees for one year? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Do they have on-campus housing (dorms)?  Yes  No
* If so, how much does it cost for the year? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* What are the school colors? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* What is the school mascot? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Names of two student clubs that I might be interested in joining:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* Do they have fraternities and sororities?  Yes  No
* What does it take to be admitted into this college?
* What kinds of grades or GPA do I need to be admitted? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* What classes do I need to take? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Do I need a standardized test like SAT or ACT?  Yes  No
* If yes, which one(s) will the school accept? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Name three different majors offered at this college that are interesting:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* What types of support services are offered? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* What kinds of degrees can you earn at this college? Check all that apply: Associate’s Bachelor’s Master’s Doctorate
* Is there a career center at this college?  Yes  No
* If so, what kinds of services do they offer to students? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Now that you’ve done your research, think about what you would like to gain from visit to the college. Give three answers for each question below.

* What are some questions you’d like to ask students on campus?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* What are some questions you’d like to ask someone that works there?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* What parts of the campus would you most like to see and why?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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# Why Go to College?

Use the [College Board’s Explore Careers](https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/explore-careers) feature to complete this page.

|  |
| --- |
| A career that interests me is (career name and reason): |
|  |
| To prepare for this career my college major (or program) could be: |
|  |
| I would need the following degree: |
|  |
| One college I could attend for this major is (college name, location, reason): |
|  |
| High school courses I should take to prepare include: |
|  |

# Take a Closer Look: At Community & Technical Colleges

Go to [Check out a College](http://checkoutacollege.com/) then click on “Find a College & Program” and then “Search by College and Program.” Then complete this page.

|  |
| --- |
| **A community or technical college near my home *(list at least one)*** |
|  |
| **Programs offered by this college *(list at least three programs, then circle the one you will research)*** |
|  |
| **Classes included as part of this program *(list at least three classes required by the program)*** |
|  |
| **Type of degree or certificate offered by this program** |
|  |
| **Cost of this program *(list dollar amount and unit of measurement – for example, $92/credit)*** |
|  |
| **Length of this program (for example, 4 quarters)** |
|  |

College Research

Go to the [College Board](http://www.collegeboard.org/) website. Click on “Students.” Then click on “Find Colleges” and locate a college either by typing in its name or by completing the search process. Then complete this page.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Information to Research** | **Findings** |
| A college I might like to attend |  |
| Location |  |
| Type of school (private/public) |  |
| Degrees offered |  |
| Application deadline |  |
| Financial aid deadline |  |
| Percent of applicants admitted |  |
| Middle 50% SAT Critical Reading scores |  |
| Middle 50% SAT Math scores |  |
| Middle 50% SAT Writing scores |  |
| Middle 50% ACT Composite score |  |
| In-state tuition and fees |  |
| Out-of-state tuition and fees |  |
| Most popular majors |  |
| What interests me about this college |  |

Graduation Requirements

What Is Required to Graduate from High School?

How is that different from what is required to be admitted to college?

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Subject Area** | **WA High School Graduation Requirements (2020)** | **Minimum WA College Admission Requirements** | **My College Choice:**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
| **English** | 4 credits | 4 credits |  |
| **Mathematics** | 3 credits | 3 credits (incl math senior yr) |  |
| **Science** | 3 credits (2 labs) | 2 credits (2 labs) |  |
| **Social Studies** | 3 credits | 3 credits |  |
| **Arts** | 2 credit | 1 credit |  |
| **Health & Fitness** | 2 credits | - |  |
| **Career &Technical Education (CTE)** | 1 credit |  |  |
| **World Languages** | 2credits | 2 credits |  |
| **Electives** | 4 credits | - |  |

**\*Note: For more information about credit and non-credit requirements, please visit the State Board of Education at:** [www.sbe.wa.gov/graduation.php](http://www.sbe.wa.gov/graduation.php)

**A screenshot of a cell phone

Description automatically generated**

# College Comparison Scorecard

**Compare colleges based on the characteristics that are most important to you. This scorecard helps you evaluate colleges side-by-side.**

##### Ranking System (1-3):

##### 3= It’s a perfect match

##### 2= It kind of meets this criteria

##### 1=Nope, it doesn’t have what I want.

**Step1**: Take the “What is my ideal college?” survey in the left column.

**Step2:** Rank the colleges that you visit in person or on a virtual tour on a scale of 1 to 3 (3 is best!) based on how well they fit your criteria.

**Step 3:** Total the scores up to see what college might be the best fit for you.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **What’s my ideal college?**  **Circle the answer or answers that apply to you.** | **College #1** | **College #2** | **College #3** |
| **I want a college that is located:**   1. Close to home 2. As far away as possible 3. Somewhere in between so I can back for weekends and holidays. |  |  |  |
| **I prefer a campus size that is:**   1. Small (under 5,000 students) 2. Medium (5,000-15,000 students) 3. Large (15,000+ students) |  |  |  |
| **I want my college to be in the:**   1. City 2. Suburbs 3. Country |  |  |  |
| **I want to be able to live:**   1. On campus, in a dorm or apartment 2. Off campus in an apartment or house 3. At home |  |  |  |
| **I prefer a college that is:**   1. Private (not a public or state school) 2. Single sex (only male or female) 3. Religiously affiliated 4. Known for serving ethnic minority populations (i.e., tribal colleges historically black colleges and universities, etc.) 5. None of these are important to me. |  |  |  |
| **What’s my ideal college?**  **Circle the answer or answers that apply to you.** | **College #1** | **College #2** | **College #3** |
| **I want to complete my degree in:**   1. 2 years or less (AA) 2. 4 years (BA, BS) 3. More than 4 years (Masters, Doctorate, and Professional) |  |  |  |
| **My ideal college offers degrees in:**   1. Art and Design 2. Sciences and Engineering 3. Health fields 4. Teaching and Counseling 5. Business or Law 6. Other: |  |  |  |
| **I want to be able to participate in the following activities:**   1. Sports (either, Division I, Division II, Division II) 2. Student government 3. Community service 4. Greek life 5. Other clubs and/or activities: |  |  |  |
| **I want to be able to take advantage of the following student services:**   1. Tutoring/academic support 2. Counseling and health services 3. Study abroad 4. Recreational sports and/or a gym 5. Disability access 6. Other: |  |  |  |
| **I want a college that offers financial aid including:**   1. Scholarships 2. Grants 3. Loans 4. Work-study programs |  |  |  |
| **I want a college where students receive an average of \_\_\_\_\_% of their financial need through financial aid. (Use the College Board search if you are unsure).**   1. 75-100% 2. 50-74% 3. 25-49% 4. Less than 25% |  |  |  |
| **Total** |  |  |  |

# College Comparison Worksheet

**This pre-visit activity requires you to investigate various aspects of postsecondary institutions. Evaluate each school in the areas listed below and then compare your evaluations.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Campus Environment** | **College #1** | **College #2** | **College #3** |
| Campus facilities, equipment and services |  |  |  |
| Computers and internet access |  |  |  |
| Food service (cafeterias) |  |  |  |
| Health care (physical and mental health counseling) |  |  |  |
| Housing (Do you need year-round housing? LGBTQ-safe/gender neutral housing?) |  |  |  |
| Library |  |  |  |
| Recreational |  |  |  |
| Transportation (parking, buses, etc.) |  |  |  |
| Campus safety |  |  |  |
| Campus setting (urban, suburban, small town, rural) |  |  |  |
| Geographic location (distance from home) |  |  |  |
| Religious affiliation/ Faith-based organizations on campus |  |  |  |
| Childcare/Family housing |  |  |  |
| Accessibility for physical disabilities |  |  |  |
| **Student Body** | **College #1** | **College #2** | **College #3** |
| Number of undergraduates enrolled |  |  |  |
| % of full-time students |  |  |  |
| % of men and women |  |  |  |
| % of students 25 or older |  |  |  |
| %of minority students |  |  |  |
| % of students from out-of-state |  |  |  |
| % of international students |  |  |  |
| % of student who live on campus |  |  |  |
| % of students who return the following year |  |  |  |
| % of students who graduate |  |  |  |
| % of graduates employed within one year |  |  |  |
| **Cost** | **College #1** | **College #2** | **College #3** |
| Application fee |  |  |  |
| Fee waiver available? |  |  |  |
| Amount of deposit (after acceptance) |  |  |  |
| Total annual cost of attendance |  |  |  |
| Tuition and fees |  |  |  |
| Room and board |  |  |  |
| Other required expenses (books, supplies) |  |  |  |
| **Financial Aid** | **College #1** | **College #2** | **College #3** |
| Financial aid availability |  |  |  |
| Grants (participates in federal and/or state grant program?) |  |  |  |
| Scholarships |  |  |  |
| Work study |  |  |  |
| Loans |  |  |  |
| Financial aid deadline |  |  |  |
| Financial aid forms (FAFSA, PROFILE, school) |  |  |  |
| % of undergraduates receiving financial aid |  |  |  |
| Average amount awarded to undergraduates |  |  |  |
| **Student Activities/Enrichment** | **College #1** | **College #2** | **College #3** |
| Athletic offerings (sports: collegiate and intramural) |  |  |  |
| Fraternities, sororities, social and academic clubs |  |  |  |
| Extracurricular organizations and events |  |  |  |
| Music, fine arts, performing arts |  |  |  |
| Internships, community service, study abroad |  |  |  |
| **Student Support Services** | **College #1** | **College #2** | **College #3** |
| Counseling, mentoring, or tutoring services? TRiO SSS? First Year Experience? |  |  |  |
| Support for physical challenges & learning disabilities |  |  |  |
| Peer affinity groups like POSSE, 1st Gen support groups, student groups for women, students of color, LGTBQ students, foster care alumni, etc.  International students, non-traditional students, etc. |  |  |  |
| Career, internship, employment assistance, job placement services |  |  |  |
| On-campus or nearby food banks? Clothing banks? |  |  |  |
| Do they offer an orientation? A summer transition program? |  |  |  |
| **Other Considerations** | **College #1** | **College #2** | **College #3** |
| Financial condition |  |  |  |
| School accreditation |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

# Pre-Visit Survey

**Have you been on a college campus before?**  Yes  No

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Select the answer that best applies.** | **Yes** | **No** | **Maybe** |
| I think I will go to college. |  |  |  |
| I can picture myself as a college student. |  |  |  |
| I believe I can afford to go to college. |  |  |  |
| I can name at least one college major that interest me and is applicable to my future career. |  |  |  |
| I know about student support services like tutoring and counseling that colleges offer. |  |  |  |
| I know about clubs, activities, sports, and other social groups on college campus. |  |  |  |
| I have talked to a current college student and asked him/her questions I have about college. |  |  |  |
| I have talked to someone who works at a college and asked him/her questions I have about college. |  |  |  |

**When I think of going to college, I think of:**

**Three questions I have for college students or staff while on an in-person campus visit:**

1.

2.

3.

**Three things that I would like to learn while on the college visit:**

1.

2.

3.