

COLLEGE PATHWAY

Types of Schools

Community Colleges & Junior Colleges

These schools provide the option to earn credits toward an Associate's degree, certificate, and training in technical and/or vocational fields. It may also be a good starting point for a student who wishes to eventually transfer to a 4-year college. A student who is unsure and interested in exploring multiple degree options, or planning on improving academic performance before entering a College or University could benefit from starting at a Community College both academically and financially.

Business Schools

These schools offer training in skills and career specific to the office environment. Certificates are often earned after 9 to 12 months of training.

Nursing Schools

These schools are often affiliated with a college or university and allow students to operate in conjunction with hospitals to earn two-year (A.S.) or four-year (B.S.N.) nursing degrees.

Fine Arts Colleges & Conservatories

Portfolios and or auditions are often required during the admission process to these schools. They offer specific degrees in everything from music, to theater, art, and dance.

Colleges and Universities

These schools will offer Bachelor's degrees as well as the opportunity to prepare for higher degrees such as a Master's or Doctorate degree.

Public vs. Private

Public schools are funded predominately by their local state education system. This generally means lower cost to in-state students. Public schools often tend to be much larger than private schools and offer a wider variety of areas of study. This also means class sizes tend to be much larger at the big public universities. Private schools can come with a hefty price tag, but often offer a more personalized experience for students. Because private schools rely heavily on endowments and private funds, they tend to offer a greater amount of financial aid to their smaller student bodies than the typical public school aid package does.