

An Advertising Supplement of

**BUFFALO  
BUSINESS FIRST**

# 2014 NATIONAL COLLEGE GUIDE JOURNEYS

BUFFALO'S NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR | BUFFALO NIAGARA CONVENTION CENTER

Tuesday, April 8 • 9am - 12pm • 6 pm - 8:30 pm / Wednesday, April 9 • 9 am - 12 pm

**FREE  
ADMISSION**

[www.gotomyncf.com](http://www.gotomyncf.com)

**Map & List of Colleges Inside!**  
*Pages 12 - 13*



**National  
College  
Fairs®**

## Mobile Student Registration!

Students can register for NACAC National College Fairs with their Smartphones by going to [mobile.gotomyncf.com](http://mobile.gotomyncf.com) or by scanning the QR code here.



### The benefits of online student registration

- Students register for the fair one time.
- It also eliminates the need for college contact cards.
- Entering the information one time allows the student to elaborate on special interests, extracurricular activities, and accomplishments.

If a smartphone is not available log on to [www.gotomyncf.com](http://www.gotomyncf.com) to pre-register for the electronic lead retrieval system.





more. **Think more.** Discover more. Learn more.  
Believe more. Get more. **Grow more.** Achieve more.  
Love more. **Learn more.** Discover more. Think more.  
more. Believe more. Get more. **Explore more.** Grow more.



For more than 155 years, Niagara University has been educating students in the Catholic and Vincentian tradition, with an emphasis on lifelong learning and service to others.

- 97% of recent Niagara graduates are working or attending graduate school.
- Niagara students contribute 1,000 hours of community service each week during the academic year.
- Niagara offers more than 80 majors, 56 minors, six pre-professional options.
- Niagara has 18 graduate programs, and a doctoral program in leadership and policy.
- 99% of Niagara's incoming freshman class receive financial aid.

**It's not too late to apply for Fall 2014.**

You can visit Niagara during one of our upcoming Discovery Days, or schedule a personal visit by calling **1.800.462.2111** or visit us online at **[www.niagara.edu](http://www.niagara.edu)**.



**NIAGARA  
UNIVERSITY**

*Education That Makes a Difference*





# Faring well at a national college fair

**N**ational College Fairs offer an exciting opportunity to talk to the people in the know.

Admission representatives from a variety of colleges are all gathered in one place, just waiting to answer your questions.

But it's easy to get caught up in the crowds and confusion. Soon you're criss-crossing the room (or many rooms), stopping at any booth that catches your eye or seems popular. When that happens, you end up with lots of pretty brochures, but not a lot of clear impressions about which colleges you may be interested in. Making the most of a college fair means planning your strategy before you enter those double doors.

"Treat a college fair like a buffet dinner," advises a director of undergraduate admission from Florida. "There will be more there than you can possibly take in, but then again, not everything is to your taste."

Experienced buffet diners know that it's best to scope out their choices before they start filling their plate. Savvy students can do the equivalent by looking over a list of college fair participants before the fair. Choose the colleges you most want to find out more about. If you have time, research these colleges by reading information in your guidance office or by checking out guidebooks or Web sites.

"Know what you want to find out at the fair," says a director of admission at a college in Ohio. Write up a short list of questions to ask admission representatives. To compare several schools, plan on asking the same questions at each table.

The questions you ask should be unique to your interests and not easily found in standard college materials. "The college fair is a good

time to talk person-to-person with the representative of that school," says one guidance counselor. "Your job is to think of good questions."

So cross out the questions such as, "How many people are in the freshman class?" Instead, ask what the two or three most popular majors are (that can give you a good idea of the main interests of the majority of the students).

If you have a particular major in mind, don't ask "How good is major X?" No college representative will tell you that a program is bad. Instead, ask how many students take that major; what research faculty members are involved in (and the opportunities for undergraduates to participate in it); or what courses you would take your first year in a particular major.

Students who are undecided should ask about what services and support are available to help them explore various majors.

Other things you can ask about: extracurricular activities, what kinds of students the college is looking for, what percentage of students receive financial aid, and other concerns unique to your interests and situation.

## Mapping a strategy

Before you leave for the fair, make sure you have the following supplies: a small notebook with your list of colleges and questions you want to ask; a pen or pencil; and a backpack or tote-bag to hold all the college information you'll be collecting.

Students may wish to print up a few sheets of self-stick address labels. Include your name, address, phone number, e-mail address, high school, year of graduation, intended major(s), and any extracurricular activities you're interested in. At the fair, slap the address labels on

the college information cards to save you time in filling out the same information over and over at each college table.

At some fairs, colleges, rather than using information cards, may use scanners that collect your contact information electronically (name, address, phone number and email address) onsite, leaving you more time to speak with representatives at the fair. Ask your counselor before the fair whether scanners will be available or go online to [www.nacacnet.org/fairs](http://www.nacacnet.org/fairs) and search for the fair in which you're interested. You must sign up beforehand to have your information electronically scanned.

Although this may be a lot to consider, the real strategizing begins when you arrive at the fair. Look for a map of where each college is located and map out your route. Note where each college is located and plan the most efficient way to visit the colleges on your list. (For example, you want to make sure to visit all the colleges of interest to you in one room before moving to the next.) Also, make sure to check out the schedule of information sessions: many fairs have sessions on the search process, applications, financial aid, and other issues run by experts in the field. These sessions are a great place to ask general questions about the college admission process.

Your notebook and pen are great tools for keeping all those conversations straight. After you leave a table, jot down your impressions of the college and the answers the admission representatives gave you. Try to do this before you visit the next table, while your impressions are still fresh.

## Teaming up

Depending on the time of day of the fair, both students and parents may be encouraged

to attend. If a family member attends the fair with you, talk about your plan ahead of time. You may decide to split up – perhaps a parent can attend the financial aid seminar so you can visit more colleges. Another option is staying together for part or all of time. You may find that your parents or siblings ask different questions than you do. Also, it can be helpful to get a second opinion on your impressions of particular colleges.

## Browsing

Planning ahead ensures that you get to visit the colleges that most interest you. But also make sure to leave time for browsing.

"Be adventurous! Don't just focus on 'name' schools," says an admission director. "You may find that a school you've never heard of offers the exact major, extracurricular program, etc., that you're seeking."

## Following up

By the time the fair is over, you'll have a bag filled with information about colleges and a possible case of information overload. Don't succumb to the temptation of just piling all those brochures in some obscure corner of your bedroom. If you're feeling overwhelmed, take a day or two away from the college search. Then get out all of those brochures, along with the notes you took while at the fair, and read through them. You may find that some colleges aren't as interesting as you first thought. Others only look better the more you research them. For those colleges, follow up by filling out the information cards in the brochures or by starting to schedule college visits.

*Reprinted with permission from the National Association for College Admission Counseling (nacacnet.org.)*





# National College Fairs®

# Buffalo Fair

April 8-9, 2014

## Local Arrangements Committee

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Associate Director of Admissions  
University at Buffalo

■ **Dr. Maryanna Fezer**  
School Counselor  
Tonawanda High School

### Event Manager

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■ **Cheryl Goldstone**  
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■ **Sheryl Kavanagh**  
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Grand Island High School

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■ **Nicole DeStefano-Stone**  
Asst. Director of Admissions  
Daemen College

### Information Booth & Volunteers

■ **Dr. Annemarie Cervoni**  
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■ **Trey Gardner**  
School Counselor  
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# D'Youville

[www.dyc.edu](http://www.dyc.edu) 800.777.3921 716.829.7600

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**Open House**  
April 5, 2014  
9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**D'Youville**  
COLLEGE  
Educating for life



### UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS:

- Accounting
- Accounting (5-yr. BS + International Business MS)
- Biology
- Business Management
- Chemistry
- Chiropractic program (7-yr. BS + DC)
- Dietetics (5-yr. BS/MS)
- Education program (5-yr. BA + MS)
  - Childhood • Adolescence • Special • TESOL
- English
- Exercise and Sports Studies
- Global Studies
- Health Analytics
- Health Services Management
- History
- International Business (5-yr. BS/MS)
- Liberal Studies for Education
- Mathematics
- Nursing BSN
- Nursing RN to BSN
- Occupational Therapy program (5-yr. BS + MS)
- Pharmacy
- Philosophy
- Physical Therapy program (6-yr. BS + DPT)
- Physician Assistant (5-yr. BS/MS)
- Psychology PLUS
- Sociology
- Pre-Professional:
  - Dental • Law • Medical • Veterinary



# About NACAC

## NACAC Mission

The National Association for College Admission Counseling will support and advance the work of counseling and enrollment professionals as they help all students realize their full educational potential, with particular emphasis on the transition to postsecondary education. NACAC is committed to promoting high professional standards that foster ethical and social responsibility.



of Principles of Good Practice (SPGP).

A member-directed organization, NACAC is governed by its voting members – an Assembly of delegates elected by voting members in NACAC's state and regional affiliates and by an elected board of directors.

The strategic leadership and board's primary purpose is to provide direction on professional policies for NACAC. The association additionally houses 12 standing committees, plus ad hoc committees, which lend their expertise and experience to the issues, programs and governance that keep the association vibrant in its service to members, the profession and students.

NACAC's award-winning publications and other media resources, professional development programs and practical research efforts have all been designed to give counseling and admission professionals the tools they need to improve the counseling services they provide to students.

## About NACAC

The National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC), founded in 1937, is an organization of more than 12,000 professionals from around the world dedicated to serving students as they make choices about pursuing postsecondary education.

NACAC is committed to maintaining high standards that foster ethical and social responsibility among those involved in the transition process, as outlined in the NACAC Statement

## Buffalo National College Fair Information Sessions

April 8-9, 2014

Information Sessions held on April 8.

Session 1 • 7:00-7:30 and Session 2 • 7:40-8:10

**Parking for these sessions is available at a reduced rate (\$2) at both the Augsburger and Fernbach Ramps.**

### Financial Know-How for College Students: 6:15 – 6:45

#### Room 106B

Financial Planning

Discover Student Loans are issued through Discover Bank, a trusted financial institution for over 95 years. During this session you will learn about the type of financial products including student loans offered through Discover.

### ACT/SAT: Session 1 and 2

#### Room 106A

Presenters: **Nicholas Rizzo**, Department Chairperson/School Counselor, Clarence High School  
**Sharon Bertucci**, School Counselor, City Honors

An overview of both tests will be presented. Tips and advice on how to best prepare for the tests will be provided as well as how results are used for college admission decisions.

### Financial Aid 101: Session 1 and 2

#### Room 106B

Presenter: **Kevin Ryan**, Senior Financial Aid Advisor, University at Buffalo

You can never have enough information on financial aid. This workshop is designed to help answer questions that students and parents may have about the process of determining financial need and awarding aid.

### College Athletics: Session 1

#### Room 103

Presenter: **Brandi Guerinot**, Director of Compliance, University at Buffalo

Important information for prospective student athletes will be explored. Topics include recruitment rules, academic eligibility, letters of intent, and registration with the NCAA Eligibility Center.

### The Right College:

#### Session 1 and 2 • Room 106C

Presenter: **Dean Reinhart**, Ph.D. Associate Director of Admissions, Buffalo State College - SUNY

How do you find the college that is right for you? This workshop will help students and parents examine the important factors to consider when making a decision on where to go to college.

### Easy Tips on Writing your College Essay: Session 1 and 2

#### Room 106 D

Presenter: **Frank Williams**, Dean of Admissions Daemen College

This session gives you the opportunity to learn about what colleges are looking for in a college essay. You will leave this session with confidence in writing your college essay. Some questions to be addressed are how do I decide on a topic? What are the skills needed to start writing your college essay? How do I know if this is the right essay to submit?

### How to apply through the Common Application:

#### Session 2 7:40-8:10

#### Room 103

Presenters: **Allison Newman**, Scholarship Director, Say Yes Buffalo  
**Chris Dearth**, Director of Admissions SUNY Fredonia

If you are interested in applying to more than one college then you may want to think about completing The Common Application. The Common Application allows students to complete one form while applying to several schools. During this session you will learn how to navigate through the website and how admission offices view the common application vs. the school's application.

# The links between you and your college dreams.



## Must-have information for college and career planning.

- TAP – your state grant
- New York's 529 College Savings Program
- Scholarships ■ High School Calendar
- How to Apply for Aid ■ Smart Borrowing

Get free financial aid information at our table at the NACAC College Fair



HESC.ny.gov



## A new website to help high school students get to college.

- Use the step-by-step High School Calendar
- Discover your interests
- Explore careers ■ Prepare for the SAT and ACT
- Access tools & resources ■ Find the right college
- Learn the college application & financial aid processes
- See inspiring stories about students like you



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www.schoolguides.com



# The right choice

## Is a large or small college right for you?

**W**hen you think about college, do you picture a compact campus where you run into friends between classes? Or do you envision big Saturday-afternoon football games, with thousands of fans cheering on your college's team? Are you participating in small-group discussions or listening carefully to your professor lecture?

There are no right answers to these questions – only what feels right to you. A college's size affects many aspects of the college experience, from your classes to your extracurricular activities to your social life.

### Learning and Size

A college's size often affects the size of its classes. In general, larger schools tend to have larger classes, especially at the freshman level. You may find yourself taking notes along with a hundred other students in your Introduction to Psychology class. If you prefer being somewhat anonymous in class, large lecture courses are the way to go.

At smaller colleges, you may find fewer lecture courses and more courses that emphasize class participation. These types of classes facilitate closer contact with faculty and other students, which is attractive to some students but not all.

Of course, smaller colleges may still have some large classes, and large universities may offer a variety of small classes (especially in upper-level courses). But if you have a definite preference for a particular style of learning, look more closely at the colleges that offer more classes in that style.

Who teaches your classes can also depend on the college's size. Large universities often have many professors who are tops in their field of research. But undergraduates may not have much contact with these professors. Instead, teaching assistants (graduate students) may do the bulk of the teaching and

grading, while the professors only lecture.

"This is not necessarily a negative," notes Marsha Gardner, college counselor at The College Preparatory School (Calif.) "There are some very good TAs (teaching assistants) who are often better teachers than the faculty members." However, she adds, this practice is something to consider if "big-name" professors are one of the reasons a particular college interests you.

At smaller colleges, particularly those with no graduate programs, you may not run into as many "big-name" research professors, but you will likely have far more interaction with the faculty. Many small colleges pride themselves on fostering mentoring-type relationships between professors and students.

### Extracurricular Activities and Size

Size can have a big impact on extracurricular activities. In general, the larger the college, the more types of activities are offered. If you're interested in a relatively obscure activity, you're more likely to find it offered at larger colleges. On the other hand, it can be more difficult to "break in" to popular activities on a larger campus. After all, the more students there are, the greater your competition.

"If you come from a small [high] school and always get the starring role in the drama or music productions, at a big school, you might find that you are chosen only to stand in the background or carry a spear for your first three or four productions," notes Gardner.

At smaller colleges, students may find it easier to get involved and stand out in extracurricular activities. But small colleges usually can't offer the variety of activities that a large college can.

"It's the old question – do you want to be a big fish in a small pond or a little fish in a big pond?" says Gardner.

### Social Life and Size

The effect of college size on student social life is similar to those on extracurricular activities. Larger schools have a greater variety of social options, and small colleges may have fewer options but a wider student participation in any one event.

You may find that smaller colleges seem friendlier, if only because you're likely to run into the same people more often. On the other hand, once you make a few friends, even the largest campus begins to feel like home.

### General vs. Specific

Though size does have a significant impact on many aspects of college life, general statements can never capture the unique environment and community of an individual college. And no matter what college you choose, your particular personality, interests and choices will make your college experience different from anyone else's.

"You can make a large college smaller, and you can make a small college larger," says John Yaegel from Tenafly High School (NJ). "At a large school, you can become very involved with your major, your dorm, your extracurricular activities, and not have to deal the rest of the campus unless and when you want to. Some small schools are in or near cities, other colleges, businesses, or cultural and government institutions that can expand the resources of the small school."

The best way to figure out what size(s) of college appeals to you is to visit a variety of colleges.

"I always suggest that students visit a large, medium and small college, a private and a public college, and an urban, suburban and rural college to get a feel for what is more comfortable," adds Yaegel.

*Written by Jennifer Gross and reprinted with permission from the National Association for College Admission Counseling (nacacnet.org).*



**Alfred State**

10 Upper College Drive  
Alfred, NY 14802  
607-587-4215 or 1-800-4ALFRED  
Fax: 607-587-4299  
Website: [www.alfredstate.edu](http://www.alfredstate.edu)



**Description:** Alfred State, a college of technology within the State University of New York (SUNY) system, offers outstanding educational opportunities with more than 70 diverse majors. Students can enroll in one of 19 bachelor's degree programs or one of 49 associate degree programs. And with this college's learn-by-doing philosophy, hands-on education and project-based learning aren't mere taglines; they're cornerstones of the culture. When students work on real-world problems, they learn how to think, not what to think. That's why Alfred State has a 99% employment and transfer rate.

**Founded:** 1908

**Degrees and majors offered:**

BA: Architecture BBA: Business Administration; Financial Planning; Sport Management; Technology Management BS: Architectural Technology; Computer Engineering Technology; Construction Management Engineering Technology; Digital Media and Animation; Electrical Engineering Technology; Forensic Science Technology; Human Services Management; Mechanical Engineering Technology; Nursing; Surveying Engineering Technology B.Tech: Information Security and Assurance; Information Technology (Applications Software Development, Network Administration, and Web Development) AA: Liberal Arts and Sciences (Adolescent Education Transfer, Humanities, Math and Science, Social Science); Pre-Environmental Science and Forestry AAS: Accounting; Agricultural Business, Agricultural Technology; Architectural Technology; Biological Science; Business Management; CAD/CAM Technology; Computer Information Systems; Computer Engineering Technology; Construction Engineering Technology; Court and Realtime Reporting; Digital Media and Animation; Electrical Engineering Technology; Entrepreneurship; Environmental Technology; Financial Services; Health Information Technology; Interior Design; Marketing; Mechanical Engineering Technology; Nursing; Surveying Engineering Technology; Veterinary Technology AOS: Air Conditioning and Heating Technology; Autobody Repair; Automotive Service Technician;



Building Construction; Culinary Arts; Culinary Arts: Baking, Production and Management; Drafting/CAD; Electrical Construction and Maintenance Electrician; Heavy Equipment Operations; Heavy Equipment: Truck and Diesel Technician; Machine Tool; Masonry; Motorsports Technology;

Welding AS: Business Administration; Computer Science; Engineering Science; Human Services; Individual Studies; Sports Management Certificate: Coding and Reimbursement; Court Reporting and Captioning; Entrepreneurship. An Undeclared major is also available.

**Current enrollment:** 3,528

**Faculty:** Approximately 223, Student/faculty Ratio is 20:1

**Tuition/costs:** Tuition \$5,870; Room and board \$11,580; Student fees \$1,424

**Financial aid:** See College Web site: [www.alfredstate.edu](http://www.alfredstate.edu). Call 1-800-4ALFRED.

**Admissions:** \$50 application fee; rolling admissions; see Web site for documents required.

**SUNY Buffalo State**

1300 Elmwood Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14222  
Phone: (716) 878-4017  
Fax: (716) 878-6100  
Website:  
[www.buffalostate.edu](http://www.buffalostate.edu)



**BUFFALO STATE**

The State University of New York

**Description:** Each year, nearly 12,000 students choose Buffalo State -- the largest comprehensive college in the State University of New York system -- for its high-quality academic programs infused with diversity, creativity, and hands-on learning opportunities. Our students find a personalized and valuable SUNY education with a proud higher education tradition since 1871. Situated in the heart of Buffalo's cultural corridor, Buffalo State offers a faculty and staff who seek to inspire a lifelong passion for learning and service, empowering a diverse population of students to succeed as citizens of a challenging world.

**Year Founded:** 1871

**Majors or Degrees Offered:** Buffalo State offers 169 undergraduate programs with 11 honors options, 19 postbaccalaureate teacher certification programs, and 65 opportunities for graduate study.

**Current Enrollment:** For 2013, 9,338 undergraduate students, and 1,327 graduate students.

**Faculty:** 811 full- and part-time

**Tuition and Fees:** \$5,870 annual (in state) \$15,320 annual (out of state) \$1,152 fees.

**Room and Board:** \$11,288 room and board

**Financial Aid:** 85 percent of undergraduates receive financial aid \$10,625 average award package

**Admissions Acceptance Rate:** 45 percent (First-time freshmen)

**New Facilities:** Buffalo State is engaged in a roster of capital projects that will result in nearly \$350 million in new construction and improvements to campus by 2016. Within the past two years, students have enjoyed the opening of a new 500-bed Student Apartment Complex, renovated Student Union, new Science and Math-

ematics Complex wing, and new Louis P. Ciminelli Recital Hall. Future openings will include a new Technology Building and extensive renovation of classroom, on-campus housing, and gymnasium/fitness facilities.

**Broad Array of Academic Programs:** Buffalo State offers 169 undergraduate programs with 11 honors options, 19 postbaccalaureate teacher certification programs, and 65 opportunities for graduate study. Buffalo State has a program for everyone.

**Diverse and Creative Environment:** Buffalo State is among the most diverse colleges in the SUNY system, a characteristic that's reflected in the myriad of people, ideas, experiences, and program offerings found here. This diverse and creative environment fosters student growth and success.

**Hands-on Learning Opportunities:** Buffalo State takes advantage of its location in the second-largest city in New York State by offering extensive service learning and internship opportunities that benefit students and the community. As a result, job possibilities for graduates are strong and varied.

**Smart Educational Investment:** In addition to the affordable tuition Buffalo State offers as a SUNY school, approximately 85 percent of undergraduates receive financial aid. The average award package is \$10,625.

**Heart of Buffalo's Cultural Corridor:** The university is located on 125-acres in Buffalo's museum district, adjacent to the Albright-Knox Art Gallery and Delaware Park. The neighborhood is lined with a vibrant mix of trendy cafés, restaurants, shops, and Victorian-style housing. On campus, the Performing Arts Center at Rockwell Hall, Louis P. Ciminelli Recital Hall, Burchfield Penney Art Center, Warren Enters Theatre, Czurlis-Nelson Gallery, and Margaret Bacon Student Gallery place the arts and creativity right at students' fingertips.

[wmich.edu/GoWest](http://wmich.edu/GoWest)

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**PEOPLE COME HERE BECAUSE THEY'RE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING.** It's not about packing up the car and going to a different town. For them it's about discovery. What they find is a challenge—something unexpected—that opens up new frontiers. When you come here, you'll find there are frontiers already inside you, just waiting to be found. Go West. Discover. Explore. This is one of America's great universities. A lot of people who have become successful—skilled, happy, wealthy and influential—started by heading West. Western Michigan University. It's your turn to **GRAB THE REINS.**





**California University of Pennsylvania**

250 University Ave.  
California, PA 15419  
Phone: 724-938-4404 • 888-412-0479  
Email: inquiry@calu.edu  
Website: www.calu.edu

**Description:** California University focuses on real-life education for real-world careers. Cal U provides a solid academic foundation, then adds hands-on activities, fieldwork, clinical experience or meaningful research so students begin building a resume even before graduation. Cal U is a proud member of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education.

**Founded:** 1852

**Degree programs**

**Programs of study:** More than 130 undergraduate and 35 graduate programs, plus certificates and letters of completion.

**Services:** Honors Program, Office of Academic Success, Career Services, Internship Center, Interna-



tional Programming (study abroad).

**Current enrollment:** 6,450 undergraduate and 1,793 graduate students.

**Faculty:** 400 full-time and part-time; 81% hold a PhD or other terminal degree.

**Tuition/costs:** \$6,622/year (full-time, in-state undergraduate); \$422/credit (in-state graduate)

**Financial aid:** More than 90% of students receive financial aid, including federal and state grants and loans, work-study, and scholarships.

**Admissions:** Rolling admission based on grades, test scores, class rank and activities. Average composite SAT: 1518; average ACT: 21.5.

**Canisius College**

2100 Main St.  
Buffalo, NY 14208  
Phone: 716-888-2200 • 800-843-1517  
Fax: 716-888-3230  
Web: www.canisius.edu



**Description of College/University:** Canisius College is the premier private university in Western New York, one of the 28 Jesuit, Catholic colleges in the nation, and is consistently ranked among the top regional colleges in the Northeast.

**Majors or Degrees Offered:** More than 125 undergraduate majors, minors, and certificate programs with 35 graduate programs, Canisius offers programs in Pre-Med, Accounting, Athletic Training, and Criminal Justice. We also have unique programs in Animal Behavior, Ecology & Conservation, Entrepreneurship, and Digital Media Arts. To view a full list of our majors, please visit canisius.edu/programs.

**Academic Calendar:** Fall, Spring, and Summer Semesters

**Current Enrollment:** 3,084 undergraduate; 1,453 graduate

**Faculty:** 97% of faculty hold PhDs or terminal degrees, and all are experts with hands-on experience in their fields.

**Full Time Undergraduate Tuition:** \$16,666/semester

**Financial Aid:** 98% of students receive some type of financial assistance. The average award comes in at approx. \$28,000.

**Admissions:** Learn more at canisius.edu/admissions

**D'Youville College**

320 Porter Ave.  
Buffalo, NY 14201  
Phone: 829-7600  
Fax: 829-7900  
Website: dyc.edu



**Description:** D'Youville College begins its second century as a leader in both health care and teacher education, offering students a full array of majors to choose from. Especially popular are five-year programs that lead to both a bachelor's and master's degree and save students both time and money. In addition, the private college has programs in business, liberal arts and a new pharmacy program which started in the fall of 2010.

A complement of master's degree and doctoral programs provide needed advance degrees for the career-minded individual.

A major attraction of D'Youville is they offer academic majors that lead to excellent careers. In fact, of the top 15 careers in the most recent listing of Money magazine's Top 50 Jobs, D'Youville offers programs in six of the careers.

D'Youville is known as a small, friendly campus with a dedicated faculty. There are no teaching assistants and all classes are taught by professors with advanced degrees. Lisa Williams, a business major student at the college, says, "The class sizes are small and I learn very well in that environment. My professors have real world experience and the rigor of the programs will equip me with the education and skills I need for my career."

**Founded:** 1908

**Degree programs:**

**Bachelor degree programs:** Accounting, Biology, Business Management, Education (Elementary, Secondary, Special Education), English, Exercise and Sports Studies, Global Studies, Health Services Management, History, International Business, Liberal Studies for Education, Healthy Analytics, Mathematics, Nursing, Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy Program, Pharmacy, Philosophy, Physician Assistant, Pre-Professional (pre-medical, pre-dental, pre-veterinary, pre-law), Psychology and Sociology.

**Master degree programs:** Education, Family Nurse Practitioner, Health Services Administration, International Business, MBA, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Physical Assistant.

**Doctoral programs:** Chiropractic DC, Educational Leadership EdD, Health Administration EdD and Physical Therapy DPT, Pharmacy (Pharm.D.), Doctor of Nursing Practice.



**Dual/combined degree programs:** Accounting/International Business (BS/MS), Biology/Chiropractic (BS/DC), Dietetics (BS/MS), Education (BA/MS or BS/MS), Exercise and Sports Studies/Physical Therapy (BS/DPT), Health Services/Physical Therapy (BS/DPT), International Business (BS/MS), Occupational Therapy Program (BS/MS), Physical Therapy Program (BS/DPT), Physician Assistant (BS/MS).

**Academic calendar:** Semesters

**Current enrollment:** 3,200

**Faculty:** 250

**Housing:** Residence hall living and on-campus apartments for upperclassmen.

**Tuition/costs:** tuition, \$23,092

**Financial aid:** FAFSA form. Academic scholarship program worth up to \$69,000.

**Admissions:** Rolling admissions. D'Youville application required, plus SAT or ACTS scores for freshmen.

**Alfred State**  
SUNY College of Technology

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**Daemen College**

4380 Main Street  
Amherst, NY 14226  
Phone: 716-839-8225  
Fax: 716-839-8229  
Website: [daemen.edu](http://daemen.edu)  
Email: [admissions@daemen.edu](mailto:admissions@daemen.edu)  
[daemen.edu](http://daemen.edu)

# DAEMEN

COLLEGE

## A World of Opportunity

**Description:** Daemen College is a private, nonsectarian, co-educational college located in suburban Amherst. The mission of Daemen College is to prepare students for life and leadership in an increasingly complex world. Daemen offers rigorous academic programs that are aligned with current market demands that develop the liberal arts-based skills and competencies. Daemen College prepares students for 21st century careers and professional excellence by strengthening career readiness through development initiatives. By increasing global content in the curriculum, increasing participation in experiential learning opportunities, and continuing to grow its population of students and faculty from international and other diverse backgrounds Daemen students are prepared for service to the local and global community.

**Attributes at the heart of a Daemen education include:** courage, curiosity, creativity, critical thinking, imagination, knowledge, innovation, professionalism and success.

Daemen's integrated learning experience helps to foster relationships that can develop between the College's faculty and its students. Daemen prides itself on maintaining a student-centered atmosphere and a close professional and collaborative association among all members of the College community. Daemen students are encouraged to pursue goals beyond their initial expectations, to respond to academic challenges, and to develop habits of mind that enrich their lives and their community.

**Founded:** 1947

**Degree programs:** Undergraduate Majors: Accounting, Animation, Art; Applied Theater, Printmaking, Drawing, Graphic Design, Illustration, Painting, Sculpture, Visual Arts Education K-12, Arts Administration; Comprehensive Arts, Fine Arts, Theatre, Biology; Adolescence Education 7-12,

Environmental Studies, Biochemistry, Business Administration; Human Resource Management, International Business, Marketing, Sport Management, Education; Childhood Education 1-6, Childhood Ed/Special Ed 1-6, Early Childhood Ed/Special Ed B-2, English; Adolescence Education 7-12, English; Adolescence Education 7-12, Communication/Public Relations, French; Adolescence Education 7-12, Health Care Studies; Community Health, Complementary and Alternative Health Care Practices, Health and Fitness Training, History; History & Political Science; Adolescence Education 7-12, Environmental Studies, Mathematics; Adolescence Education 7-12, Natural Science; Environmental Studies, Forensic Science, Individualized Studies, Nursing (Partner Program.), Paralegal, Political Science, Psychology, Religious Studies, Social Work, Spanish; Adolescence Education 7-12, Sustainability (Global and Local)

**Pre-professional Studies:** Pre-Dentistry, Pre-Law, Pre-Medicine, Pre-Veterinary

**Dual/combined degree programs:** Accounting BS/MS, Arts Administration BS/MS, Athletic Training BS/MS, Biology/Cytotechnology BS/MS, Business Administration/Global Business BS/MS, Physical Therapy BS, NS/DPT, Physician Assistant BS/MS

**Academic calendar:** September 2, 2014- May 16, 2015

**Current undergrad enrollment:** Approximately 2,000 Undergraduate and 900 Graduate Students

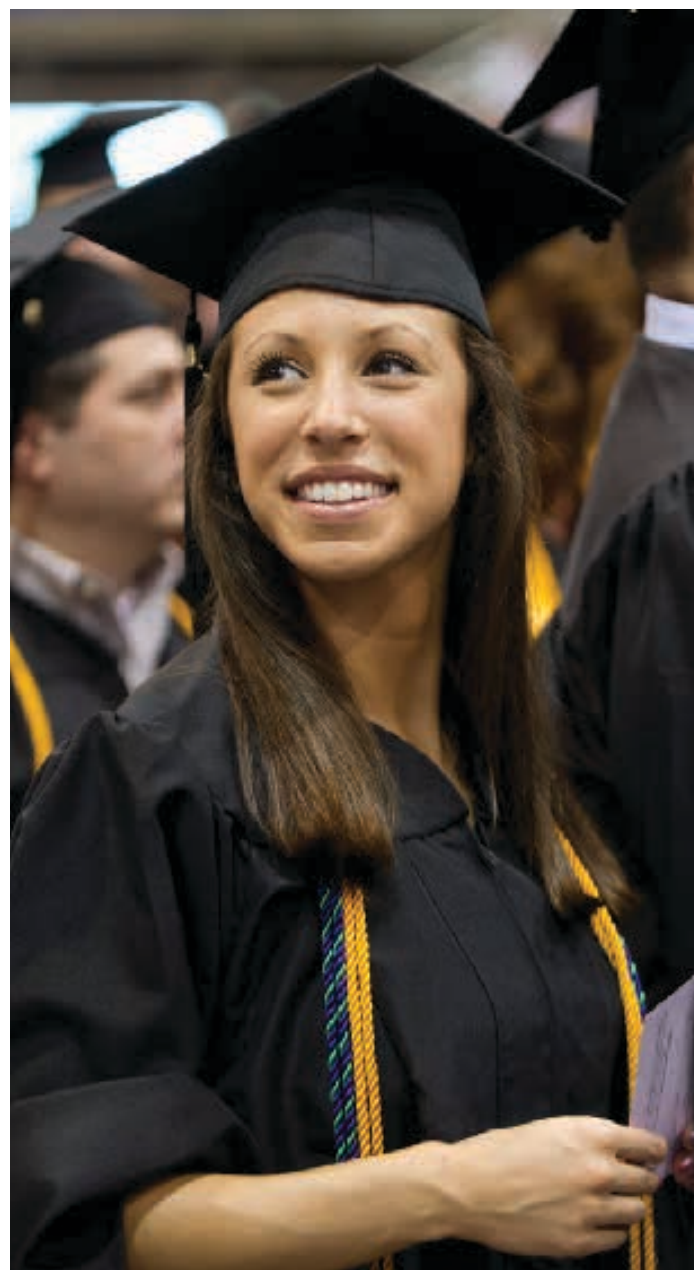
**Faculty:** Student/faculty ratio: 15:1 Full and part Time Faculty: Approximately 230



**Tuition/costs:** 2013-14 Tuition: \$23,580, Room and Board: \$10,950

**Financial aid:** Our generous scholarships make attending Daemen very affordable. We offer merit scholarships based on a student's academic and leadership achievement. Daemen's merit scholarships and grants are renewable for the duration of the program based on a student's GPA. Daemen also offers Athletic and Visual Arts scholarships. Over 93% of our full-time undergraduate students receive some type of financial assistance.

**Admissions:** Our Admissions staff will help guide you through the process from start to finish. We offer a rolling admissions policy. Visit Daemen! That's the best way to really get a feel for what Daemen has to offer. Apply on-line for free at [daemen.edu](http://daemen.edu) or [commonapp.org](http://commonapp.org). If you have any questions contact us at 716-839-8225 or [admissions@daemen.edu](mailto:admissions@daemen.edu).



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The State University of New York



**Edinboro University**

219 Meadville St.  
Edinboro, PA 16444  
Phone: 888-8GO-BORO  
Web: www.edinboro.edu

**Description:** EU's excellence and value become even more affordable in 2014, when out-of-state tuition for new undergraduates drops the equivalent of a \$3,000 scholarship. Edinboro has earned top-tier ranking in U.S. News & World Report's "Best Colleges" and "Best Online Programs." It's a recognized leader among Pennsylvania institutions for return on students' investment. EU provides individual attention to student success; superb faculty; state-of-the-art facilities; and support for travel and other high-impact learning experiences.

**Founded:** 1857

**Degrees programs:** More than 100 undergraduate, master's, doctoral, and certificate programs in arts and humanities, science and health professions, busi-



ness, and education. Visit our website for full list. Academic calendar:

**Academic calendar:** Summer: May 19-June 5, June 9-July 9, and July 14-Aug. 13, 2014; Fall: Aug. 25-Dec. 12, 2014; Spring: Jan. 26-May 15, 2015.

**Undergraduate enrollment:** 5,864

**Tuition/costs:** \$8,849 undergraduate tuition and mandatory fees (in-state)

**Financial aid:** 78 percent of students receive financial aid; more than \$2 million in institutional scholarships and awards in 2013-14.

**Admissions:** Apply today at www.edinboro.edu/admissions.



# College Categories

As you plan for college you have many options. Listed below are the College Categories that describe the different types of institutions available to you.

**Non-Profit and Private  
These Colleges and  
Universities:**

- Receive funding primarily from student tuition and endowments. Some funding comes from governmental support in the form of tax breaks and student loans
- Follow the leadership of a board of trustees
- Develop own institutional plans since they operate mostly on private support
- Rely on private funds, which leads to a higher average cost
- Offer financial aid opportunities to reduce the total cost

**Public  
These Colleges and  
Universities:**

- Receive a large part of funding from state or local taxes. Some funding comes from tuition and endowments
- Follow performance standards set by the state
- Most are state-run which lowers the tuition for in-state students
- Typically categorized as two-year, four-year, research, comprehensive, or community colleges

**For-Profit/ Proprietary  
These Colleges and  
Universities:**

- Receive up to 90 percent of their revenue from federal student aid
- Operate under the demands of investors and stockholders
- Usually offer a non-traditional format,
- Have come under federal scrutiny for high pressure sales/recruitment tactics

*A close examination of the academic, social and financial factors will lead you to a best-fit college. To read more on the differences in college categories, please visit our web site at [www.nacacnet.org/nfstudent](http://www.nacacnet.org/nfstudent)*

**Erie Community College (ECC)**

121 Ellicott Street  
Buffalo, NY 14203  
Phone: 716-851-1322  
Fax: 716-851-1129  
Website: www.ecc.edu  
Email: info@ecc.edu



and over 250 online degree and certificate programs. Visit www.ecc.edu for a complete list.

**Academic calendar:** Spring 2014 semester: Jan. 21 to May 17. Summer session I: May 27 to July 3. Summer session II: July 7 to Aug. 15.

**Current undergrad enrollment:** 13,625 students (8,993 full-time & 4,632 part-time).

**Faculty:** 925 full- and part-time

instructors.

**Tuition/fees:** \$3,995 (\$167 per credit); fees vary by program.

**Financial aid:** Erie Community College has a comprehensive program of student aid. All necessary financial aid forms can be found by visiting ECC's Financial Aid information page at: [www.ecc.edu/financialaid/aid-forms](http://www.ecc.edu/financialaid/aid-forms). ECC scholarship information can be found by visiting the ECC Foundation site at <http://www.ecc-foundation.com/scholarships-fund>, or by calling their office at 716-851-1990.

**Admissions:** For complete information about ECC admissions and registration policies and contact information, please visit our website at [www.ecc.edu/admissions](http://www.ecc.edu/admissions).

**Description:** Since 1946, Erie Community College (ECC) has met the needs of a diverse student body while contributing to the economic vitality of Western New York. Our three-campus college provides an accommodating academic environment, and is consistently ranked as one of the nation's top associate's degree producers, as well as the #1 choice of Western New York's high school students and veterans.

**Founded:** 1946

**Degree programs:** More than 100 degree and certificate programs. Associate degree programs: Business and Public Service; Engineering and Technologies; Health Sciences; and Liberal Arts. 26 one-year certificate programs; class/core concentration programs;



“How did I end up in a leadership role at Turner Broadcasting? It all started at Fisher.”

Veronica Sheehan  
Senior Vice President of Network Operations  
Turner Broadcasting System, Inc.  
St. John Fisher College Alumna, Class of 1988

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**Hilbert College**

**5200 South Park Ave.  
Hamburg, NY 14075  
Phone: 716-649-7900  
Fax: 716-649-0702  
Web: www.hilbert.edu  
Email: info@hilbert.edu**

**Description:** Hilbert College is an independent four-year Catholic coeducational institution with a Franciscan spirit located in suburban Hamburg, New York only 10 miles south of Buffalo.

**Founded:** 1957

**Degree programs:** The liberal arts curriculum allows students to choose from 16 bachelor's degree programs, three graduate degree programs, and five associate degree programs. Go to [www.hilbert.edu](http://www.hilbert.edu) for a complete listing.

**Academic calendar:** Semester

**Current undergrad enrollment:** 1,033

**Faculty:** 49 Full-time and 76 Part-time

**Tuition/costs:** Full-time Undergraduate Students tuition: \$9,650/semester

Part-time Undergraduate Students Tuition:

**HILBERTCOLLEGE**

\$485/credit hour

**Financial aid:** When students apply for admissions and

financial aid at Hilbert to our traditional undergraduate programs, they are automatically considered for the scholarships listed below. Some are based strictly on grade point average, or high school gpa. Others consider special qualities or areas of interest. During the financial aid award process, you will be considered for applicable scholarships and grants on a time sensitive basis. As a result, there is no need for a separate application, however, there is an advantage to apply for admissions and financial aid early.

**Freshmen Scholarships awarded by Admissions:**

A wide range of scholarships are available. For a complete list of Hilbert scholarships available to incoming freshmen, contact the Office of Student Finance or stop by to see a financial aid counselor.

**Admissions:** Students may apply online and the \$25 application fee is waived. Or they may download an application or request an admissions packet from the Admissions Office (716-926-8780 or 1-800-649-8003).

**Lawrence Technological University**

**21000 West Ten Mile Rd.  
Southfield, Mich. 48075-1058  
Phone: 800-225-5588  
Web: www.ltu.edu/applyfree**

**Description:** Lawrence Technological University is a private university providing individualized attention, small classes in a high-tech learning environment, and hands-on experience opportunities in projects, competitions, internships, co-ops, and applied research.

Lawrence Tech students enjoy a dynamic athletic program – from NAIA varsity sports for men and women and men's ACHA ice hockey to club sports and intramural.

Over 60 student organizations, including fraternities, sororities, honor societies, and student chapters of professional groups sponsor a variety of activities throughout the year on LTU's modern, 102-acre campus.

**Founded:** 1932

**Degrees Offered:** Over 100 undergraduate, master's,

**Lawrence Technological University**

and doctoral programs in Colleges of Architecture and Design, Arts and Sciences, Engineering, and Management. Many degrees and "fast-track" certificates are in emerging fields involving robotics, alternative energy, defense, the life sciences, and more.

**Academic Calendar:** Fall, spring and summer semesters

**Undergrad enrollment:** 4,257

**Tuition/costs:** \$28,328 full-time; \$770-\$992 per credit hour; Required fees: \$585 plus lab fees

**Financial Aid:** 81 percent of students receive some form of financial aid

**Admissions:** Learn more at [www.ltu.edu/futurestudents](http://www.ltu.edu/futurestudents)

**College Rankings:  
Helpful or Hurtful?**

Every year, various magazines publish their college rankings issues. These rankings often get a lot of attention from the media, colleges and college-bound students and their parents. But should these rankings have any influence on what college you choose?

"I tell my students that rankings can help them build a list of colleges to consider—simply names to put on the pile to research," says John Boshoven, counselor for continuing education at Community High School (MI) and director of college counseling at the Jewish Academy of Metropolitan Detroit.

But just because a magazine says that a particular college is number one doesn't mean that it would be a good match for you. Every student looks for different characteristics in a college—characteristics that may not be considered by a magazine writer looking for a hot story. You may find that the college of your dreams is ranked number one, number ten, or not at all.

"The detriment comes when students and families confuse rankings and/or selectivity with quality," says Boshoven. "They often

have little in common."

John Yaegel of Tenafly High School (NJ) often asks students to compare college rankings with rankings in other areas of life. "How about the Academy Awards? Do you always agree on the best movie, actor, or actress? Are the top 40 songs always in the order that you would rate them? Do you always agree with sportswriters' lists of the top 25 college football teams?" Like these lists, college rankings are in the eyes of the beholder. Your top ten college list may be completely different from any magazine's—or even from your best friend's list.

"I often ask families to tell me, 'Who is the best person sitting at this table?'" says Boshoven. "They say, 'It depends on what qualities you seek.' Exactly. It's the same with colleges."

So go ahead and read the college rankings magazines. Many times, the articles accompanying the rankings are full of solid advice for students and their families. But don't take the rankings themselves too seriously—the most important question is what college is right for YOU.

*Written by Jennifer Gross.*

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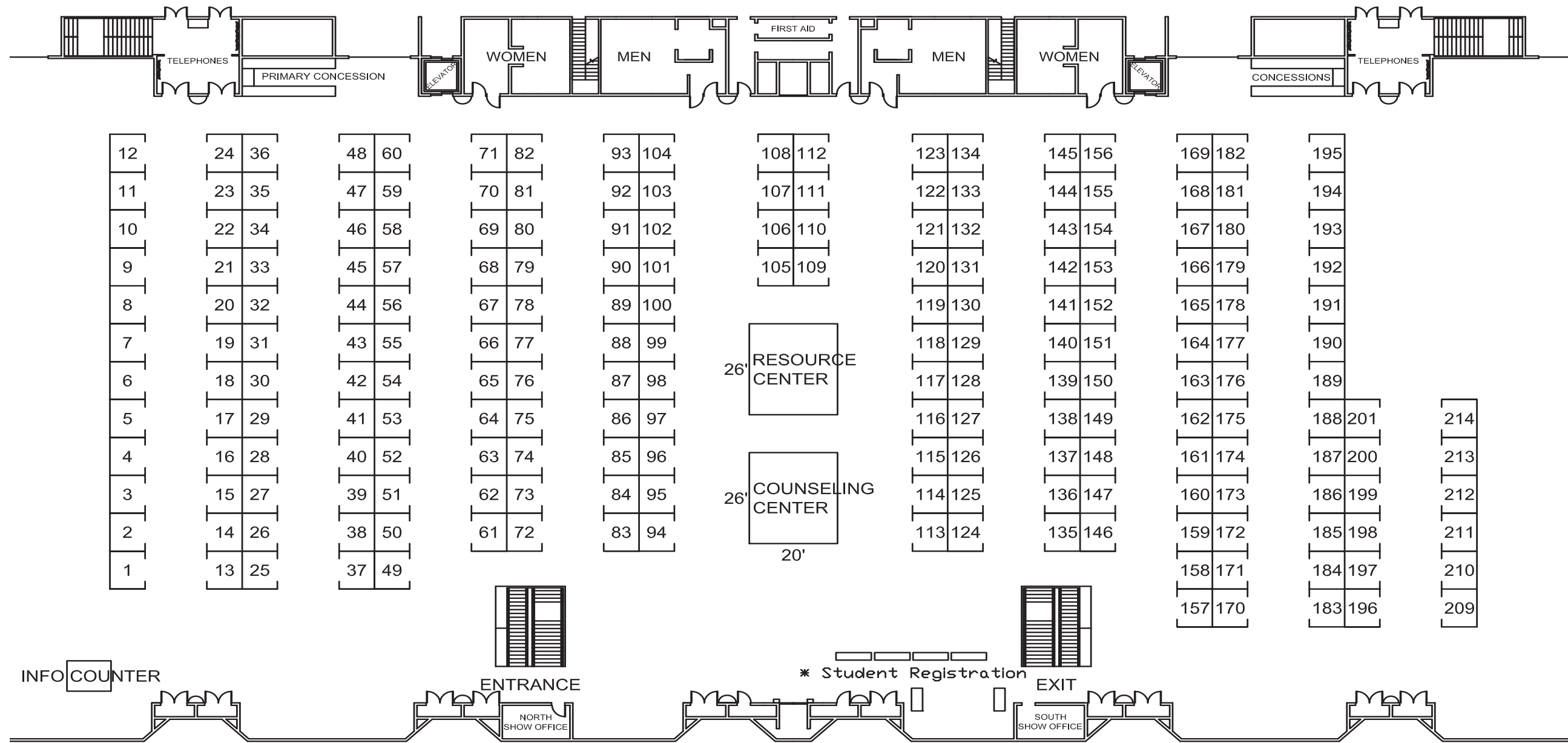
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\*NACAC member colleges marked with an asterisk (\*) have voluntarily begun using the U.S. Department of Education's Financial Aid Shopping Sheet as the method they will use to let you know about your financial aid package. You will be able to make direct, clear comparisons between financial aid award letters for colleges using the Shopping Sheet.

For more information about the Shopping Sheet and the colleges using it, visit the NACAC Web page at [www.nacacnet.org](http://www.nacacnet.org).

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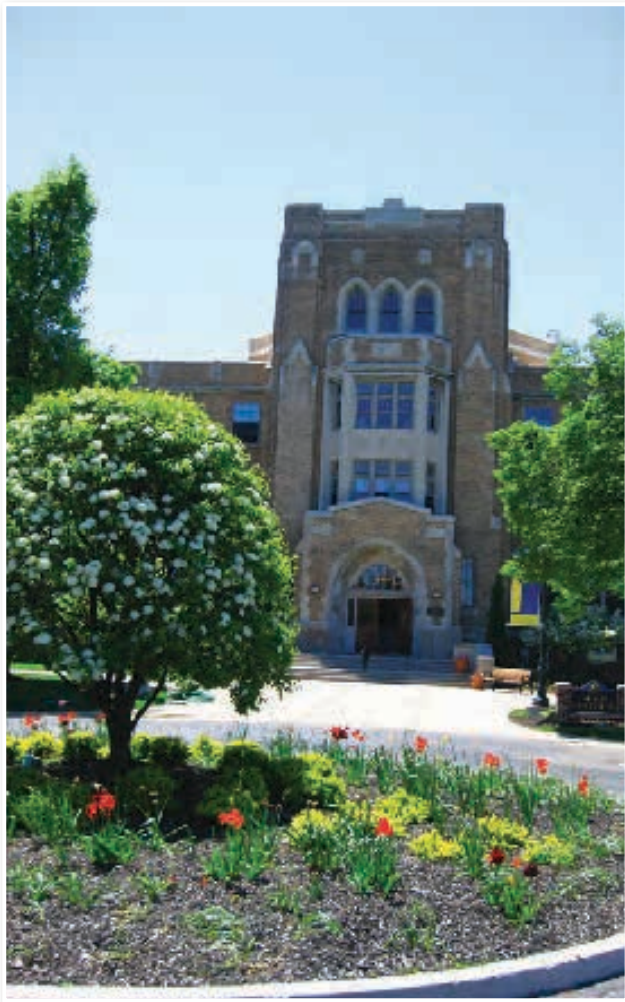








# Medaille College



## Medaille College

**18 Agassiz Circle  
Buffalo, NY 14214  
Phone: (716) 880-2200  
or (800) 292-1582  
Fax: (716) 880-2007  
Website:  
www.medaille.edu**

**Description:** Medaille is a private, four-year college offering Associates, Bachelors, Masters and Doctorate degree programs, as well as Certificate programs for continuing education.

The Buffalo Campus sits along the historic Olmsted Crescent near Delaware Park and the cultural heart of Buffalo. Our welcoming environment and strong student services motivate our students to succeed.

The College prides itself on providing a career-driven education with a strong liberal arts core curriculum. Every student has access to our Student Success Center to guide them on their path to their educational and career goals. Participating in enriching, community-based learning, including internships and service projects, complements classroom experiences and prepare students for life after college.

We invite you to visit the Medaille community by contacting the Office of Undergraduate Admission at (716) 880-2200.

**Founded:** 1937

**Majors/degrees offered:**



Accounting – Dual Degree (B.S./M.S.), Biology (B.S.), Business Administration (B.S.), Business Administration-Management Information Systems (B.S.), Communication (B.A.), Criminal Justice (B.S.), Education (Childhood/Birth-6) (B.S.), Adolescent/Secondary (7-12) with Special Education (Biology, English, Social Studies) (B.S.), English (B.A.), Liberal Studies (A.S./B.S.), Psychology (B.A.), Sport Management (B.S.), Veterinary Technology (A.S./B.S.).

**Academic calendar:** Semester (Fall and Spring)

**Current undergraduate enrollment:** 1,700

**Faculty:** 87 full-time faculty distinguished in their field of study

**Tuition/costs:** 2014-2015: \$25,002 tuition and fees; \$11,865 room, board and meal plan

**Financial Aid:** Scholarships range from \$5000 to \$15000 and are awarded on a competitive, merit basis. Medaille College also participates in the Say

Yes to Education program. Additional aid is available by filing FAFSA. Contact Financial Aid Office at (716) 880-2256 or visit [www.medaille.edu/financialaid](http://www.medaille.edu/financialaid)

**Admissions:** Visit our website at [www.medaille.edu/](http://www.medaille.edu/) apply or contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions for an application. Applications are reviewed upon receipt of high school (and college if applicable) transcripts and standardized SAT or ACT test scores. Letters of recommendation and personal essays are optional but encouraged. Personal interviews and campus tours are recommended for all incoming students.

**Athletics:** NCAA Division III

**Women's:** Basketball, Bowling, Cross-Country, Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, Tennis and Volleyball

**Men's:** Baseball, Basketball, Cross-Country, Golf, Lacrosse, Soccer, Volleyball

**Club Sports:** Cheerleading, Ice Hockey

## Earning College Credit in High School

**A**mbitious high school students often have a variety of options to get a head start on college. They can earn college credits by scoring high on AP (Advanced Placement) or IB (International Baccalaureate) tests or by taking courses at local colleges. Earning college credit in high school can definitely help in college admission. But students should think carefully about what—and how many—college credit options they choose.

### AP and IB

Many high schools offer AP and/or IB courses. Students in these classes complete advanced, college-level coursework. At the end of each course, they take a standardized test to prove they have learned the material. High scorers can receive college credit for the course at many colleges around the country.

Admission officers see AP or IB courses as a plus.

"What that indicates is that the student wants to take the most challenging coursework possible while they're in high school," says Michael Karloff, director of admission at Hastings College (NE).

In addition, the standardized tests for the courses give admission officers a way to compare students from across the country.

"[The AP and IB tests] tell us not only about how that student performed in the course in their high school but on a national or international scale," says Julie Browning, dean for undergraduate enrollment at Rice University (TX).



### Dual Enrollment Courses

A growing number of high schools are partnering with local colleges to provide dual enrollment courses. In these programs, students can earn college credit by taking the same courses as students at a nearby community college.

Dual enrollment programs can vary widely. In some programs, the dual enrollment classes take place in the high school during the school day. Others require students to attend regular

classes on the college campus.

Because of dual enrollment programs' newness and variety, colleges may or may not accept dual credits.

"We ask a few questions to follow-up on [dual enrollment courses] to be sure we're clear on how much depth of material is covered, who taught the course, [and whether they] were in class with other college students or still inside the walls of their high school," says

Browning.

Dual enrollment credits, therefore, may not be accepted as widely as AP or IB credits. However, having dual enrollment courses on your application still shows that you're interested in challenging yourself academically.

### Don't Overdo It

Colleges look for students who take the most demanding courses available at their high school. But they also expect students to do well in those courses. If your high school offers many AP or other advanced courses, it may be tempting to try to take them all. But beware of overburdening yourself: too many tough courses can lead to high stress and lower grades.

Instead, choose advanced courses in the subjects that you enjoy the most and can succeed in. If you're unsure of how much work you should take on, discuss your choices with your guidance counselor, the teacher of the course, or a parent.

"Have some good conversations about what this curriculum would mean senior year," says Browning. You should leave room for other, nonacademic goals, like participating in extracurricular activities and just having some fun your senior year.

In short, balance is the key.

"Students need to feel confident in their ability to be successful in taking college-level coursework before they get into it," says Karloff. "You still need to have some fun in high school and to do well in all your courses—and there are only so many hours in the day."





## Niagara University

Office of Admissions | Gacioch Family Alumni and Admissions Center  
Niagara University, NY 14109-2011  
Phone: 716.286.8700 or 1.800.462.2111  
Fax: 716.286.8710  
Website: [www.niagara.edu](http://www.niagara.edu)

**Description:** Niagara University, founded in 1856 by the Vincentian community, is a private, comprehensive, Catholic university. With the motto "Education that Makes a Difference," Niagara University seeks not only to develop the whole person for the benefit of each student's personal and professional life, but also to inspire them to do more by serving others.

**Founded:** 1856

**Majors or Degrees Offered:**



# NIAGARA UNIVERSITY

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**Pre-professional options:** Pre-Dental, Pre-Law, Pre-Medical, Pre-Pharmacy, Pre-Veterinary and ROTC-



Army.

**Master's degree programs:** Master of Education and Counseling, Master of Business Administration, Master of Criminal Justice, Master of Finance, Master of Sport Management and Master of Interdisciplinary Studies. Niagara also offers a Ph.D. in Leadership and Policy. For more details, visit [www.niagara.edu/graduate](http://www.niagara.edu/graduate).

**Dual/combined degree programs:** BBA/MBA in Accounting, BA/MS in psychology and clinical mental health counseling, and BS/MS in Criminal Justice. For details, go to [www.niagara.edu/admissions](http://www.niagara.edu/admissions).

**Academic Calendar:** Fall semester: Sept. 2 to Dec. 17. Spring semester: Jan. 20 to May 11. Dates of summer semester vary.

**Current Enrollment:** 3,300 undergraduates; 870 graduate students.

**Faculty:** 156 faculty members. Average class size is 25 students. With a student to faculty ratio of 11:1.

**Undergraduate tuition/costs:** 2013-2014 academic year: \$26,900 tuition; \$1,300 fees.

**Housing options:** 1,500 students are housed in five residence halls, six student apartments and six varsity village houses. Housing options include singles, doubles and triples. Housing is generally coed with the exception of Varsity Village, which offers single-gender housing.

**Housing costs:** For 2013-2014, annual room and board fee for freshmen is \$11,600.

**Financial Aid:** Ninety-eight percent of first-year incoming freshmen receive some form of financial aid. This package may combine scholarships (merit-based scholarships range from \$7,500 up to full tuition), grants, student employment (work study), and loans. For additional information, contact the Admissions Office or Financial Aid Office at 1.800.462.2111 or go to [www.niagara.edu/scholarships-financialaid](http://www.niagara.edu/scholarships-financialaid).

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### St. Bonaventure University

P.O. Box D 3261 W. State Road  
St. Bonaventure, NY 14778  
Phone: 800-462-5050  
Fax: 716-375-4005  
Website: [www.sbu.edu](http://www.sbu.edu)  
Email: [admissions@sbu.edu](mailto:admissions@sbu.edu)

**Description:** As a leading Catholic Franciscan University, St. Bonaventure University cultivates graduates who are confident and creative communicators, collaborative leaders and team members, and innovative problem solvers who are respectful of themselves, others, and the diverse world around them. We are establishing pathways to internships, graduate schools and careers. Our students are becoming extraordinary.

**Founded:** 1858

**Degree programs:** Majors or Degrees Offered: Bachelor's, Master's, Advanced Certificates; more than 45 undergraduate majors, with Schools of Business, Education, Arts & Sciences, and Journalism/Mass Communication; combined-degree programs in medicine, pharmacy, dentistry and physical therapy. New majors in Sport Studies and Strategic Communication & Digital Media.



**ST. BONAVENTURE**  
UNIVERSITY  
Founded 1858

**Academic calendar:** Fall & Spring semesters, plus two Summer sessions

**Current undergrad enrollment:** 1,800 (total is 2,200 including grad students)

**Faculty:** 154 full-time, 69 part-time

**Tuition/costs:** \$28,624 tuition per year; room/board: \$10,415

**Financial aid:** Average freshman aid package is more than \$22,000, including institutional scholarships, grants, and federal loans.

**Admissions:** Rolling deadline



## Tips for attending the National College Fair

### Before the Fair...

- 1 Discuss your college plans** with your guidance counselor, family, teachers and friends.
- 2 Research your colleges of interest** on the Internet and in your guidance office/library.
- 3 Check dates and registration deadlines** for college entrance examinations.

**Answer the following questions** to help you determine what kind of school would best suit you:

- **Do you want to** attend a two- or four-year institution? Co-ed or single sex?
- **Do you wish to** participate in any specific extra-curricular activities or athletics?
- **What size school do** you want to attend?
- **Do you want to** attend a school in an urban, suburban or rural environment?
- **What programs of study** are you considering?
- **Do you require any** special services (i.e. tutoring, note takers, readers, TDD or interpreters)?
- **How far from home** do you want to go?

### At the Fair...

- 1 Pick up** a bag and a fair directory.
- 2 Visit with colleges and universities** which you feel meet your criteria.
- 3 Talk with a college counselor** at the Counseling Center if you have any questions or need help with your college search.
- 4 Attend** an information session.





### St. John Fisher College

**3690 East Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14618  
Phone: 585-385-8064  
Fax: 585-385-8386  
Website: [www.sjfc.edu/freshman](http://www.sjfc.edu/freshman)**

**Description:** St. John Fisher College is an independent, liberal arts institution in the Catholic tradition of American higher education. Guided by the educational philosophy of the Congregation of St. Basil, the College emphasizes liberal learning for students in traditional academic disciplines, as well as for those in more directly career-oriented fields.

The campus is situated on 154 park-like acres—a beautiful setting for 25 modern buildings and a warm, friendly campus community. The College offers 33 academic majors in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, business, and nursing; 11 pre-professional programs; 9 master's programs; and three doctoral programs.

**Founded:** 1948

#### Degrees Offered:

Bachelor of Arts  
Bachelor of Science  
Master of Business Administration  
Master of Science  
Master of Science in Education  
Doctor of Education  
Doctor of Nursing Practice  
Doctor of Pharmacy

**Academic Calendar:** Fall and Spring Semesters

**Current Enrollment:** Total enrollment is 3,997 students.



**Faculty:** 219 full-time faculty

**Tuition/Costs for 2013-14:** Tuition: \$27,870

**Room and Board:** \$10,940

**Fees:** \$560

**Financial Aid:** 100% of first-year students receive some form of financial assistance. The average offer to incoming students is nearly \$20,000. Need-based and merit-based scholarships, as well as grants, loans, and part-time employment, are available for eligible students.

**Admissions:** Admission is based primarily on grade point average and strength of curriculum, scores on standardized tests (SAT/ACT), extracurricular activities and/or work experience, a personal statement/essay, and the high school's evaluation of the candidate. Interviews are also considered and strongly encouraged.

### Trocaire College

**360 Choate Ave.  
Buffalo, NY 14220  
Phone: 716-826-1200**

**Fax: 716-828-6107  
Email: [info@trocaire.edu](mailto:info@trocaire.edu)  
trocaire.edu**

**Website: [www.trocaire.edu](http://www.trocaire.edu)**

**Russell J. Salvatore School of Hospitality & Business  
Extension Center: 6681 Transit Road,  
Williamsville, NY 14221**

**Phone:** 716-827-4301

**Fax:** 716-634-6139

**Description:** Trocaire College, a private college in the Mercy tradition, specializes in healthcare programs. Trocaire has an extension site at 6681 Transit Road - Russell J. Salvatore School of Hospitality & Business.

**Founded:** 1958

**Degree programs:** A.S., A.A., A.A.S., B.S. and Certificates:



Computer Network Administration, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Nutrition & Dietetics, Echocardiography, General Studies, Health Information Technology, New - Healthcare Informatics [A.A.S., B.S., Certificate], Hospitality

Management, Human Resource Management, Massage Therapy, Medical Assistant, Nursing [A.A.S. and B.S. 2+2], Practical Nursing, Surgical Technology, Radiologic Technology

**Academic calendar:** Fall and Spring semesters, Summer sessions available

**Undergrad enrollment:** 1344

**Faculty:** 140 [approximately full and part time]

**Tuition/costs:** \$7,490 full-time per semester; \$620 per credit hour

**Financial aid:** FAFSA form completion required. Please visit our consumer information page at <http://www.trocaire.edu/about-trocaire/consumer-information>.

**Admissions:** Rolling admissions [except Nursing: March 1 deadline for Fall semester; October 1 deadline for Spring semester], apply at [www.trocaire.edu](http://www.trocaire.edu) at no cost.

### University at Buffalo

**12 Capen Hall  
Buffalo, NY  
14206-1660  
Phone: 1-888-UB-ADMIT or 716-645-6900  
Fax: 716-645-6411  
Website: [www.admissions.buffalo.edu](http://www.admissions.buffalo.edu)**

**Description:** A premier research-intensive public university and the largest and most comprehensive campus in the State University of New York System. UB's 28,000 plus students pursue their academic interests through more than 300 undergraduate, graduate and professional degree programs. Founded in 1846, UB is a member of the Association of American Universities.

**Year Founded:** 1846

**Majors or Degrees Offered:** More than 100 undergraduate degrees, plus about 205 master's and 84 doctoral, also 10 professional degrees. College of Arts and Sciences, plus schools of Architecture and Planning, Dental Medicine, Education, Engineering and Applied



Sciences, Law, Management, Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Nursing, Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Public Health and Health Professions, and Social Work, plus the Roswell Park Cancer Institute Graduate Division.

**Academic Calendar:** Spring, Fall, Summer and Winter Semesters

**Undergrad enrollment:** 19,506 (fall 2013)

**Faculty:** 1,552 full time; 746 part time (fall 2013)

**Tuition, in state:** \$5,870. Out of State: \$17,180. Fees: \$2,556; Room and Board: \$11,857.

**Financial Aid:** About \$4 millions awarded in merit scholarships to fall 2013 incoming freshmen class. About 70% of students receive some form of financial aid.

**Admissions:** [www.admissions.buffalo.edu](http://www.admissions.buffalo.edu) \$50 application fee. Apply with Common Application or SUNY application. Application is recommended in fall of your senior year. Visit website for specific dates and requirements.

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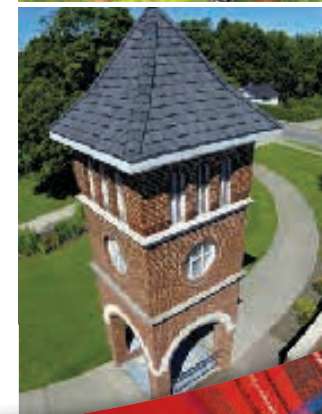
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# The Balancing Act:

## Choosing High School Courses for College Success

**H**igh school freshmen, sophomores, and juniors are probably beginning to sign up for your courses for next year. As you ponder whether to take German or Spanish, chemistry or earth science, keep in mind that your choices today will matter tomorrow.

### Building a foundation

"Choices made as a freshman and sophomore could affect choices for the rest of the student's life," says Kristin Crouse from ACT media relations.

That's because what you study now forms the foundation of your education. Doing well in Algebra 1 will help you succeed in Algebra 2 and in even more advanced math courses. Taking an honors English course as a sophomore or junior will help you do better in senior English, write better application essays, and even influence your success in that college freshman English composition class.

In addition to preparing you for college work, taking solid high school courses makes you more competitive in the college admission process.

"Admission committees primarily focus on the strength of curriculum taken and performance within that curriculum," says Donald Hapward, director of admission at South Dakota School of Mine & Technology (SD). "Grade point average and class rank and usually SAT or ACT results are considered third or fourth."

### So what do I take?

The best preparation for college work—and college admission—is a challenging curriculum that's heavy on "core courses." Core courses are the basics: math, science, English, social studies, foreign language.

"Pick courses that keep the most options open," says Shaun McElroy, director of college counseling at Escuela Campo Alegre, The American School in Caracas, Venezuela. "Push to take the highest level in math and English that you can handle, as these will serve you best."

For juniors, it can be tempting to slack off once you've taken the number of core courses required for high school graduation, but don't give into that temptation. Your competition in the selective college admission game is taking that extra year or two of foreign language or that senior-year advanced chemistry elective.

"Try and max out with four years in all the academic core areas, as this gives you the best breadth of options," says McElroy.

Although core courses are the most important, choosing your electives wisely can also make a difference. Electives are your opportunity to follow your passions and round out your education.

- If you're concerned about the environment, take an extra earth science or environmental studies course.

- If singing is your first love, take a music theory course or try learning to play a musical instrument.

- If you're fascinated with cars, get some hands-on experience by trying a course in auto mechanics.

- If you'd love to own your own business someday, take accounting or other business-oriented classes.

- If you rush home every day to update your personal Web site, take advantage of any available electives in computers. (Actually, all students should take whatever computer courses may be available at their school—in nearly every field of study, computer literacy is a big asset.)

### Keeping a balance

The very best college applicants have made outstanding grades in the toughest core courses available at their high

school. But it takes a very strong student, indeed, to make straight A's in an all-AP or honors line up and still have time for friends, family, activities, and sleep. So beware of overburdening yourself. You'll do yourself no favors if you sign up for a ridiculously difficult schedule.

"Do not take tough courses solely for taking tough courses," says McElroy. "Ask yourself, how hard do you work? How hard are you willing to work? How else do you spend your time?"

If you have a job or play varsity athletics or volunteer a lot, it might be better to take two or three advanced courses and excel in everything."

Juniors should also take their college search into account. Many experts advise students that the college search and application process takes as much time and work as another class.

Your high school counselor and teachers can help you figure out what is challenging—but not too challenging. If you're not sure about whether you should take a particular course, ask the teacher how much work it will involve. If you're taking three AP classes in the fall, for example, it may be smart to wait until spring to take that advanced physics course taught by the hardest grader in the school.

"It's always better to start off slowly and speed up later than to overburden yourself and regret it," says John Boshoven, counselor for continuing education at Community High School (MI) and director of college counseling for Jewish Academy of Metropolitan Detroit. "If you think you want to take all the hard classes to look better later, remember that doing poorly in hard classes gives you no advantage."

In fact, a mid-semester reality check may be in order if you're having problems keeping up. "Generally, if students are really struggling to get a B or C, they should think about dropping down a level or making some other change," says Amy Thompson, college and career counselor at York Community High School (IL). So before you sign up for a particularly heavy course load, talk with your counselor about your options, just in case you realize in the fall that you're in over your head.

### Trust yourself

When you're making decisions about your courses, your counselor, teachers, and parents can have valuable insight. Listen to what they have to say about your strengths and weaknesses, and take into account their advice on course scheduling. But also trust your own interests and instincts.

"We encourage students to be as realistic as they can," says Thompson. "They know themselves better than anyone else, so they have to decide how much challenge they can handle."

*Written by Jennifer Gross.*





## Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology

86-01 23rd Ave.  
Flushing, NY 11369  
Phone: 718-429-6600  
Fax: 718-779-2231  
Website: [www.vaughn.edu](http://www.vaughn.edu)

**Description:** Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology is a private, four-year college offering master's, bachelor's and associate degrees and certificate programs. The college is committed to providing its students with the excellent education and skills needed to achieve professional success in engineering, technology, management and aviation.

**Founded:** 1932

**Majors or degrees offered:** A.A.S., B.S., and M.S.

**Academic calendar:** fall, spring, summer

**Current enrollment:** 1,704

**Faculty:** 15:1

**Tuition/costs:** \$19,850

**Room & Board:** \$11,000

**Financial aid:** Yes

**Admissions:** 718.429.6600 / [admitme@vaughn.edu](mailto:admitme@vaughn.edu)

**The College:** Founded in 1932, Vaughn College, adjacent to LaGuardia Airport, is a small, high-quality institution where students can experience personal attention as they progress through academic coursework. The College fosters a culture of excellence in which rigorous degree, professional, technical and certification programs are offered. These programs, built upon the College's aeronautical heritage, incorporate the latest technology and meet the universal needs of the industries they serve. The result is well-educated graduates who are successful in their fields. The College's student body of more than 1,700 and its low, 15:1 student-faculty ratio ensure a highly personalized learning environment. More than 92 percent of Vaughn College graduates are employed or continue their educations within one year of obtaining their degrees, and they work in 20 countries and in all 50 states. More than 90 percent of Vaughn students receive some form of financial aid.

Located in New York City, the College offers numerous internship opportunities with an array of technology, manufacturing and aviation companies. The cultural,



## Vaughn College

of aeronautics and technology

spiritual and physical needs of the students are met by the outstanding facilities of New York City. Restaurants are easily accessible, and hospitals and other medical facilities are among the best in the world. Nearby museums focus on arts, natural history, science, and world civilization.

The College awards the **Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.)** degree in aeronautical engineering technology, airport management, aviation maintenance, animation and digital technologies, electronic engineering technology and aircraft operations (flight).

**The Bachelor of Science (B.S.)** degree is available in aircraft operations (flight), airline management, airport management, aviation maintenance, aviation maintenance management, electronic engineering technology, general management, mechatronics engineering and mechanical engineering technology.

**The Master of Science (M.S.)** degree is available in airport management. A non-degree course of study in air traffic control, a Federal Aviation Administration Collegiate Training Initiative program, is also available in conjunction with several Vaughn A.A.S. and B.S. degrees. An aircraft dispatch non-degree program is available to some Vaughn students as well as other applicants.

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[trocaire.edu](http://trocaire.edu)

## Choosing High School Activities Wisely

**Y**ou hear it from your friends, your relatives, and even from the media: what you do now (whether you're five or 15 years old) can affect your chances of getting into college. There's some truth to this—colleges do look at your academic record from ninth grade on.

But this philosophy can steer you in the wrong direction when it comes to choosing extracurricular activities. Ambitious students may be tempted to choose their activities based on what might look good on a college application. Okay, oboe players may be more rare than pianists, but learning the oboe when you'd rather be throwing the football makes your extracurricular activities seem like the hardest, most boring homework ever.

### What Doesn't Matter

Here's the secret: colleges don't care what activities you choose. A well-rounded college class (which is the goal of all admissions offices) includes both accomplished musicians and talented athletes—along with yearbook editors, chess players, student-body leaders, artists, volunteers, computer enthusiasts, and a host of other interesting people.

"College admission people are looking for kids with a passionate involvement in something," says Josie Collier, a counselor at Frank W. Cox High School (VA). "The 'what' doesn't seem to matter."

### Depth vs. Breadth

Don't look to fill up that activities space on a college application with the names of 15 different clubs and activities. Here's a good rule of thumb: as you get farther along in your high school years, your number of activities should go down, not up.

Why? Younger students need to try different activities to figure out what they're interested in. By junior year, many students know what they most enjoy. Then, they can concentrate on contributing more of their time to their favorite activities and less time to activities they don't particularly enjoy.

"Colleges want students who have shown long-term, in-depth interest and true talent in extracurricular activities," says Scott White, guidance counselor at Montclair High School (NJ).

That means taking on more responsibility and leadership roles in your area of interest. If you're a musician, for example, you may want to try out for county or state band, volunteer for section leader, or help give music lessons for beginners. If community service is your passion, you might start as a weekly volunteer at the food bank, then help plan a fund-raising event, and end up as a member of the organization's planning committee. You don't have to be president of your high school class to demonstrate leadership ability (although that's good, too!). Colleges—and the "real world"—need leaders in every field of interest, from astrophysics to zoology.

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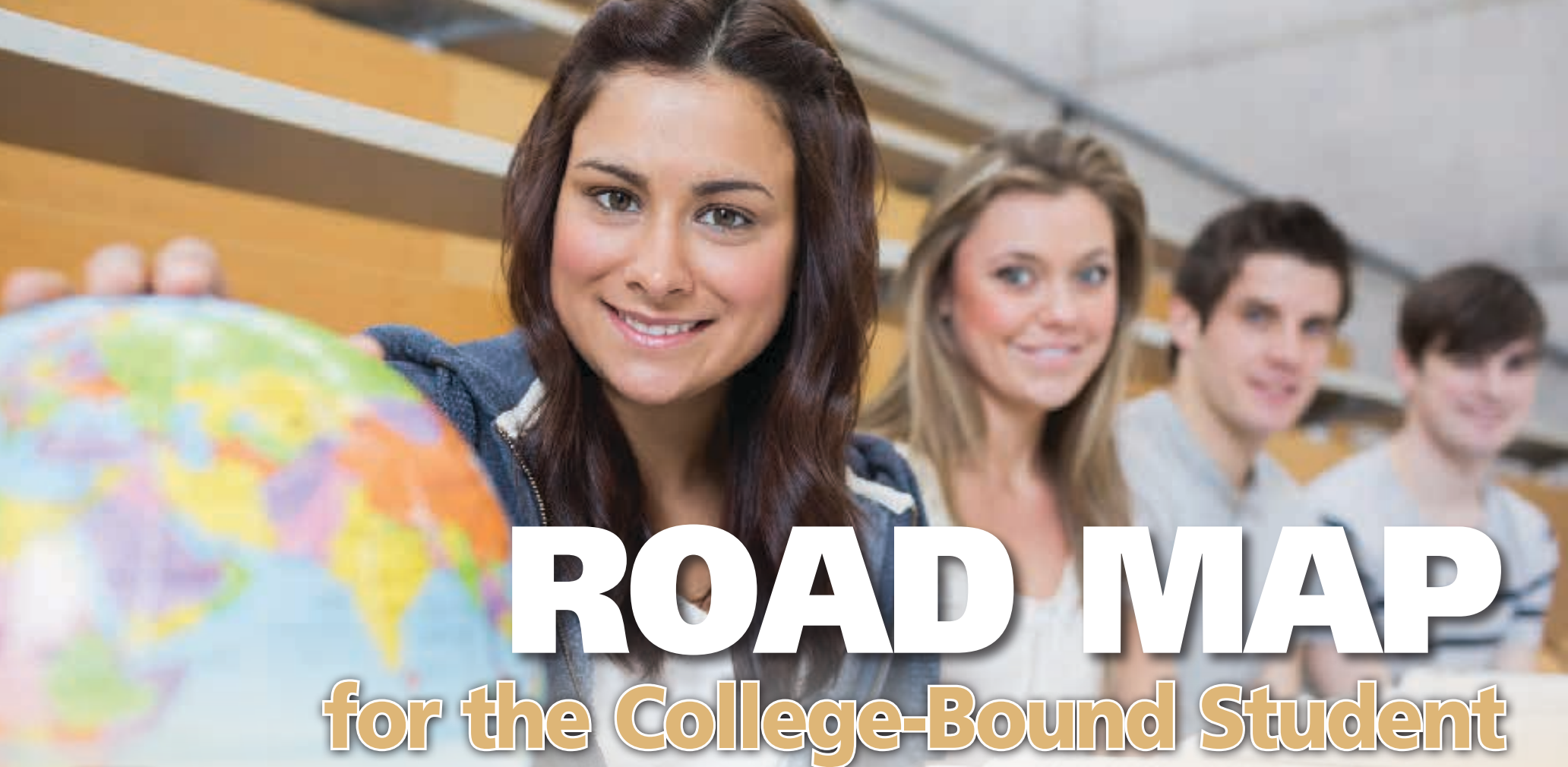
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240 Pine Ridge Road, Buffalo, NY 14225





# ROAD MAP

## for the College-Bound Student

**F**rom building your preliminary college list to completing your applications to getting ready for your first year at college, the Internet can help you in nearly every part of the college search (except for actually making your decisions, that is). But surfing the Web can also eat up time better spent on schoolwork, time with friends, or even sleeping—with no guarantee that you'll find what you're looking for.

To make sure that your time on the information superhighway is fun instead of frustrating, read on for a guide to Internet use for the college-bound.

### The On-Ramp

One of the best ways to maximize your time online is the savvy use of search engines (i.e. Google, Yahoo, Dog Pile). You can type in "college admission" and get a list of thousands of sites. So, it's best to have a good idea of what you're looking for: lists of college home pages, financial aid help, applying online, tips on essays?

### Beginning Your College Journey

From the very beginning of your college search, the Internet can be a valuable tool. A good place to start is with Web sites that provide databases of colleges. Depending on the site, you can type in the geographical area, size, setting, major(s), and other characteristics that interest you. You'll then see a list of colleges that match your preferences. These "comparative" sites are a great way to generate a long list of colleges to research further. You might find colleges you haven't even thought of.

As with all information online (or elsewhere, for that matter), consider the source before deciding how much to depend on it. Some comparative sites only include the colleges that pay for the privilege of being listed, so you could miss some good options if you rely on only one site. You'll find that some comparative sites have more information than others about individual colleges. Also, a comparative site may not have the most up-to-date information on deadlines and other time-sensitive material. For that, it's best to check the colleges' Web sites directly.

Some sites that offer college search options (as well as other college information) include:

- [collegedata.com](http://collegedata.com)
- [collegeview.com](http://collegeview.com)
- [eCampusTours.com](http://eCampusTours.com)
- [MyCollegeOptions.com](http://MyCollegeOptions.com)
- [princetonreview.com](http://princetonreview.com)
- [collegeboard.com](http://collegeboard.com)
- COOL Web site

There are also many sites about the college admission process in general.

### Researching Colleges: Moving on Down the Road

Once you have a preliminary list of colleges that interest you,

the Internet can be helpful in researching each college further. The primary ways to research colleges online are through the individual college Web sites and through email contact.

Most comparative sites also provide links to college home pages. There are also simple lists of college home pages, categorized alphabetically or geographically.

Or just type a college's name into a search engine.

The Web sites of individual colleges are often invaluable sources of in-depth information. You can find all the basics—selectivity, size, majors, setting, etc.—in addition to some clues as to what everyday life on campus is like.

Kenneth E. Hartman, author of *Internet Guide for College-Bound Students*, writes that you can find two types of information about colleges, official and unofficial. Official information is what you can learn from the admission office, guidebooks and the college catalog. Unofficial information is the kind you read in the student newspaper, find out from contacting current students and browsing student-made Web pages. And college Web sites are the easiest way to gather unofficial information, short of visiting the college in person.

To make the most of a college's Web site, try these strategies.

- Look at the home pages of individual faculty members in majors that interest you—some post detailed syllabuses of their classes, descriptions of their research interests, and email addresses. If you have a specific question or two about a major, try sending a faculty member a short, polite email introducing yourself and asking your questions (don't ask anything you can find out in the college catalog, though).
- Read the pages for prospective students thoroughly. They will give you basic information about the college, as well as some sense of the mission and priorities of the college.
- Visit the home pages of student organizations— you can check out the schedule for the Drama Club or see what resolutions were passed by the Student Senate.
- Look for the home pages put up by current students at the college. If students list their email addresses, send short email messages to a few of them, asking questions about their college experiences. But don't take a few complaints on one student's home page as gospel; try to look at a good sampling of student pages.
- Find the alumni association pages—what are alumni of the college doing now? What is the college doing for its alumni?

### Applying to Colleges: Avoid the Bumps in the Road

The option of applying to colleges online is very common. A few colleges even require online applications (but the vast majority of colleges do not). Computer-minded students will probably feel that applying online is easier and even more enjoyable than the traditional application. (Check out the Web-enabled Common Application, which is accepted by many colleges across the country.)

Whether or not you apply online has no bearing on the college's admission decision. Admission officers are committed

to assessing each application on its content, not how it was received.

Two problems can creep up when students apply online, but you can avoid them. First, students who use email and other interactive Internet options for casual correspondence may have a tendency to write their online applications in their usual email language. But online applications should be just as literate and error-free as their traditional counterparts. That means no Internet abbreviations or emoticons, and a well-proofread essay. This advice seems obvious, but some admission officers have noticed that the quality of some online applications has been questionable.

The second problem stems from the relative ease of applying online: submitting too many applications. No matter how easy it may be to push a button and send yet another application, submitting a large number of applications often makes your final decision more difficult. It's better to spend some time researching colleges and narrowing your list rather than applying to a bunch of colleges you don't know much about.

### Warning Signs

Not all of the information you find on the Internet is accurate. Anyone can put up a Web site for minimal cost and say anything they want. That means that you need to consider the source of anything you find on the Web. Before depending on information from a Web site, ask yourself the following questions:

- Where is the information coming from? That is, who is sponsoring the site?
- What motives might the person or organization behind the site have for publishing certain information? For example, corporations want to sell their products, and activist organizations want to draw readers to their cause. There is plenty of good information on corporate and activist sites, of course, but be aware that you might be getting only one side of the story.
- Can you find similar information elsewhere, on unrelated sites?
- Are opinions backed up with facts or references to other publications?

Finally, if you have any questions about college admission information you find on the Internet, ask your guidance or college counselor.

### Don't Leave the Dirt Roads Behind

The Web can be very useful in the college search, but sometimes the traditional avenues are just as valuable. No matter how detailed a Web site is, it can't take the place of visiting a campus or talking to people who know the college first-hand. And the Internet is not nearly as helpful when you need to make a big decision about where to apply or to attend. For that, you need to consult your own goals, feelings and thoughts—and your best help may be a real-time conversation with your family or your college counselor.

*Written by Jennifer Gross.*



# College terms to know

**T**oday, college probably seems like it is a long way off. But in just a couple of years, you will begin to think about particular colleges that you might want to attend. In the end, picking one college out of hundreds of possibilities will require lots of thought and quite a bit of research. Here are some terms you'll need to know.

While no two are exactly alike, most fit into one or more of the following categories:

**Liberal Arts Colleges** focus on the education of undergraduate students. Classes are generally taught by professors who see teaching as their primary responsibility. Students who attend liberal arts colleges are exposed to a broad sampling of classes. In addition, they select at least one area of in-depth study that is their college "major." Many employers look for graduates of liberal arts programs, because they are "well-rounded."

**Universities** are generally larger and include a liberal arts college, as well as colleges focused on preparation for a specific career, like nursing or education. Universities offer a greater range of academic choices than do liberal arts colleges, but often come with classes that are quite large.

**Technical institutes and professional schools** enroll students who have made clear decisions about what they want to study and emphasize preparation for specific careers, for example in music or fine arts, engineering or technical sciences. 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 systematically denied access to most other colleges and universities. Students at HBCUs have a unique opportunity to experience an educational community in which they are a part of the majority. They find committed faculty mentors who encourage their expectations of success.

**Tribal colleges** are similar to HBCUs, in focusing on the needs and education of American-Indian students.

Similarly, **women's colleges**, with their

larger numbers of female faculty and administrators, offer college women confidence-building role models, greater opportunities to serve in a full range of student leadership positions, and a heightened awareness of career possibilities for women. Women's colleges graduate a high number of science majors, as well as students who continue on to graduate school and/or professional studies.

**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 institutions** are considered for-profit companies that operate under the demands of investors and stockholders. They attract adult learners and part-time students in search of narrowly-focused professional training opportunities. These programs usually offer a non-traditional format; many for-profits also have classes solely available online.

**Other terms you'll want to know:**

**Public colleges and universities** are financed by citizens who pay taxes in your state. Their primary mission is often to serve students who live where you do. Generally, costs to students are less than those of private colleges.

**Private colleges and universities** are not supported by states or taxes. Some receive support from a religious group.

**Financial aid** comes in many forms and helps students with need pay for college costs. Financial aid includes:

- **Grants:** money given to students based upon family income and also
- **Scholarships:** awards based upon school performance, test scores, or special talents (like sports or music).

Undergraduate degrees include: a two-year associate degree (earned at a community college or two-year private college) and a bachelor's degree (completed at a four-year institution).



## Villa Maria College

240 Pine Ridge Road  
Buffalo, NY 14225  
Phone: 716-961-1805  
Fax: 716-896-0705  
Web: [www.villa.edu](http://www.villa.edu)

**Description:** Villa Maria College is a private, co-educational Catholic college specializing in the applied arts and music. The College recently expanded its baccalaureate programs to include business administration, creative writing & literature, photography, graphic design, music performance, music with a jazz concentration, and music industry. Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) degree programs include animation, fashion design & merchandising, integrated arts, and interior design. Associate degree programs are offered in the applied arts (such as music performance, music business, and graphic design), as well as the liberal arts. The College also has the only accredited Physical Therapist Assistant program in Erie County, and is now offering a certificate program in Historic Preservation and Restoration through its interior design program. For more information call 716.896.0700 or visit [www.villa.edu](http://www.villa.edu).



[villa.edu](http://villa.edu).

**Founded:** 1960

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(Jazz), Photography, Liberal Arts, Physical Therapist Assistant. AA, AAS, BA, BBA, BS and BFA

**Academic Calendar:** Fall/Spring, rolling admissions

**Current Enrollment:** 375 full-time and 100 part-time

**Faculty:** 12:1 faculty to student ratio

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# Surviving Your College Search

## The Adventure Begins

**Y**ou seem to have more and more mail from colleges every day. Your classmates keep talking about test scores and acceptance rates. Distant relatives and total strangers seem to take delight in asking you what college you plan to attend. Let's face it—it's time to start your college search.

If those words strike terror in your heart, you're not alone. Many students feel overwhelmed at the beginning of their college search. After all, you'll be making perhaps the biggest decision of your life so far. No pressure there!

To make your college search a little less intimidating, here are some strategies for getting started – and a preview of what to expect.

### Soul Survivor

Most students assume that the college search begins with a guidebook, an Internet site, or a college fair. But the best place to begin is with yourself.

"The very first thing I encourage [students] to do is to 'soul search'—sit down and make a list of all the things they know about themselves," says Joyce Luy, director of admission at Westmont College (CA).

Start with the obvious: What do you like to do? What do you hate to do? What subjects (academic or not) make you sit up and take notice? What totally bores you? What are you good (or not-so-good) at? For example, you might love to write poetry and play soccer, but history bores you and you're not that great at baseball. Or there's nothing you like to do better than to discuss politics, but you zone out when the conversation turns to music or computers.

Once you have a list of your basic interests and abilities, start thinking about more complicated issues. How do you learn best—by listening, discussing, reading, doing? Do you

enjoy being part of a large group, or do smaller groups suit you better? Do you seek out diversity among your friends, or would you rather hang out with people that are very similar to you? Are you more comfortable in the city or in a rural or suburban environment? Do you want to stick close to home or move far away? Is there a particular geographical area you're most interested in? You can probably think of other questions to consider, or ask your guidance counselor for more help.

Jot down short answers to these and other questions. Then "translate" your answers into things you'd like to see in a college. For example, that soccer-playing, poetry-writing, history-hating student above would probably want a college with a good English program and an opportunity to play varsity or intramural soccer. (Even if this student has a major other than English in mind, he or she might want to take a few poetry or writing classes as electives.) Similarly, if you love lively discussions, you should probably look for a college that encourages that kind of classroom discussion.

### Winning the "I Don't Know" Challenge

OK, some people seem to know what they want before you even ask them. You probably have a friend or two who seemed destined from birth to major in engineering or political science. But the rest of us probably can't figure out whether we're more comfortable in a city or a small town. The city is so exciting, but a small town is so friendly. They both have their charms and drawbacks. If this sounds like you, forget all those questions for a moment and try something a little different.

Test your imagination. Close your eyes and envision your ideal college. Think about walking around campus. What do you see? Now you're sitting in your favorite class. What does the classroom look like? What are you and your classmates doing? What is the professor doing or saying? Pretend it's Saturday on

campus. What are you and your friends doing? Where are you spending your weekend? What's coming up that evening?

While you have that picture in your mind, write down all of the details you can. Describe the college as accurately as possible. When you're finished, read through your description.

"Usually, the characteristics found in the ideal college serve as a good starting point for the college search," says Paul Marthers, director of admission at Oberlin College (OH). If the first picture that came to mind was strolling down the paths of a quiet campus, surrounded by trees, you should probably consider colleges that are in small towns or rural areas. On the other hand, if you envisioned walking down a city sidewalk on your way to your high-rise dorm, a more urban campus may be more for you.

Of course, there are plenty of colleges in between those two extremes, which is why the following strategy can also be helpful.

Sort through your options. "Corral all those college viewbooks [you've] gotten in the mail and acquire three cardboard cartons," says Nancy Scarci, post high school counselor at Roosevelt High School (HI). "A little at a time, skim the viewbooks, look at the pictures, try to get a feel for each school, and make one of the following decisions: OH YES, NO WAY, and ?" Put the viewbook in the carton labeled with that decision.

When you're done, bring the "no's" to the guidance office so the material can be made available to your classmates. Go through the "?" box one more time, trying to sort into "yes" and "no." Then, on your own or with the help of your parents or counselor, go through the "yes" box. What do the "yes" colleges have in common?

"This is a way to start developing the concept of 'what are you looking for' that is so crucial to the search and selection process," says Scarci. In addition, the viewbooks can give stu-

dents a better feel for what things like "urban" or "rural" might look like.

### Going Fishing

Once you have some idea of what you're looking for, it's time to do some fishing for colleges that have the characteristics you seek. This is the time to whip out those guidebooks, visit those Internet college sites, and talk to your guidance counselor. That "yes" box can also be helpful now, especially if you keep it up to date as more college material arrives in the mail.

The goal at this point is to put together a list of 15 to 20 colleges that look promising. They should have most of the characteristics you want. They should also be colleges where you realistically have a shot at getting accepted. A number of "stretch" schools is fine, but if your list contains all of the Ivy League plus Stanford and MIT, you may want to add a few less selective colleges for balance (and to take a little pressure off the admission process). Your guidance counselor can help you assess your academic record in light of the requirements of various colleges.

### Coming Up Next

As you might have guessed, the adventure doesn't end with that preliminary list of 20 or so colleges. In fact, a lot of the fun stuff is yet to come: exploring a variety of colleges, visiting college campuses, voting certain colleges off the island (oops, wrong adventure). In the coming weeks and months, you'll become an expert in finding out the real story about the colleges on your list. You'll refine your idea of the ideal college. And you'll learn more than you imagined about yourself. So stay tuned – your adventure is just beginning!

*Written by Jennifer Gross and reprinted with permission from the National Association for College Admission Counseling (nacanet.org.).*





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