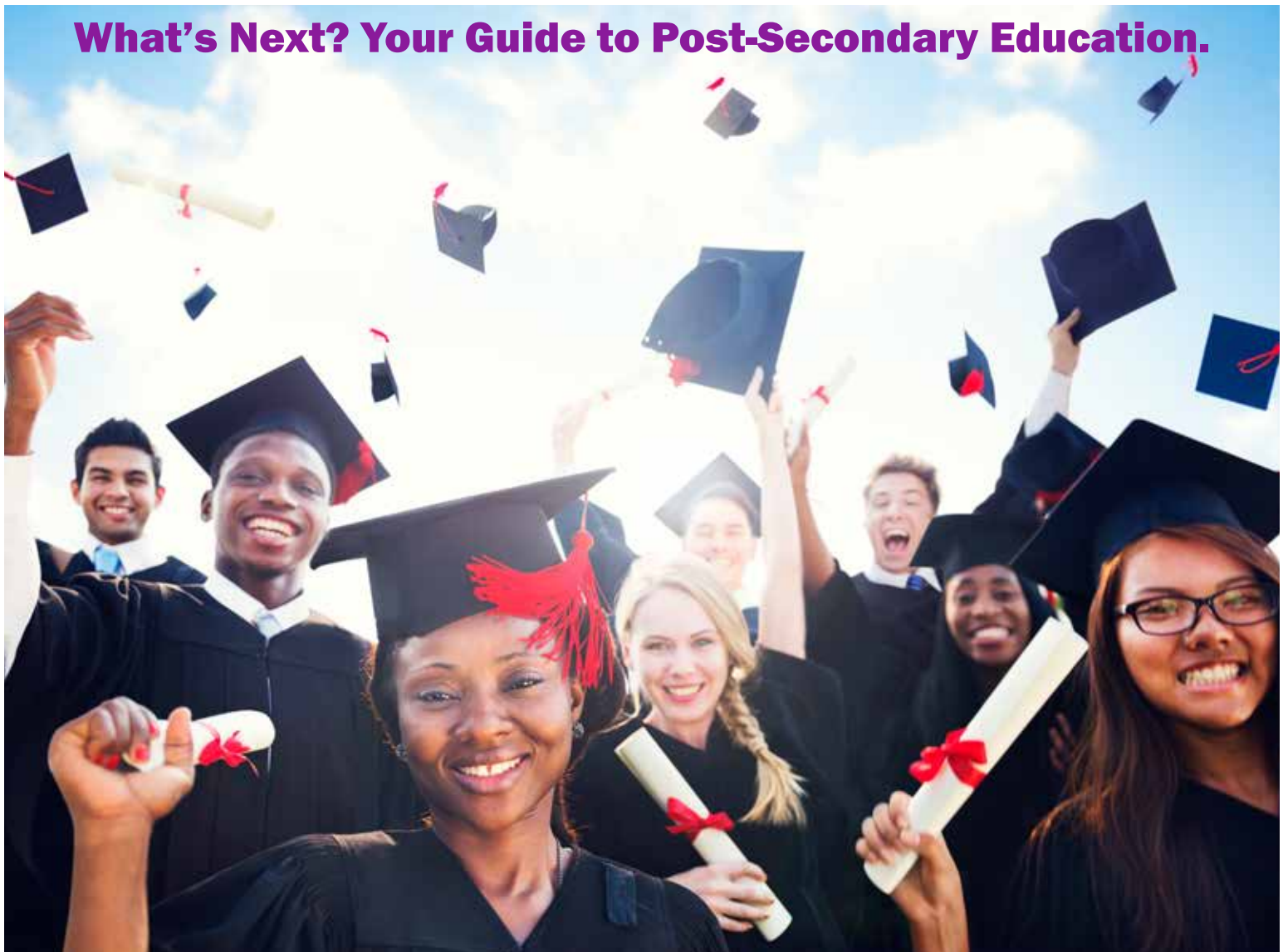


FRANKLIN COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION RESOURCE GUIDE



Protecting Children by Strengthening Families

What's Next? Your Guide to Post-Secondary Education.



childrenservices.franklincountyohio.gov

ABOUT FRANKLIN COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES

VISION:

Safety, permanency and well-being for every child.

MISSION:

Through collaboration with families and their communities, we advocate for the safety, permanency and well-being of each child we serve in a manner that honors family and culture.



Franklin County Children Services provides protection, care and permanency for children who are abused, neglected or dependent. Children Services is the public agency mandated by federal and state law to protect children and strengthen families. By being in partnership with more than 100 agencies and organizations, and with the help of over 900 employees, 400 foster parents, 200 adoptive families and 500 volunteers and mentors, the agency is committed to making sure that every child has a safe and stable home.

Each year, Franklin County Children Services helps more than 30,000 children and their families through prevention, protection, placement and permanency programs. The agency protects and cares for children in cooperation with parents whenever possible, by providing services to alleviate the problems that led the family to the attention of Children Services.

These services include:

- in-home counseling and community social and mental health services
- day treatment
- therapeutic arts
- youth transition services and mentoring
- placement of children in temporary foster homes
- other supportive services that enable the family to maintain or resume their role of raising their children

When parents are still unable to care for their children, Children Services petitions the court for permanent custody and places children in adoptive homes. Children Services is governed by an 11-member volunteer board that establishes policy for the agency. The Executive Director is responsible for agency operations. Children Services is regulated by statutory mandates of the state and federal governments and regulations of the Ohio Department of Human Services. The agency is a member of the Child Welfare League of America.

Franklin County Children Services

Post-Secondary Education Resource Guide

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“Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today. ”

- Malcolm X

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. ”

- Nelson Mandela

“He who opens a school door, closes a prison. ”

- Victor Hugo

“If you think education is expensive, try ignorance. ”

- African Proverb

PART #1: College Planning

What do you dream about doing?

By furthering your education, you can help those dreams become your reality. Begin by exploring how a college or university can help you meet your career goals. You need to weigh your interests, abilities and preferences to choose a career and plan your education.

You might ask yourself, "Why go to college?"

Here are a few reasons why a college education can support a successful career:

- 1. Furthering your education increases the possibility of earning good pay!** The average yearly income of a high school graduate as compared to bachelor's level college graduate is almost double (\$56,590 vs. \$34,070). An individual with a two-year Associate Degree earns more than just a high school diploma (\$54,700 vs \$34,900).
- 2. Employability:** Obtaining some post high school education will increase the likelihood of you getting a job. Competitive businesses want to hire college graduates because of additional training as well as the development of critical thinking and problem solving skills.
- 3. Gaining Meaningful Experience:** Attending College will provide you with an opportunity to learn new skills, develop character traits that translate to the workforce and discover your passions through classes, clubs, and various campus organizations and events.

Freshman Year

No matter what grade you are in, it is never too early to prepare for your future. The college admissions process does not begin the junior and senior year of high school. In fact, high school students interested in continuing their education after graduation should begin planning their freshman year!

Take courses that are recommended for college preparation; have regular conversations with school guidance counselors for college and career planning; explore careers through research, internships, and talking to adults about careers of interest to you.

**Never Stop Learning.
Education is a Lifelong Pursuit!**



Junior Year in High School

Your Junior Year of high school is a critical time to make decisions that will impact your chances of success in college and your career. Six critical issues you need to consider include:

1

Classes and Grades:

Challenge yourself to take college prep, advanced placement, and honors classes. Colleges are interested in what courses applicants completed in high school. Course selection demonstrates the goals you have for yourself. Students who choose to challenge themselves and take honors, accelerated, and advanced classes are viewed more favorably than those who simply take courses to get by and have a high GPA.

Most Colleges and Universities require the following coursework to be considered for admission:

- **English:** Four years
- **Mathematics:** Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra II
- **Natural Sciences:** Biology, Chemistry, and Physics (includes a laboratory component)
- **Social Studies & History:** two to three years
- **Foreign Language:** two to three years
- **Art:** one year

2

Standardized Tests:

PSAT (Preliminary SAT), end of course state tests, AP Placement Tests and ACT/SAT Tests. These tests are designed to measure your critical reading, math, problem solving, and writing skills. Many of the results of these tests are shared with interested colleges and universities. How well you perform on the ACT and SAT tests may determine your acceptance into a college or university.

3

College Planning:

Be Prepared and Organized! Purchase a day planner or calendar. Keep track of the mail and emails that you will be receiving from various colleges and universities. Research colleges that interest you. Review the colleges' job and graduate school placement rates, costs, financial aid, and available majors and minors.

4

Career Research:

Your career choices can have a big impact on the colleges you consider. Talk with family, friends, teachers, and guidance counselors about your likes and dislikes. Complete a Career Assessment Test if available. If you find a career that interests you, narrow your college search to a school that focuses on this area. *If you are unable to find a college that specializes in your career choice, it is O.K. to select a school with a wide range of options.*

5

Develop Your Resume:

Document your education, experience, and accomplishments, and include athletic and academic accomplishments, awards and honors. Note your work experience and community service experiences. Showcase your leadership positions and share your interests and hobbies.

6

Complete Graduation Requirements for Your High School Diploma:

Take and earn a minimum of 20 credits including economics, financial literacy and at least two semesters of fine arts.

Meet one of the following options:

Ohio's State Tests:

Student seeking to earn a high school diploma from the State of Ohio Department of Education must earn a minimum of 18 points on seven end of course exams in the areas of Algebra I and Geometry or Integrated Math I and II, Biology, American History or American Government and English I and II. Students must earn at least four points on the English and Math end of course tests and at least six points on the science and social studies tests to earn a high school diploma.

Industry Credential and Workforce Readiness:

Receive a State Board of Education-approved, industry-recognized credential or group of credentials in a single career field and earn the required score on the WorkKeys: A work readiness test.

College and Career Readiness Tests:

Earn remediation free scores on the ACT/SAT tests. The student must achieve a score of 18 or higher in English on the ACT or 480 or higher on the Evidence-based Reading and Writing on the SAT and a Math score of 22 or higher on the ACT or 530 or higher on the SAT.





Choosing a College That's Right for You!

Types Of Colleges:

Colleges are generally two-year or four-year schools. Students who attend and complete a two-year degree earn an **associate degree** and those who complete a four-year degree are awarded a **bachelor's degree**.

Colleges are categorized as either **public or private colleges**. Public colleges are funded by state and local governments and typically have lower tuition costs than private colleges though both offer financial aid.

Trade Schools are post-secondary institutions designed to give students the technical skills to prepare them for a specific occupation. Program lengths vary from eight months to two years and includes training in fields such as Information Technology, Health Sciences, Medical Assisting, and Automotive Technicians.

Size:

The size of a college or university can affect the range of majors offered, extracurricular opportunities, and personal attention available to students. Investigate the average class size and the student to faculty ratio. Are courses taught by professors or by teaching assistants?

Location:

Potential applicants need to give consideration to rural vs. urban settings when selecting a college or university. Proximity to family, friends and other additional supports for the student are factors that one must consider in choosing a college. In addition, costs will differ based upon in-state or out-of-state residence.

Majors:

Students who know their desired course of study can research online the major's courses offered at various schools. If you are undecided, then select a school that offers a broad range of programs.

Don't spend time worrying about leaving high school with no clear career path. College is about discovering who you are and what you want to do in life!

Most majors do not have to be declared until the completion of your sophomore year in college. Prior to this time, general courses in a variety of fields can be taken to help you discover a major you love.

College students may change their majors a few times before settling on one. Students are encouraged to choose a college or university that offers a wide range of options. Don't let anyone control your dreams and ambitions.

Choose a major and career that best fit you!

Costs and Financial Aid:

Students need to consider the costs and expenses associated with the college or university and how they will pay for the education while in school and after completing their education.

Direct costs associated with college include fixed costs like tuition, fees, room and board. Indirect costs may vary, and they include books, supplies, travel, cell phone, etc. **Most Students receive financial aid.** The average student receives \$15,000.00 including grants and loans.

It is easy to become intimidated about the cost of college.

College education costs vary. An estimated 47% of students attend a four-year college that charges less than \$9,000 per year. Two-year colleges have an average cost of \$3,347 per year. The average cost of Trade School is between \$5,000 - \$15,000 total. Many accredited Trade Schools are eligible for financial aid, including grants and loans.

Do Not be Intimidated!
Look at College as an Investment in Yourself and Your Future!!

Campus Life:

The activities and social life offered by a college or university are important considerations. These may include clubs, fraternities and sororities, service organizations, organized and intramural athletics, student government, professional organizations and other on-campus opportunities.

Admission Criteria:

Students should consider the requirements for admission to find out if the college or university is a good fit.

Retention and Graduation Rates:

Review the retention rate (students who return after the first year) and graduation rates of your identified school. These are strong indicators of the school's success.





Quick Facts!

Admission offices at colleges and universities should provide quick facts about their school. Let's take a look at an example of some facts you should know about each college you are going to consider.

Wright State University

Enrollment (Fall 2018)

- Total university: 14,403
- Undergraduate students: 10,925

Ethnic Diversity:

- African American/Black: 9.7%
- Asian American: 3.8%
- Hispanic/Latino: 3.6 %
- Native American: less than 1%

Academics:

- Number of Undergrad Programs:140

Costs and Financial Aid (Fall 2020):

- Tuition (Undergraduate 11-18 hours): \$4,981/ 9,960 non-Ohio resident
- Tuition (Undergraduate 1-10.5 hours): \$448.hr./ \$882 hr. non resident
- Campus Housing \$2,872
- Raider Meal Plan: \$1,939
- Activities/ Communications/ Hospitality Fees: \$463
- Books and Supplies: \$700.00

Total Cost One Semester:

- \$5,681 Commuter Student
- \$10,995 On-Campus Student
- \$15,664 Non-Ohio Resident

Total Cost Two Semesters:

- \$11,362 Commuter Student
- \$21,910 On-Campus Student
- \$31,328 Non-Ohio Resident

University Facts:

- Established: 1964
- Locations:
 - Main campus in Dayton, Ohio
 - Regional campuses in Celina, Ohio
 - School mascot: Rowdy Raider
 - School colors: Green and Gold



Rankings:

Wright State's IHE engineering, business online programs among nation's top-rated (U.S. News and World Report).

College of Nursing and Health ranked among best schools in the nation (Nursing Schools Almanac).

Wright State Ranked in Top 100 Most Affordable Universities, College (College Consensus, 2019).

Best Undergraduate Education Ranked by High School Counselors," (U.S. News & World Report).

U.S. News ranks Wright State online programs among best for 2019.

Columbus State Community College

Enrollment (Fall 2020)

- 27,000 students over two campuses and nine regional campuses
- Average Class Size: 20:1

Ethnic Diversity (Fall 2020):

- Student body represents more than 130 countries
- Caucasian: 55.5%
- African American/Black: 18.6%
- Asian American: 5.0%
- Hispanic/Latino: 6.2 %
- Other Races: 5.0%

- 56.2% Female
- 43.8% Male



Types of Degrees:

- Associate of Arts and Associate of Science
- Degree-to-Degree Transfer Programs
- Associate of Applied Science (Career Programs, including Certificates)
- Associate of Technical Studies (Career Programs individualized Degree)

Transfer Opportunities:

- Columbus State has transfer agreements with more than 35 colleges, including the Preferred Pathway® Program with The Ohio State University, as well as agreements with Ohio University, Miami, Capital, Franklin, Ohio Dominican, Ohio Wesleyan, and Otterbein University

Costs and Financial Aid (Fall 2020):

- Tuition (Full-Time Student): \$ 4,888.00 per year
- \$162.93 per credit hour for Ohio residents | \$333.25 for non-Ohio residents | \$395.37 for international students

Campus Life:

- More than 40 Clubs and Organizations

University Facts:

- Founded as Columbus Area Technician School in 1963
- Locations: Main Campus Columbus, Ohio
- Nine Regional Campuses: Delaware, Dublin, Westerville, Reynoldsburg, Bolton Field, Grove City, Marysville, Columbus Whitehall Computer Lab, Columbus Driving Park Computer Lab
- School Mascot: Cougar
- School Colors: Red, White and Blue



What can help you make the right decision?

College Fairs:

Attending a College Fair in your area provides you with the opportunity to talk to admissions officers and obtain information about various colleges and universities. Students can check with their school guidance counselors to obtain information on College Fairs available in their area. During the fair, visit those colleges that most interest you and review the materials and follow up with those schools!

College Campus Visits:

The best time to schedule your campus visit is prior to completing your application. A campus visit is your opportunity to see the college firsthand and get answers to your questions. Make a list of the things that are important characteristics to you when visiting the school.

(Example: lecture halls, class sizes, Greek life, majors etc...).

Contact the Admissions Department at the university and get a number for alumni or currently enrolled students and speak to them about their experiences. Ask the students, *"What are the best reasons to go here? What do you do on the weekends? What do you love about this college? What do students complain about the most?"*

Plan your college visit when classes are in session. This provides you the opportunity to sit in on a lecture and speak to a professor in your chosen major. During the college tour, visit the cafeteria, fitness center, library, bookstore, and other campus facilities. Review the campus bulletin boards to see the daily activity schedule!

If possible, schedule an admissions interview and appointment with the school financial aid officer. During the discussion, pick up financial aid information and get business cards from the people you meet so you can have future contacts.



Questions for Admissions Counselors (some of which may be answered by the school's literature or website):

- What assistance or facilities are available for students with special needs, such as a learning disability, physical disability or other health problem?
- What is the campus crime rate, and what on- and off-campus security is available?
- Does the school offer student counseling services? Do all the faculty teaching entry-level courses have a good command of English?
- What is the typical class size for freshman-level courses?
- What percentage of students receive financial assistance, and what proportion is represented by self-help (loans and jobs), and what percent is true aid?
- What is the graduation rate?
- What kind of career-planning and job placement services are offered? What kinds of internships are available?
- What is the availability of computers and computer instruction? Does the school provide internet connections in residence halls? Is Wi-Fi connection available?
- What is the physical size of the campus? Is it so sprawling that transportation is needed to get from class to class? Do students need cars, either to get around on campus or to travel to off-campus jobs and recreation?
- How big is the student body?
- What kinds of athletic opportunities (team or individual) are available? What kinds of recreational activities, community service opportunities, and political/cultural events are available?
- What sororities, fraternities, and social life are available? How diverse is the student body?
- What opportunities are available for study abroad? What housing choices are available?
- What is the faculty-student ratio?
- Is the school on a semester, quarter, or some other system? What percentage of students go on to graduate from professional schools?
- How available are classes? Do students have a difficult time getting into classes and building a schedule?
- What percentage of students live on campus?
- To what extent are campus/work-study jobs available? Does the school have an honor system or code?

Questions to Ask Yourself After the College Visit:

- How well did the school meet your expectations?
- What was the biggest surprise or disappointment about campus life?
- What do you like and dislike the most about the school? What would you like to change?
- How did you feel about the school?



Applying to Colleges

Finalize Your List

After you have narrowed your list by identifying those schools that offer the educational and campus life you expect, you are ready to begin the process of applying to college. Most experts recommend that you apply to 5 to 8 colleges. These should include 1-2 colleges you are very confident about attending; 2-4 colleges that are close to what you are looking for and 1-2 colleges that are unlikely to accept you but are a stretch goal. Remember keep your list as narrow as possible since most colleges have an application fee.

Completing the College Application

The application paints a picture of who you are.

Application Packets Include:

- Online or Printed Application
- Application Fees. The fees vary and waivers are available for low income families.
- High School Transcript. Sent by your High School directly to the college on your behalf.
- ACT/SAT Test Scores.
- Letters of Recommendation from teachers, counselors or significant adults.
- College Essay
- Personal Interview. If offered by your school, take advantage of this opportunity. This allows you to make a personal connection and shows your level of interest.
- Auditions or Portfolios (may be requested for art/drama majors)

Tips for Completing the College Application:

- Utilize your High School Guidance Counselor to assist you. If there are pieces of the application that are unclear have them clarify the information.
- Send your application materials on time or early.
- *Keep a Copy of Everything*
- Use Self-Addressed Postcards to ensure they receive the materials.
- Be Sure to complete the application honestly, carefully and completely and meet ALL DEADLINES!! Check for misspellings and grammatical errors, illegible writing, missed signatures and incorrect information about extracurricular activities. If you are applying online, ensure that you receive confirmation that the information was received.

College Application Timeline at the end of this book!

Applying to Colleges...Will I Be Accepted?

College Admissions is a highly-competitive process.

Admissions Counselors use several factors in deciding whether or not to admit a student.

Class Rank

Grades are extremely important. Colleges will request copies of your transcripts. If you start out slow your freshman year, do not fear. Admissions Counselors are looking for growth and potential.

Recommendation Letters from Teachers, Guidance Counselors, and other adults.

- Choose your favorite teachers and ask them to write the letters early. Make sure you feel they can address the quality of your work and your personal qualities.
- In addition to teachers, consider other significant adults in your life including your current or former boss, a supervisor from one of your community service or volunteer projects, or a coach.
- Supply them with **addressed and stamped envelopes** for your chosen colleges. Follow-up with them prior to the deadline to ensure the letter has been mailed. **Be sure to write Thank You Notes to all who wrote a letter for you or sent you an email.**

College Essays

- Essays are used as a tool to learn more about you and why you want to attend their school. Carefully consider questions then write, rewrite, and proofread your essays.
- Brainstorm ideas about your outstanding characteristics. Ask parents, friends, and teachers to help you identify your strengths.
- Three main types of Essays:
 1. **Standard Essays:** Take two-to-three points and provide a paragraph about each.
 2. **Less is More Essay:** Focus on a single, interesting point about yourself.
 3. **Narrative Essay:** Tells a short and vivid story.

Extracurricular Activities

Colleges and universities seek leaders. Become a leader in a club or organization at your school and volunteer in your local community.

Complete ACT or SAT

- ACT is a mission-driven, nonprofit organization, known for the ACT test, but there are many more ways that their solutions can help on the path to higher education. You can [register for The ACT here](#) and they also offer [fee waivers](#) to those meet eligibility requirements.
- The SAT is an admission test accepted by all U.S. colleges, and the College Board has programs to encourage all students to take advantage of higher education. [A list of available SAT dates and deadlines can be found here](#) and they also offer [waiver fees](#) to those who meet eligibility requirements.





PART #2: Types of Colleges and Universities

Two-Year Colleges | Technical Colleges

Two-year colleges consist of three types: technical, state community, and community. Technical colleges provide hands-on education in a specific field. Many technical college graduates transfer to baccalaureate programs.

Students who choose to begin their college careers at a two-year college cite quality of education and reasonable cost as the main benefits.

Completing the first two years of a bachelor's degree program at a two-year college can save the student several thousand dollars.

A variety of technical, career-oriented degrees offered by two-year colleges can lead to employment immediately after the student completes his/her associate degree.

Types of Degrees Offered at a Two-Year or Technical/Career College:

Certificates

Documents granted by colleges and adult career centers after completion of study for specific occupations. Certificates usually require a full-time, six-month to one-year program of required courses or its part-time equivalent.

Associate Degrees

Degrees granted by colleges after students complete two-year, full-time programs of required courses or its part-time equivalent.

Ohio's two-year college system is made up of 23 state-assisted and locally autonomous technical and community colleges. In 2006, over 160,000 students enrolled in college credit courses at these institutions throughout Ohio.



Four-Year Colleges and Universities

A four-year college offers students an undergraduate degree in a wide range of academic majors. Programs of study often follow a rather traditional academic curricula sometimes referred to as "liberal arts." Majors are offered in social and physical sciences, the classics, humanities, and the arts.

Distinctions of a four-year college or university include:

- Emphasis on critical thinking in college level coursework
- Development of the writing skills crucial to success in executive level jobs
- Exposure to different philosophies, different points of view, and differing opinions
- Insights gained from the experience of living and working with others from widely diverse backgrounds during college
- Possibility of studying in a foreign country, learning a foreign language, or developing skills for an increasingly multicultural society
- Broader perspective on career possibilities that may lead the student to a career he or she would not otherwise have heard of

Types of Degrees Offered at a Four-Year College or University:

Bachelor's Degrees

Degrees granted by universities or colleges after students have satisfactorily completed four-year, full-time programs of required courses or their part-time equivalent.

Advanced Degrees

Master's or doctorate degrees earned after bachelor's degrees, taking at least two years for full-time students to complete.





HBCUs - Historically Black Colleges and Universities

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) are institutions of higher education in the United States that were established before 1964 with the intention of serving the black community.

There are 107 historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) in the United States today, including public and private, two-year and four-year institutions, medical schools and community colleges. Of the 107 HBCU institutions in America today, 27 offer doctoral programs and 53 provide graduate degree programs at the master's level. At the undergraduate level, 84 of the HBCUs offer a bachelor's degree program and 39 of these schools offer associate degrees.

Following the enactment of Civil Rights laws in the 1960s, all educational institutions that receive federal funding have undertaken affirmative action to increase their racial diversity. Therefore, students of all races and cultures may apply to HBCUs.

Some most notable HBCUs are Howard University in Washington D.C.; North Carolina A&T in Greensboro, NC; Spelman and Morehouse Colleges in Atlanta.

Ohio's HBCUs are Central State University and Wilberforce College, both in Wilberforce, OH.

UNCF Information and Scholarships

Additional HBCU information and scholarship opportunities may be found online at the UNCF official website: <https://uncf.org/scholarships>



Ohio is home to more than 120 colleges and universities!



The following pages provide a list and location of those schools.

For more information on each school, refer to their official website!

Thank You!

Thank you to the Ohio Department of Higher Education for the following information. Refer to OhioHigherEd.org for more information.



Independent:

○ Colleges

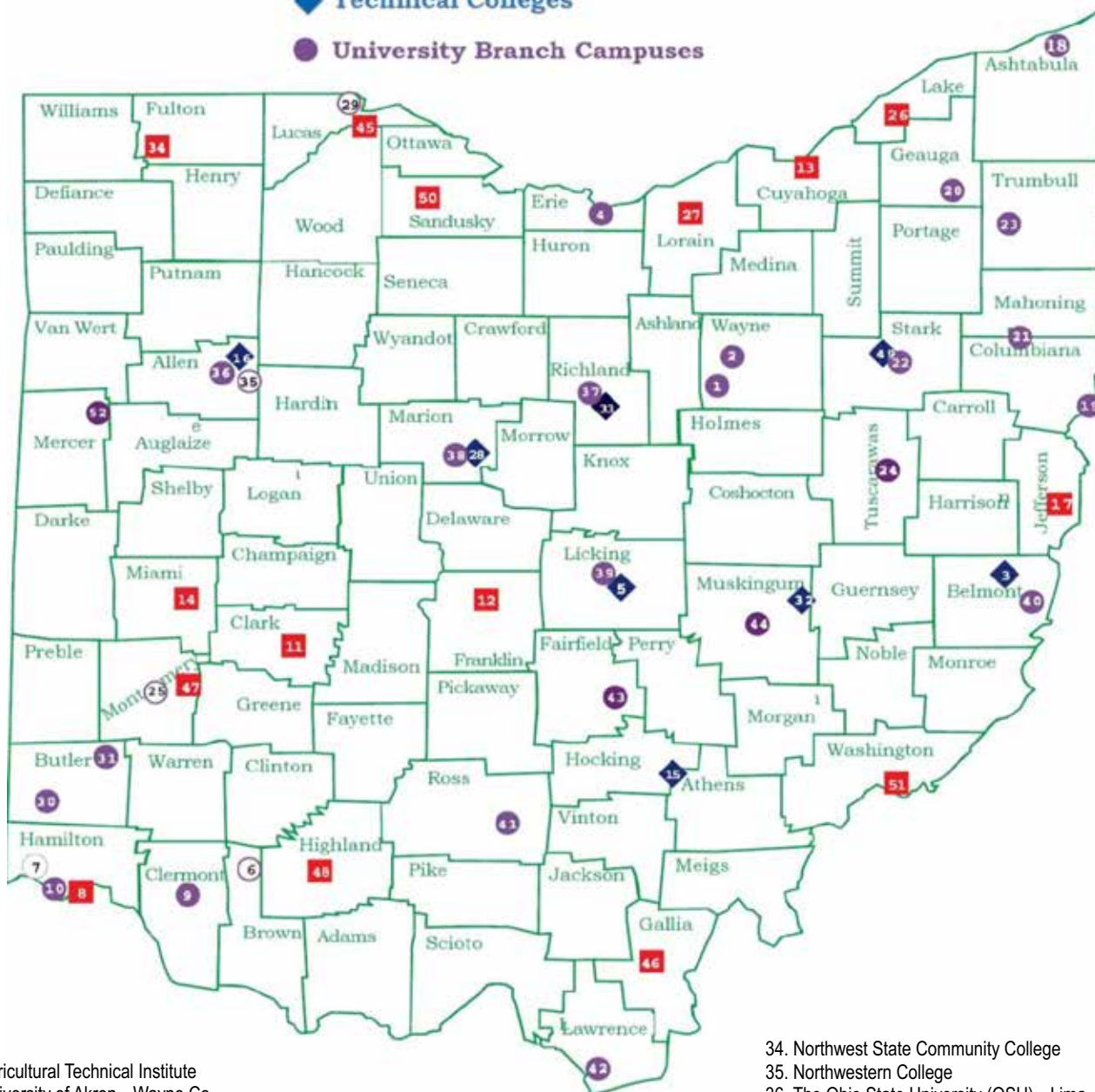
TWO-YEAR CAMPUSES

State Supported:

■ Community Colleges

◆ Technical Colleges

● University Branch Campuses



1. Agricultural Technical Institute
2. University of Akron—Wayne Co.
3. Belmont Technical College
4. Bowling Green State University
5. Central Ohio Technical College
6. Chatfield College
7. Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science
8. Cincinnati State Community & Technical College
9. University of Cincinnati – Clermont Co.
10. University of Cincinnati – Raymond Walters
11. Clark State Community College
12. Columbus State Community College
13. Cuyahoga Community College
14. Edison State Community College
15. Hocking Technical College
16. James A. Rhodes State College
17. Jefferson Community College
18. Kent State Univ.(KSU)-Ashtabula

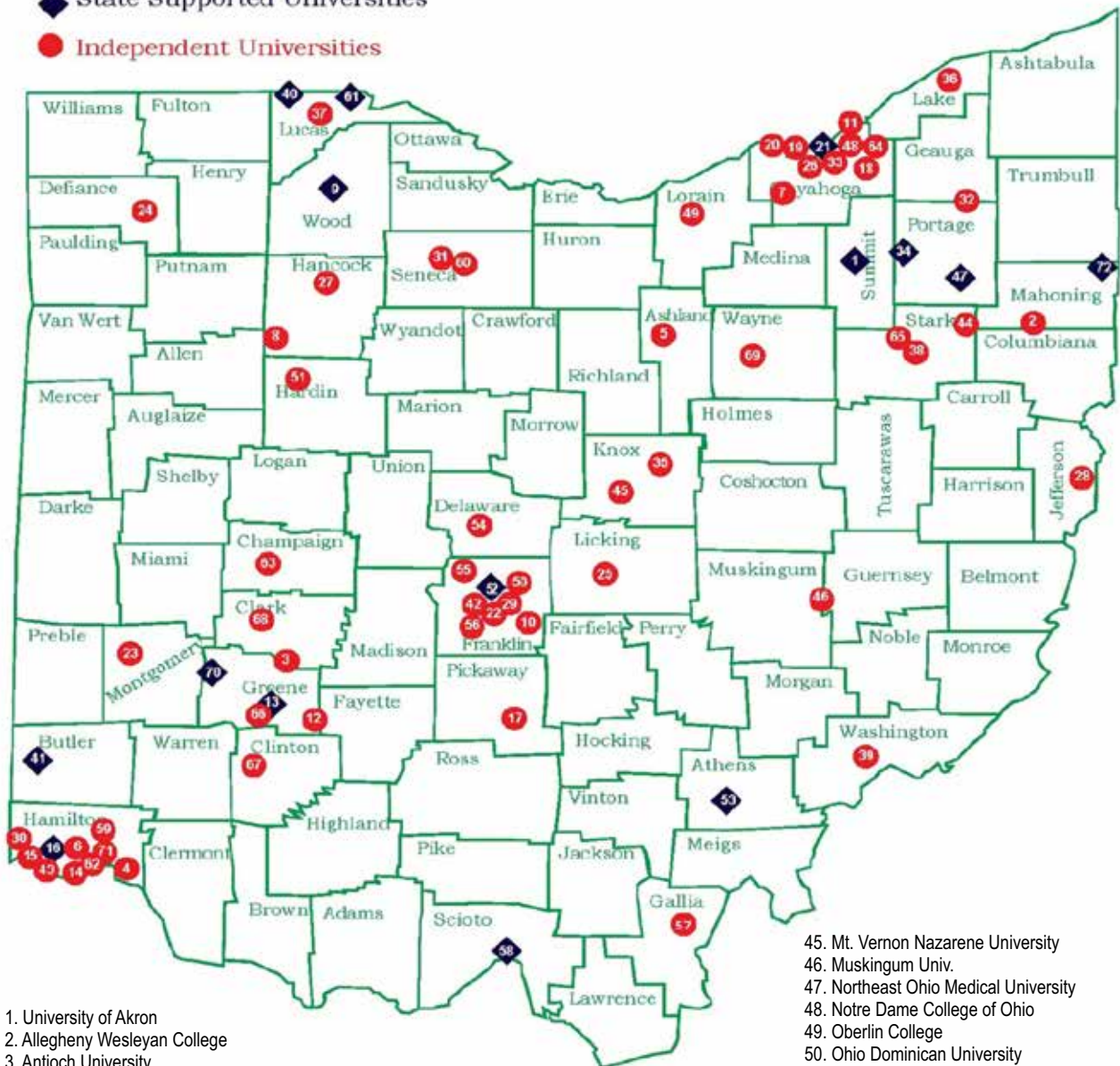
19. KSU –East Liverpool
20. KSU—Gauga
21. KSU—Salem
22. KSU—Stark
23. KSU—Trumbull
24. KSU—Tuscarawas
25. Kettering College of Medical Arts
26. Lakeland Community College
27. Lorain County Community College
28. Marion Technical College
29. Mercy College of Northwest Ohio
30. Miami Univ. Hamilton
31. Miami Univ. Middletown
32. Muskingum Area Technical College
33. North Central State College

34. Northwest State Community College
35. Northwestern College
36. The Ohio State University (OSU)—Lima
37. OSU-Mansfield
38. OSU-Marion
39. OSU-Newark
40. Ohio University (OU)-Belmont
41. OU –Chillicothe
42. OU –Ironton
43. OU – Lancaster
44. OU—Zanesville
45. Owens State Community College
46. Rio Grande Community College
47. Sinclair Community College
48. Southern State Community College
49. Stark State College of Technology
50. Terra Community College
51. Washington State Community College
52. Wright State Univ. –Lake Campus

FOUR-YEAR CAMPUSES

◆ State Supported Universities

● Independent Universities

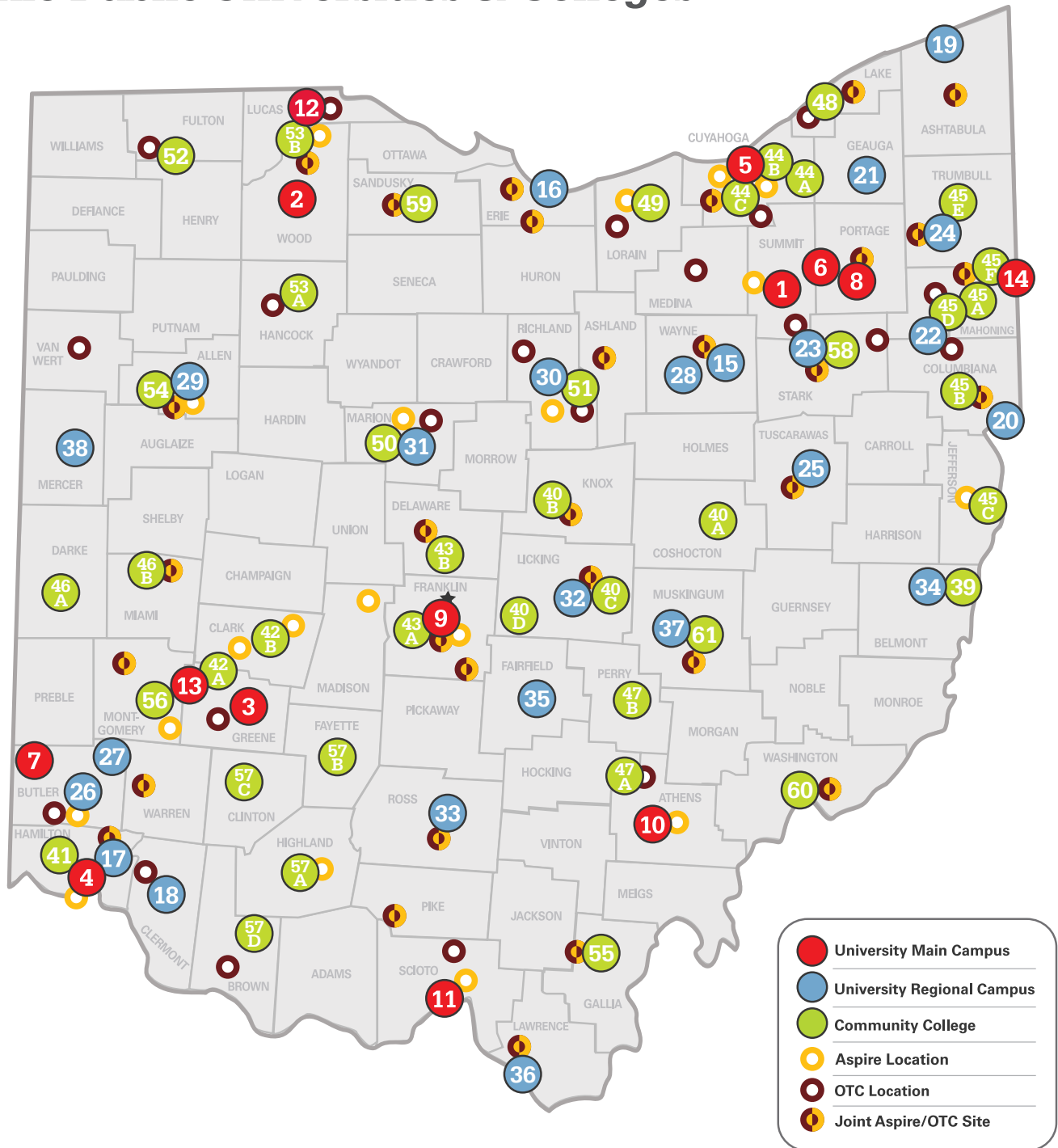


1. University of Akron
2. Allegheny Wesleyan College
3. Antioch University
4. The Art Academy of Cincinnati
5. Ashland University
6. The Athenaeum of Ohio
7. Baldwin-Wallace College
8. Bluffton Univ.
9. Bowling Green State University
10. Capital University
11. Case Western Reserve University
12. Cedarville College
13. Central State University
14. Cincinnati Bible College & Seminary
15. Cincinnati Christian College
16. Univ. of Cincinnati
17. Circleville Bible College
18. Laura and Alvin Segal College of Judaic Studies
19. Cleveland Institute of Art
20. Cleveland Institute of Music
21. Cleveland State University
22. Columbus College of Art & Design
23. University of Dayton
24. The Defiance College

25. Dennison University
26. David N. Myers College
27. University of Findlay
28. Franciscan University of Steubenville
29. Franklin University
30. God's Bible College
31. Heidelberg College
32. Hiram College
33. John Carroll University
34. Kent State University
35. Kenyon College
36. Lake Erie College
37. Lourdes University
38. Malone University
39. Marietta College
40. Medical College of Ohio At Toledo
41. Miami University
42. Mt. Carmel College of Nursing
43. College of Mt. St. Joseph
44. Mount Union College

45. Mt. Vernon Nazarene University
46. Muskingum Univ.
47. Northeast Ohio Medical University
48. Notre Dame College of Ohio
49. Oberlin College
50. Ohio Dominican University
51. Ohio Northern University
52. The Ohio State University
53. Ohio University
54. Ohio Wesleyan University
55. Otterbein College
56. Pontifical College Josephinum
57. Univ. of Rio Grande
58. Shawnee State University
59. Temple Baptist University
60. Tiffin University
61. University of Toledo
62. The Urban Institute
63. Urbana University
64. Ursuline College
65. Walsh University
66. Wilberforce University
67. Wilmington College
68. Wittenberg University
69. The College of Wooster
70. Wright State University
71. Xavier University
72. Youngstown State University

Ohio Public Universities & Colleges



Ohio Public Universities & Colleges

Universities

1. The University of Akron
2. Bowling Green State University
3. Central State University
4. University of Cincinnati
5. Cleveland State University
6. Kent State University
7. Miami University
8. Northeast Ohio Medical University
9. The Ohio State University
10. Ohio University
11. Shawnee State University
12. The University of Toledo
13. Wright State University
14. Youngstown State University

Regional Campuses

15. The University of Akron - Wayne
16. Bowling Green State University - Firelands
17. University of Cincinnati - Blue Ash
18. University of Cincinnati - Clermont
19. Kent State University - Ashtabula
20. Kent State University - East Liverpool
21. Kent State University - Geauga
22. Kent State University - Salem
23. Kent State University - Stark
24. Kent State University - Trumbull
25. Kent State University - Tuscarawas
26. Miami University - Hamilton
27. Miami University - Middletown
28. The Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute
29. The Ohio State University - Lima
30. The Ohio State University - Mansfield
31. The Ohio State University - Marion
32. The Ohio State University - Newark
33. Ohio University - Chillicothe
34. Ohio University - Eastern
35. Ohio University - Lancaster
36. Ohio University - Southern
37. Ohio University - Zanesville
38. Wright State University - Lake

Community Colleges

39. Belmont College
40. Central Ohio Technical College
 - A. Coshocton Campus
 - B. Knox Campus
 - C. Newark Campus
 - D. Pataskala Campus
41. Cincinnati State Technical & Community College
42. Clark State College
 - A. Greene Center
 - B. Springfield Campus
43. Columbus State Community College
 - A. Columbus Campus
 - B. Delaware Campus
44. Cuyahoga Community College
 - A. Eastern Campus
 - B. Metro Campus
 - C. Western Campus
45. Eastern Gateway Community College
 - A. Choffin Career & Technical Center
 - B. Columbiana County Career & Technical Center
 - C. Jefferson County Campus
 - D. Mahoning County Career & Technical Center
 - E. Trumbull Career & Technical Center
 - F. The Valley Center
46. Edison Community College
 - A. Darke County Campus
 - B. Piqua Campus
47. Hocking College
 - A. Nelsonville Campus
 - B. Perry Campus
48. Lakeland Community College
49. Lorain County Community College
50. Marion Technical College
51. North Central State College
52. Northwest State Community College
53. Owens Community College
 - A. Findlay Campus
 - B. Toledo Campus
54. Rhodes State College
55. Rio Grande Community College
56. Sinclair Community College
57. Southern State Community College
 - A. Central Campus
 - B. Fayette Campus
 - C. North Campus
 - D. South Campus
58. Stark State College
59. Terra Community College
60. Washington State Community College
61. Zane State College

Aspire Locations



- ALLEN:** Lima City Schools
- ATHENS:** Ohio University Aspire
- BUTLER:** Hamilton City School District
- CLARK:** Clark State Community College; Springfield City School District
- COSHOCTON:** Coshocton County Job & Family Services
- CUYAHOGA:** Cuyahoga Community College; Cuyahoga County Public Library
- FAIRFIELD:** Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency
- FRANKLIN:** Godman Guild Association
- HAMILTON:** Cincinnati Public Schools
- HANCOCK:** Owens Community College (Findlay Campus)
- HIGHLAND:** Southern State Community College
- JEFFERSON:** Eastern Gateway Community College
- LORAIN:** Lorain County Community College
- MARION:** Marion Technical College
- MONTGOMERY:** Kettering City School District
- MUSKINGUM:** Muskingum Valley Educational Service Center
- RICHLAND:** Mansfield City Schools-Adult & Community Education
- SCIOTO:** South Central Ohio Educational Service Center
- SUMMIT:** Project Learn of Summit County
- WOOD:** Owens Community College

Ohio Technical Centers (OTC)



- ATHENS:** Tri-County Career Center
- BROWN:** Southern Hills Career & Technical Center
- CLERMONT:** Brown & Clermont Adult Career Campuses
- COLUMBIANA:** Hannah E. Mullins School of Practical Nursing
- CUYAHOGA:** Cuyahoga Valley Career Center
- GREENE:** Greene County Career Center
- LAKE:** Willoughby-Eastlake City Schools
- LORAIN:** Lorain County Joint Vocational School
- LUCAS:** Toledo City Schools
- MAHONING:** Mahoning County Career & Technical Center
- MARION:** Tri-Rivers Career Center
- MEDINA:** Medina County Career Center
- RICHLAND:** Madison Adult Career Center; Pioneer Career & Technology Center
- SCIOTO:** Scioto County Career Technical Center
- STARK:** Alliance City Schools
- SUMMIT:** Portage Lakes Career Center
- VAN WERT:** Vantage Career Center

Joint Aspire/OTC



- ALLEN:** Apollo Career Center
- ASHLAND:** Ashland County-West Holmes Career Center
- ASHTABULA:** Ashtabula County Technical & Career Center
- BUTLER:** Butler Tech
- COLUMBIANA:** Columbiana County Career & Technical Center
- CUYAHOGA:** Polaris Career Center
- DELAWARE:** Delaware Area Career Center
- ERIE:** EHOVE Career Center; Sandusky City Schools
- FRANKLIN:** Columbus City Schools; Eastland-Fairfield Career Center
- FULTON:** Four County Career Center
- GALLIA:** Buckeye Hills Career Center
- HAMILTON:** Great Oaks Career Campuses
- KNOX:** Knox County Career Center
- LAKE:** Auburn Career Center
- LAWRENCE:** Collins Career Center
- LICKING:** C-TEC
- MADISON:** Tolles Career & Technical Center
- MAHONING:** Choffin Career & Technical Center (Youngstown City Schools)
- MIAMI:** Upper Valley Career Center
- MONTGOMERY:** Miami Valley Career Technology Center
- MUSKINGUM:** Mid-East Career & Technology Centers
- PIKE:** Pike County Career Technology Center
- PORTAGE:** Maplewood Career Center
- ROSS:** Pickaway-Ross Career & Technology Center
- SANDUSKY:** Vanguard-Sentinel Career & Technology Centers
- STARK:** Canton City Schools
- TRUMBULL:** Trumbull Career & Technical Center
- TUSCARAWAS:** Buckeye Career Center
- WARREN:** Warren County Career Center
- WASHINGTON:** Washington County Career Center
- WAYNE:** Wayne County Schools Career Center
- WOOD:** Penta Career Center

Aspire and OTC sites are subject to change. See OhioHigherEd.org for the most current listing.

PART #3: Paying for College

Financial Aid

College or post-secondary training programs may seem beyond the financial reach of many youth in foster care who face emancipation from the foster care system. However, with proper planning and support, students from foster care can combine financial aid awards from a number of sources to pay the full cost of attendance for most programs.

We understand that the financial aid process is frustrating and confusing, but education on this topic is critical!

“The best way to understand financial aid is to go to the web site www.fasfa.ed.gov. It explains about different types of available financial aid. You should apply for the FAFSA as close to the beginning of the year as possible.”

- Rachel,
University of Northern Iowa

LOANS:

Loans are money borrowed by the student that must be paid back. The Department of Education awards two types of loans to students attending college: Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans. A **subsidized loan** means that the government pays the interest. An **unsubsidized loan** means that the student is responsible for paying back the loan and any interest accrued. So, if you need to take out a loan, start with borrowing money from the subsidized loan first!

GRANTS:

A grant is an award offered from a federal agency to help you pay for your tuition, and the best thing about them is that they don't need to be paid back. Pell Grants are the most widely distributed and popular grants. They are awarded to undergraduate students enrolled in a degree program, but they are occasionally granted to students enrolled in a graduate teacher certification program.



SCHOLARSHIPS:

A scholarship is an award of financial aid for a student to further education. Scholarships are awarded on various criteria usually reflecting the values and purposes of the donor or founder of the award. There are various types of scholarships such as merit-based, need-based, or career-based.

ETV:

ETV or the Education Training Voucher program provides up to \$5000 a year for college and vocational training. In order to be eligible, you either (1) were in foster care on your 18th birthday and aged out (2) your foster care case will be closed between the ages of 18 and 21 or (3) you were adopted from foster care with adoption finalization AFTER your 16th birthday. Eligible students may receive grants up to \$5000 per year up to five years or until Ohio state's age limit at 26.



Scholarships, Grants and Awards

Alvin R. Hadley and the Jack Donahue Scholarship

These scholarship opportunities are designed to assist adolescents who are currently receiving services from Franklin County Children Services with financial assistance towards their undergraduate education. Applicants must be a high school senior receiving services from FCCS at the time of application. The applicant must have a minimum 2.0 GPA, exhibit exemplary qualities of leadership in school and extra-curricular activities in the community and be accepted as a full-time student at any accredited post-secondary educational program or two-year technical college.

Multiple scholarships are awarded each year. A \$4,000 per year renewable scholarship is awarded for applicants working toward the completion of a bachelor's degree at a four-year college or university. The scholarship is renewable for up to four years provided the recipient continues to meet the GPA requirements. A \$2,000 per year renewable scholarship is awarded for applicants working toward a two year or continuing education program. This scholarship is renewable for up to two years provided the recipient meets requirements. The application period is from October to January each year.

CME Scholarship

A non-renewable award of \$1,000 given each year to a deserving high school senior who is receiving services from FCCS at the time of the application. The recipient of the scholarship is selected by the Jack Donahue Scholarship Committee. The application period is from October to January each year.

Merit Scholarships

Applicants who meet the criteria for selection and are not chosen to receive the Jack Donahue Scholarships, Alvin R. Hadley Scholarship or the CME Scholarship will be eligible to receive a \$1000.00 Merit Scholarship as available. The application period is from October to January each year.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please feel free to contact Franklin County Children Services College Bound Mentoring Coordinator at (614) 275-2690 or via e-mail at FCCSVolunteers@fccs.us for further questions regarding eligibility or to receive an application for the opportunities above.

Short-Term Certificates

The Ohio Department of Higher Education provided 19 schools with funds to provide foster students \$2,000 each to put toward tuition and fees while pursuing a short-term certificate. See if your school is on the list [here](#).

Grants

Ohio State Students are eligible for an abundance of need-based grants funded by federal, state, and university sources. Most grants like the [Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant](#) and the [Ohio College Opportunity Grant](#) can be obtained by simply submitting a FASFA application. Institutional grants like the [Ohio State Presidents Affordability Grant](#) are also awarded to students who are eligible for FASFA.

Awards

Students who receive the [Dream Award](#) have completed at least their first year of their college education, have a significant financial need, and have overcome obstacles through sheer determination. [Get notified when the Dream Award opens!](#)

SOS helps women who have overcome life challenges with financial aid for education. Financial aid may be used for tuition at universities, colleges, and technology and trade schools. Funds may also be used for supplies, equipment, books, bus passes, special fees, and for child care to enable parents to attend classes. [You can find more information on how to apply here.](#)

Casey Family Programs awards scholarships, based on need, to foster care alumni pursuing higher education. Funding is available for undergrads up to 6 years and graduate students up to 4 years. [You can start the application process here.](#)





Chart the Costs

Exploring financial aid for post-secondary education begins with determining costs, researching available financial aid, and building a financial plan that outlines estimated costs and coverage of costs.

	Tuitions & Fees	Books & Supplies	Room & Board	Transportation	Other/Personal	Total
4-year public colleges						
Resident	\$11,936	\$1,200	\$13,392	\$1,337	\$2,682	\$30,547
Commuter	\$11,936	\$1,200	\$6,620	\$2,200	\$2,896	\$24,852
Out of State	\$28,018	\$1,200	\$8,535	\$1,337	\$3,525	\$42,615
4-year private colleges						
Resident	\$37,650	\$1,200	\$14,250	\$1,500	\$1,265	\$55,865
Commuter	\$37,650	\$1,200	\$9,200	\$2,500	\$2,300	\$52,850
Out of State	\$37,650	\$1,200	\$14,250	\$1,500	\$1,265	\$55,865
2-year public colleges						
Commuter	\$4,264	\$700	\$7,668	\$2,500	\$2,304	\$17,436
Public career/technical programs						
Because these programs vary in length, tuition estimates are based on the number of credits the student takes each term.						

STOP! Register For Selective Service

Male U.S. citizens and immigrants, documented and undocumented, residing in the U.S. and its territories must register for Selective Service at age 18.

Registration is the process by which the U.S. Government collects names and addresses of men in case of a national emergency which would require rapid expansion of the Armed Forces. Not registering is a Felony! Young men prosecuted and convicted of failure to register may be fined up to \$250,000, imprisoned for up to five years, or both. Failure to register may cause men to permanently lose eligibility for student financial aid, government employment, job training, and U.S. citizenship for male immigrants.

Register online at www.sss.gov.

Mentors and Mentoring

Confused? Get a Mentor to Help

The world of financial aid is difficult to understand so why do it yourself? Seek out someone you could call a mentor. Contact this person and ask them if they would be willing to assist you. This person could be your emancipation worker, high school guidance counselor, someone you respect from the community, former caregiver, and/or college financial aid counselor. Your mentor does not have to be perfect, just someone who can help you find your road to financial assistance.

What a Mentor Can Help a Student Do:

- Keep orderly online and paper financial aid information records.
- Research scholarship possibilities, student loans, and all other kinds of financial aid.
- Contact the financial aid counselors at all schools of interest no later than their senior year of high school. If school is close to home, mentor and student could make an appointment for an in-person meeting. Or if the school/program of interest is too far to visit, student/mentor should set up a phone conference instead.





PART #4: College Support Services

Ohio Reach "Supporting Foster Youth Reaching for Higher Education"

The purpose of Ohio Reach is to address recruitment and retention of emancipated foster youth in Ohio's higher education system and establish foster care liaisons at Ohio universities and community colleges. Visit <https://ohioreach.org/network> to view a list of the Ohio Reach Liaisons and for more information.



Youth Transition Services

The mission of Franklin County Children Services' Youth Transition Services department is to provide the highest quality of services, counseling and life skills instruction to every young adult aging out of foster care; and to successfully transition each young adult from the care of Children Services to a state of productive independence.



Program services include assistance with:

- College application, process and fees
- Transitional housing (eligibility needed)
- Independent living education
- Computers
- Dorm setup and supplies
- Bridges (referral and eligibility)

For more information, contact:
FCCS Youth Transition Services
Department
855 W. Mound St.
(614) 278-5972

Foster Care Alumni Association www.fostercarealumni.org

Foster Care Alumni of America is a national non-profit association that has been founded and is led by alumni of the foster care system. We use the term alumni to describe those of us who have been in foster care during our childhood/youth. The mission of FCAA is to connect the alumni community and to transform foster care policy and practice, ensuring opportunity for people in and from foster care. Visit the website to link with the FCAA Ohio Chapter on Facebook!



Foster Care to Success

Foster Care to Success is the largest provider of college funding and support services for youth in the nation. All Foster Care to Success scholarship program(s) for which you are eligible will be determined based on the information you provide. These scholarships are renewable up to five years.



FCCS College Bound Mentor Program

Navigating the process of applying and enrolling in college can be overwhelming task for many young adults and families. Youth receiving services from Franklin County Children Services are eligible to be linked with a College Bound Mentor to assist and support them in reaching their dreams of higher education.

The College Bound Mentoring program at Franklin County Children Services has served agency involved youth for the past 25 years. College Bound Mentors support, assist and guide youth in preparing for college and planning for successful futures while building positive and meaningful relationships with caring adults.

This may include helping the youth with ACT/SAT registration, college and scholarship applications, financial aid and college visits.



To be linked with a mentor, contact your assigned ongoing caseworker and request a referral or call the FCCS Volunteer department at 614-275-2690 and request to speak to the College Bound Mentoring Coordinator.

Students with Disabilities

The two primary federal laws that protect people with disabilities from discrimination in higher educational settings like colleges and universities are the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, amended in 2008, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504).

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation act of 1973, individuals with Learning Disabilities are guaranteed certain protections and rights to accommodations based upon documentation. The documentations must indicate that the disability substantially limits some major life activity, including learning.

Students who have an Individualized Education Plan, or IEP and 504 plans, will need to document their disability to qualify for accommodations and support when they go on to college or a training program. To meet the requirements of these programs, assessments must be done on an adult population and be no more than three years old. Post-secondary institutions are not obligated by law to provide or pay for assessments. Sometime during the 11th grade, request a re-assessment of the special needs. Follow up to make sure the re-assessments takes place and discuss the results with the IEP or 504 plan coordinator.

Youth Transition Services Provides Disability Services

Some services that could be provided through the office of disability services are as follows: Personal assistance, homework assistance, typing, personal laptops, person aids, exam accommodations, alternative media, sign language interpreting/transcribing services, assistive technology training center or disability counseling and advocacy services.

Not all schools have the same services so you need to check with the school that you are considering attending to verify what services they have available on campus.



Students with Disabilities (continued)

Resources Before Applying

Some resources to look at before applying to a specific college or university:

- EdSmart.org has a good series of activities that help students to compare the disability support services at various schools. Go to <https://www.edsmart.org/students-with-disabilities-college-guide/>
- Selecting a college for students with Learning Disabilities or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is available at <http://www.nccsonline.org/>
- Learning How to Learn: Getting into and surviving college when you have a Learning Disability, J. Cobb. The author and successful former student with a learning disability (LD), provides numerous tips on college preparation and college success and includes a guide to LD-friendly colleges and university. A copy of the book is available at local bookstores, libraries or Amazon.

Steps to Get Ready for College:

Take the college admissions test (ACT and/or SAT). You are encouraged to take these tests with accommodations. Work with your guidance counselor to make the arrangements.

1. Usually there is no place on the admissions applications about disclosing disabilities. There is a location on the application where you are asked to write a personal statement if you feel your high school performance was affected by special circumstances. You may write about your disability using a separate sheet to summarize if you feel your disability affected your academic performance. You can also request information from the college/university disability services.
2. It is in your best interest to contact the office for disability services early, make an appointment, and visit the office of disability service department on your visit to the campus.
3. You will be asked to provide documentation about your disability. You can find out exactly what documentations you need to provide to disability services. It is important to know that you will be requested to provide documentation only if you request services. You will only get services if you provide appropriate documentation and asked for services. Unlike high school, getting services is at the initiation of the student (that means you need to be your best advocate)!
4. The college/university office of disability services is not bound by your IEP. The services you get at the office of disability service might be quite different from what you received in high school. Your services and accommodations at college will be based upon the documentation of your disability and will help you compensate for your disability. Keep in mind that you will have to advocate for yourself and ask professors yourself for the accommodations that you need.

Services for Students

Office of Disability Services (ODS) collaborates with students with documented disabilities and instructors to provide reasonable accommodations, auxiliary aids, and support services that are individualized and based upon disability documentation, functional limitations, and a collaborative assessment of needs. Students are taught to use advocacy skills to request authorized accommodations specific to class needs and personal preferences. ODS may not be able to meet all personal preference requests but does provide reasonable accommodations/auxiliary aids.

One of the critical differences between high school and college is that students need to be involved in service decisions and request accommodations.



PART #5: College Life: Former Foster Youth Speak Out

“What's Next?”

- by Joshua Hatch,
Former FCCS Foster Youth
and Wright State
College Graduate

As young adults, one of our biggest concerns can be the thought of what's next. For many of us, we decide that college is the first part in making a conscious decision to invest in our futures and begin to plan for the next steps in our lives. College is one of the greatest decisions that you will make. It is not only when we truly begin to find our independence as young adults, but also when we discover and build our identities. I know it is much easier said than done but try your best to alleviate any stress or fear about this next step in your life. Remember, there are a ton of other students that are just like you that will be exploring this new world, getting to know new people, and calling campus their new home. Take the time to converse with people that you may not have encountered back in your hometown. At the end of the day, you're going off to college to learn and what better way to learn than from your peers and others that have experienced things that you may not have yet.

Before you embark on your journey make sure you are prepared. Take the time to make a list with everything that you think will be necessary for your first semester. Over the summer make a goal to obtain everything on your checklist. That way, by the time you get ready to move on campus (or simply start your classes) you will have all the necessary materials and won't have the stress of scrambling to get things last minute. (Note: You will quickly learn in college that procrastination is not a friend to keep around!)

One of the things that helped me stay focused and dedicated to my academics was getting involved in student organizations. By getting involved in student organizations you have an academic standard that you must uphold in order to remain involved. Depending on the organization, you could have many opportunities to network with faculty or community members, which can help you land internships or jobs as you navigate through your collegiate experience. Student organizations had a big incentive for me and is something that I highly recommend to anyone attending college.

The last bit of advice that I have is to allow your experiences through your adolescent years be motivation to get you through any tough times that you might have in college. These will be your first moments really being an adult and making a lot more decisions on your own based on what you want to do. I can't tell you all the times I thought about giving up but when I did I thought about where I had been and where I wanted to be. I created an image in my head of what I looked like being successful and accomplishing all my goals. Instead of letting my experiences be excuses, I allowed them to be motivation and reason. I encourage you to do the same - simply don't allow giving up to even be an option. Wake up every day and tell yourself that you are worthy, you are capable, and you deserve everything you work for!

Good luck, have fun, and make every day count!



“Rebirth”

- by **Talia Holmes**
Former FCCS Foster Youth
and Ohio State University
Graduate

Hey Future Leaders of Tomorrow!

I am not going to lie college is difficult. From time management, to procrastination, to taking out too many loans so you can have a little pocket money.

These are all things that probably as a 1st Generation College student you’ll be experiencing here soon (and want to AVOID).

But even with all THAT, college is a time of rebirth and experiencing who you are as an individual and being able to make decisions and maybe for some getting to be selfish and focus on self-care. For those who come into college with children do not think that you cannot make it. Sure, you have an extra body, but you’ll also have that same body to cheer you on when you walk across that stage bettering not only your life but that of your precious child.

Everybody remembers it’s not about how long it takes you to finish but how you finish! I have had to tell myself that constantly! I may not know each of you individually, but I am proud of what you have had to overcome to get to this point.

Continue to shine and bring out the best in others and yourself!





Appendix:

Top 10 College Application Mistakes

Senior year is hectic, but don't let that affect the quality of your college applications. Take your time, pay attention to detail and plan ahead so you can meet the deadlines. Following are some of the top responses from counselors and admissions staff who shared the most common mistakes on college applications.

1. **Misspellings and grammatical errors** — This is a big pet peeve of admissions people. Misspellings on something as important as the application shows that either you don't care or you aren't good at spelling. Some students even misspell their intended major. But don't stop with a spell check. Proofread for grammatical errors, too.
2. **Applying online, but the application isn't actually submitted** — If you apply online, you should receive confirmation that the college or university received it. Confirmation could be an email message, a Web page response or a credit card receipt. Follow through and make sure that your application has been received.
3. **Forgotten signatures** — Make sure you sign and date the form. Often students overlook that part of the form if it's on the back. Check that all spaces are completed.
4. **Not reading carefully**— For example, if the form asks what county you live in, don't misread it as country and write "United States."
5. **Listing extracurricular activities that aren't** — Those that make the list include sports, the arts, formal organizations and volunteer work. Talking on the phone and hanging out with friends don't make the cut. Make sure your activity information is accurate. Colleges may check with your high school.
6. **Not telling your school counselor where you've applied** — Let your counselor know which colleges you're applying to, and ask him or her to review your high school transcript before sending it to colleges. Sometimes transcripts have errors.
7. **Writing illegibly**— First impressions count, so take your time and use your best handwriting. It will make a better impression.
8. **Using an email address that friends might laugh about, but colleges won't** — Select a professional email address. Keep your fun address for friends, but select an address using your name for college admissions.
9. **Not checking your email regularly**— If you've given an email address, the college will use it. You don't want to miss out on anything because you didn't read your email.
10. **Letting Mom or Dad or other Adult help you fill out your application** — Admissions people know if your parents help, whether you have two different styles of handwriting or your admissions essay sounds more like a 45-year-old than a 17-year-old. It's fine to get advice, but do the work yourself!



Appendix:

College Planning Timeline

FRESHMAN YEAR

- Learn about college requirements.
- Explore Careers
- Develop your four-year high school curriculum
- Get involved in your community and school
- Link with a College Bound Mentor

SOPHOMORE YEAR

- Take the Plan Test in the fall.
- Continue researching colleges using Internet websites.
- Look closely at careers and college requirements for careers
- Modify your high school curriculum, if necessary

JUNIOR YEAR

- Take the PSAT test in the fall
- Attend College Fairs in the fall and spring.
- Visit with college representatives at your high school.
- Participate in formal Campus Visits.
- Take the ACT or SAT Explore Financial Aid

SENIOR YEAR

Fall:

- Link with an FCCS Emancipation Worker
- Narrow your college choices - attend additional college visits, if necessary Meet with your high school guidance counselor
- Apply for Scholarships (be mindful of deadlines!)
- Complete your College Applications by the required deadlines Obtain letters of recommendation
- Keep copies of everything!

January - February

- Complete the FAFSA or Free Application for Federal Student Financial Aid - Remember to collect personal financial and tax information in preparation for completing your FAFSA application
- Attend any college financial aid informational sessions, see your guidance counselor, emancipation worker, or College Bound Mentor for dates/times.

March - April

- Look for college acceptance letters, share your success with guidance counselors, teachers, emancipation worker, and college bound mentors
- Review financial aid award letter with emancipation worker and College Bound Mentor Finalize your college choice. Return acceptance forms for admission and financial aid. Submit appropriate fees to the college you plan to attend (i.e. enrollment fee, housing deposit fee)

May

- Complete follow-up paperwork for your college, such as scheduling an orientation session, housing selection and deposit, medical exam, etc.
- Notify your high school guidance counselor about your college choice and request a final transcript be sent to the college in June

June

- Receive and review information on the orientation session, scheduling and housing from your college.
- Write thank you notes to all those who wrote recommendation letters for you!



Appendix:

Choosing a College Major

Don't Panic!

The majority of students who arrive on campus do not know their exact major and career ambitions. Many change their majors at least once and some several times over the course of their college career.

Don't feel pressured to make a hasty decision about your career or major. College is the time for you to discover who you are and what you enjoy doing. Enjoy and explore your options.

Tips to help you on your Journey:

- **Examine your personal interests and careers** that appeal to you.
Talk to your academic advisors, professors, upperclassmen, alumni, family and friends to gather information.
- **Examine your abilities.** Identify your strengths/ weaknesses.
What courses were your best subjects in high school?
- **What do you value in your work?** Do you prefer working alone or in a group? What pace of work do you prefer: working under pressure or relaxed timelines?
- **Career Exploration.** The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Outlook Handbook provides information on occupations and trends.
Several colleges and universities offer similar websites to assist you in your decision making. Use your college's course catalog for information on specialized majors and tracks.
- **Reality Check:** Evaluate your options and assess your strengths and interests vs. your chosen career path.
(Example: I value being a physician but hate science in high school)
- **Narrow your choices and choose a major and career path that is Right for You and matches your interests.**



Appendix:

Useful Websites

Career Planning and Self Assessment Tools:

www.TheCoolcareer.com – Online Self Assessments to explore interests, skills, values and then match them to careers.

www.educationplanner.org – Online Career Assessment tool to assist students in finding a career that best suits them.

www.CareeroneStop.org – Describes job and working conditions for various professions. Provides information on needed training and education, earnings, and expected job prospects.

www.caseylifeskills.org – Assessment tool that measures factors for school success and study skills.

OCIS(Ohio Career Information System) – Career and Job Finding tool especially for Ohioans. Click Occupation and Employment to investigate careers and Education/ Training to learn about Ohio Training schools.

Choosing a College, Technical School or University:

www.mycollegeguide.org – Enter desired region, cost, class size and other demographical information and click college search.

www.foothill.edu/fac/shaner/sab – Click how to choose a College and complete College Choice Worksheet.

www.collegeboard.com – Click Students and Quick Finder then click College Matchmaker.

<http://bigfuture.collegeboard.org> – Information on career colleges and technical programs.

www.campuscompare.com – Information on academics, campus life, college trends, financial aid, and scholarships for over 3,000 colleges and universities.

www.collegegrazing.com – Interactive self discovery surveys and feedback on college readiness, preferences and characteristics.

Visiting a College/ University/ Technical School:

www.collegeapps.about.com – Commonly asked questions, scheduling interviews etc.

College Admissions Testing:

www.number2.com – Free online test preparation

www.csc.edu/admissions/placement-testing.edu – Sample Questions math, reading, writing, for Compass Placement Test offered through Columbus State Community College.

www.actstudent.org – Official Website for American College Test (ACT Exam)

www.collegeboard.com – Official Website for SAT College Admittance Exam.

College Applications:

www.commonapp.org – Click Students Apply to College, Application Download Applications forms and submit them online

www.collegesmiths.com – Provide Assistance with completing college applications, developing resumes and writing essays.

www.ohiocan.org – Provide Trained Advisors to assist High School Students with all aspects of application process.



Appendix:

Useful Websites (continued)

Writing College Essays:

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/essays>

Financial Aid:

www.studentaid.ed.gov – Links to Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Check on Application Status, Order a duplicate of Student Aid Report or change this report, assistance in filing out the application.

www.ohiohighered.org – Ohio Board of Regents Website.

College Access Information Hotline: 614-466-6000 | Hotline Maintained by Ohio Board of Regents.

www.ncher.us – National Council of Higher Education Resources.

www.fc2success.org – ETV Program

www.oasfaa.org – State and Federal Financial Aid Information, links, and resource materials for students, parents.

www.bestcolleges.com/financial-aid/overview – Overview of all major financial aid programs, including eligibility, how to apply and deadlines.

www.finaid.org/fasfa/errors.phtml – Checklist to use to avoid errors before submitting the FASFA Form

www.statevoucher.org – Chafee ETV contact information and applications for \$5,000 in funds available per student per year for youth in foster care participating in qualifying postsecondary education and training programs. *Click Ohio*

Scholarships and Grants Information:

<http://regents.ohio.gov/sgs/index/php> – Information on State Grants and Scholarships through Ohio Bd. Of Regents.

www.orangewoodfoundation.org/programs/GScholars – Listing and Links to colleges that provide support programs and scholarship assistance for students from foster care.

usnews.com/education/scholarship/search – Listing of Scholarships and financial aid from over 3,000 national, state and public/private sources.

www.ncc5donline.org – National Center for College Students with Disabilities

<https://www.scholarships.com/financialaid/college-scholarships/scholarships-by-type/minority-scholarships/> – Information on Scholarships, databases and award programs for minority students.

www.fastweb.com – Scholarship search site that provides automatic e-mail notifications of scholarships that matches the students profile.

www.ohiocan.org – Last Dollar Scholarships assists students after using all other sources of Financial Aid in locating Scholarships



Appendix:

Useful Websites

Services for Students with Disabilities:

www.ed.gov – Type Students with Disabilities Preparing for Postsecondary Education- Summary of Laws regarding postsecondary education of students with disabilities

www.health.gwu.edu – Click Publications and Fact Sheets.

Information on Selecting a College for youth with Learning Disabilities or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

www.postitt.org/studentcourse – Discussion of disclosure and what is entailed in disclosing to a post- secondary school information on students with a learning disability.

www.cambridgestratford.com – Successful College Students with disabilities offer advice on campus life and classroom experiences.

[www.ohiohighered.org/students/prepareforcollege/students with disabilities](http://www.ohiohighered.org/students/prepareforcollege/students-with-disabilities) – Pre-enrollment programs for youth with Learning Disabilities.

[www.understand.org/en/school-learning/chossing-starting-school/leaving-high school](http://www.understand.org/en/school-learning/chossing-starting-school/leaving-high-school) – 7 things to know about college Disability services.

Online Learning Opportunities:

<http://worldwidelearn.com> – Listing of Online Degree Programs

Foster Care Youth: Campus Services and Support:

<https://ohioreach.org> – Ohio Reach Program designed to support Foster Care Youth reaching for higher education by increasing the enrollment and graduation rates of foster care youth in higher education and establishing liaisons at Ohio universities and community colleges.

www.affordablecollegesonline.org/college-resource-center/freshman-mistakes – Advice and resources for navigating your freshman year in college.

www.cova.org – Provide professional assistance to help youth with career readiness and job placement, Higher Education, Daily Living Skills, Housing, and linkages to community services.

<http://jfs.ohio.gov> – Ohio Department of Job and Family Services Website. Directory of Local Job and Family Services agencies. Provides information about how to access free healthcare coverage, cash assistance, food assistance, child care and employment and training assistance.

<http://www.hud.gov/local/oh/renting> – Directory of local Housing Authorities in the State of Ohio. Providing information on applying for a Section 8 vouchers and low income housing units in the area.

connect.csc.edu/engage/submitter/form/start/287814 – Columbus State Scholar Network. Provide academic support/ leadership experiences, linkages to campus resources, and community building for students attending CSCC formerly in foster care



Appendix:

Useful Websites (continued)

Miscellaneous:

<https://bridgestosuccess.jfs.ohio.gov/index.stm> – The Ohio Bridges program

[Iknowican.org](http://knowican.org) – Provides student advice, counsel, and financial support for youth enrolled in Columbus Public Schools.

www.techprepohio.org – Information on College Tech Prep programs in the area that train our youth to develop technological skills while preparing for 2 or 4 year college degree.

www.education.ohio.gov – Search for Keyword PSEOP

Information on Post Secondary Enrollment that allows students to take college classes for high school and college credit.

www.firstinthefamily.org – Information regarding Trio Programs and participating colleges and universities in Ohio.

www.csocollegecenter.org – Website targeted with information for first generation, low income and minority students

www.blackexcel.org – Website dedicated to African American families. Information about scholarships, HBCU's and Summer Enrichment Programs.



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OUR MISSION

Through collaboration with families and their communities, we advocate for the safety, permanency and well-being of each child we serve in a manner that honors family and culture.

Our Vision

Safety, permanency and well-being for every child.

We Are Child Welfare Professionals

- We constantly pursue excellence
- We recognize the importance of providing effective and timely services
- We value, respect and support each other
- We are proud that we improve the quality of life for families in our community
- We are fiscally responsible
- We aspire to be culturally competent

We Value Every Child

- We respect the individuality of each child we serve
- We advocate for each child's safety, permanency and well-being
- We honor each child's family and culture

We Honor Families

- We respect a family's strengths
- We understand families are the experts of their own experience
- We recognize that children are best served within their family and community
- We separate what parents do from who they are

We Value Partnerships

- Families have the right to be a part of the decision-making team
- Casework is the most important function of the agency team
- Families, communities and government share the responsibility to keep children safe

Main Office:

855 W. Mound St.
Columbus, Ohio 43223
(614) 275-2571

Intake:

4071 E. Main St.
Whitehall, OH 43213
(614) 575-3500

West Region:

1919 W. Frank Rd
Columbus, OH 43223
(614) 228-5800

General Office Hours:

8am - 5pm
Monday - Friday

Intake/Investigations Open 24 Hours

(614) 229-7100 Non-Emergency
(614) 229-7000 24-Hour Abuse Hotline



Protecting Children by Strengthening Families

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