



Protecting Children by Strengthening Families



# What's Next? A Guide To Your Post-Secondary Education

# About Franklin County Children Services



Protecting Children by Strengthening Families

## 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 700 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 nearly 28,600 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:

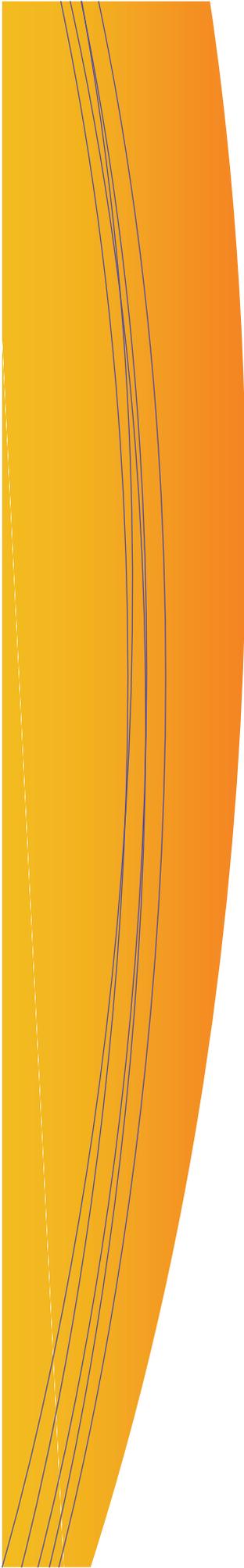
- in home counseling and community social and mental health services
- day treatment
- therapeutic arts
- emancipation, volunteer services and mentoring
- placement of children in temporary foster homes
- other supportive services that enable the family to maintain or resume their role of raising their 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 and is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children. Franklin County Children Services is one of only a few public county children services boards in Ohio and the nation to be accredited. This accreditation means that Children Services meets rigorous national standards regarding quality of services and sound management practice.

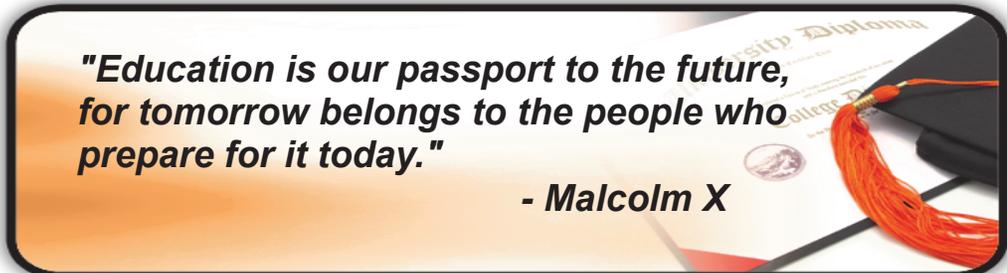
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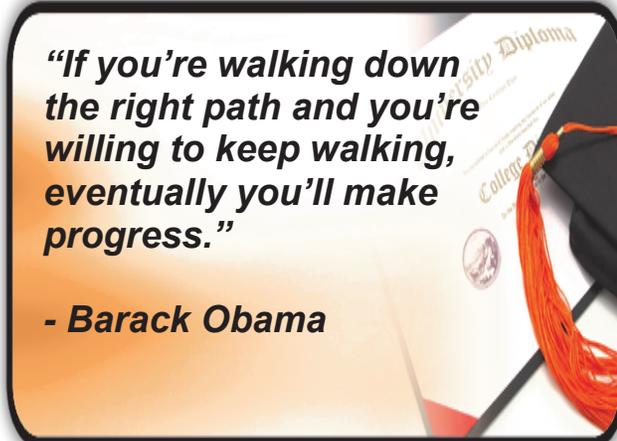
***"Education is our passport to the future,  
for tomorrow belongs to the people who  
prepare for it today."***

**- Malcolm X**



***"If you're walking down  
the right path and you're  
willing to keep walking,  
eventually you'll make  
progress."***

**- Barack Obama**



***"He who opens a school door,  
closes a  
prison."***

**- Victor Hugo**

# Part #1: College Planning



## Career Dreams & College

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 (\$29,448 vs. \$54,689). A two year Associate Degree earns more than just a high school diploma (\$29,448 vs 37,990).
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.

## 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. Five 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 chose 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
- Social Studies: Three years of social studies
- Additional Courses: Two years of a Foreign Language

**2** **Standardized Tests:** PSAT (Preliminary SAT), OGT (Ohio Graduation 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.

# College Planning Timeline

## Freshman Year

- Connect with high school guidance counselor
- Learn about college requirements
- Explore Careers
- Develop your four-year high school curriculum
- Start strong academically and try to develop a strong cumulative GPA
- Get involved in your community and school
- Link with a FCCS College Bound Mentor

## Sophomore Year

- Take the OGT; utilize school supports and online courses if need to retest in certain sections
- Take the ACT: 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
- Continue to communicate with your high school guidance counselor

## Junior Year

- Take the PSAT test in the fall
- Attend college fairs and tours in the fall and spring
- Visit with college representatives at your high school
- Participate in formal college campus visits
- Attend ACT/SAT prep classes
- Take the ACT or SAT
- Explore Financial Aid, Scholarships and Grants!
- Continue to talk with high school guidance counselor about college interests and planning
- Try to work a part-time job and save money!

## Senior Year

### **Fall**

- Link with an FCCS Emancipation Worker
- Meet with your high school guidance counselor
- Take the ACT/SAT again, if needed
- Narrow your college choices - attend additional college visits
- Apply for Scholarships and Grants (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 - i.e. College Goal Sundays
- Understand the difference between a grant, subsidized loan and unsubsidized loan

### **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)
- Accept financial aid package

### **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/July**

- Receive and review information on the orientation session, scheduling and housing from your college
- Opt to decline college health insurance - In the Ohio, youth who emancipated from foster care are eligible to receive Medicaid until 21. Please see your Emancipation worker for more information.
- Write thank you notes to all those who wrote recommendation letters for you!
- Complete ETV or Education Training Voucher on or after July 1st

# 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 than private colleges though both offer financial aid.

## **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.

## **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 chose 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 fits you!



**Keep reading  
for Tips on  
How to Choose  
a Major!**

# Choosing a College That's Right For 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 \$2,713 per year. **Do Not be Intimidated!**

**Look at College as an Investment in Yourself and Your Future!!**

## **Campus Life:**

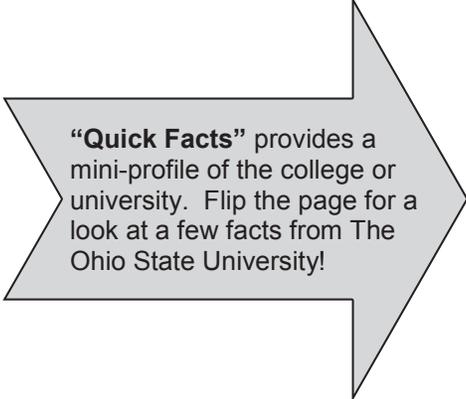
The activities and social life offered by a college or university are important considerations. These may include clubs, fraternities and sororities, service organizations, organized and intramural athletics, student government, professional organizations and other on-campus opportunities.

## **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 schools success.



**“Quick Facts”** provides a mini-profile of the college or university. Flip the page for a look at a few facts from The Ohio State University!

# 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. On Wright State University’s website, you can find the following information:

## Wright State University

### Wright State University Mission

We transform the lives of our students and the communities we serve.

#### We are committed to:

- Achieving learning outcomes through innovative, high-quality programs for all students: undergraduate, graduate, and professional;
- Conducting scholarly research and creative endeavors; and
- Engaging in significant community service.

#### Enrollment Information:

| Enrollment, Fall 2011 |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Campus                | Number of Students |
| Dayton Campus         | 18,304             |
| Lake Campus           | 1,417              |

| Enrollment by Group                  |                    |                         |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Group                                | Number of Students | Percent of Student Body |
| Men                                  | 8,826              | 45.0%                   |
| Women                                | 10,774             | 55.0%                   |
| Full-time                            | 15,266             | 77.9%                   |
| Part-time                            | 4,334              | 22.1%                   |
| Undergraduates                       | 15,657             | 79.9%                   |
| Graduate Students (Master’s Degrees) | 3,114              | 15.9%                   |
| Doctoral/Professional Students       | 829                | 4.2%                    |
| Out-of-State Students                | 1,357              | 6.9%                    |
| International Students               | 788                | 4.0%                    |
| Countries Represented                |                    | 65                      |
| Average Age of All Students          |                    | 24.6                    |
| Students 25 and Over                 | 6,214              | 31.7%                   |

# Wright State University

## Minority Student Enrollment, Fall 2011 (Omit International Students):

| Group                                    | Number of Students | Percent of Student Body |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------|
| African American                         | 2,463              | 12.6%                   |
| Asian American                           | 510                | 2.6%                    |
| Hispanic American                        | 466                | 2.4%                    |
| American Indian or Alaskan Native        | 50                 | 0.3%                    |
| Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander      | 20                 | 0.1%                    |
| <b>Total Minority Student Enrollment</b> | <b>3,509</b>       | <b>17.9%</b>            |

## Tuition and Fees, Dayton Campus 2011-12:

| Student type  | Annual cost     |
|---|-----------------|
| Ohio Undergraduates                                 | \$8,070         |
| Nonresident Undergraduates                          | \$15,633        |
| Ohio Graduate Students                              | \$15,768        |
| Nonresident Graduate Students                       | \$26,784        |
| <b>Room and Board, Dayton Campus (typical plan)</b> | <b>\$8,387</b>  |
| <b>Average Cost for One Year, Dayton Campus</b>     | <b>\$18,437</b> |

## Facilities

University Libraries: The University Libraries include the Paul Laurence Dunbar Library, the Lake Campus Learning Center, the Student Technology Assistance Center (STAC), and Special Collections and Archives.

Wright State University Nutter Center: The Wright State University Nutter Center is a 12,000-seat, state-of-the-art facility. Home to Wright State athletics, it is also a popular venue for national touring concerts and performances. The contemporary Berry Room holds 250 people for weddings, receptions, conferences, and seminars.

## Official School Colors

Hunter Green and Gold

## Academic Structure

Colleges: 8

Education and Human Services; Engineering and Computer Science; Liberal Arts; Nursing and Health; Raj Sooin College of Business; Science and Mathematics; University College; and Lake Campus

Schools: 3

Boonshoft School of Medicine; Graduate School; and Professional Psychology

# 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 can help you make the right decision?



- 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.**



Stay tuned for the  
Top 10 College  
Application Mistakes!

# 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.
- **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**: Takes 2-3 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.
- **ACT/SAT test scores**
  - ⇒ These scores provide the most objective measure of your potential.

# 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.

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.

### 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.



# Types of Colleges and Universities

## **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 that may be offered by 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.

# Historically Black Colleges and Universities or HBCUs

**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 105 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 105 HBCU institutions in America today, 27 offer doctoral programs and 52 provide graduate degree programs at the Master's level. At the undergraduate level, 83 of the HBCUs offer a bachelor's degree program and 38 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.

**Most notable HBCUs are Howard University in Washington D.C. and Spelman and Morehouse Colleges in Atlanta. Ohio's HBCUs are Central State University and Wilberforce College.**



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**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 Board of Regents for the following information. Take a look at [OhioHigherEd.Org](http://OhioHigherEd.Org) for more information!**

Independent:

○ Colleges

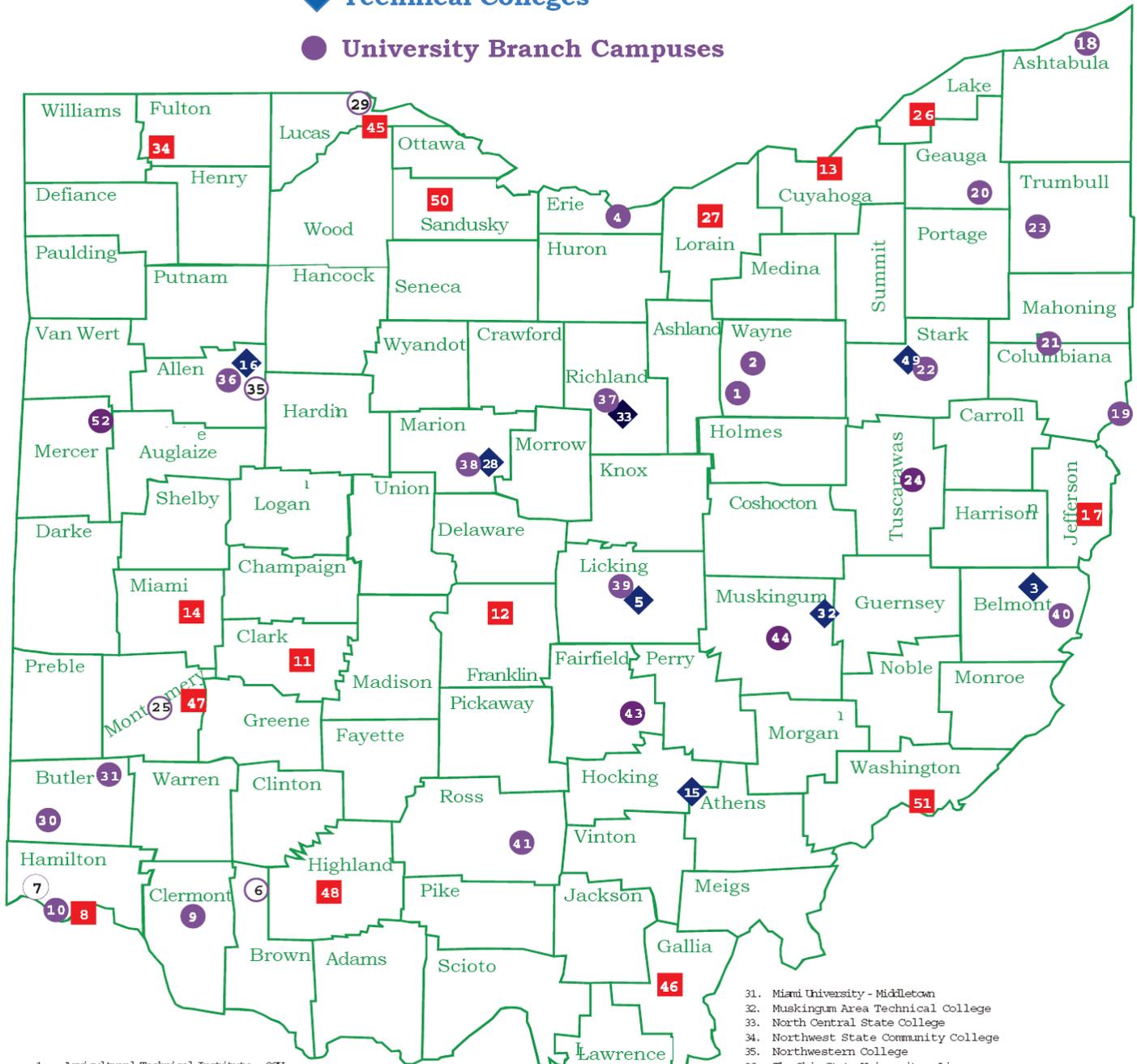
# TWO-YEAR CAMPUSES

State Supported:

■ Community Colleges

◆ Technical Colleges

● University Branch Campuses



- 1. Agricultural Technical Institute - OSU
- 2. University of Akron - Wayne
- 3. Belmont Technical College
- 4. Bowling Green State University - Firelands
- 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
- 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 University - Ashtabula
- 19. Kent State University - East Liverpool
- 20. Kent State University - Geauga
- 21. Kent State University - Salem
- 22. Kent State University - Stark
- 23. Kent State University - Trumbull
- 24. Kent State University - 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 University - Hamilton

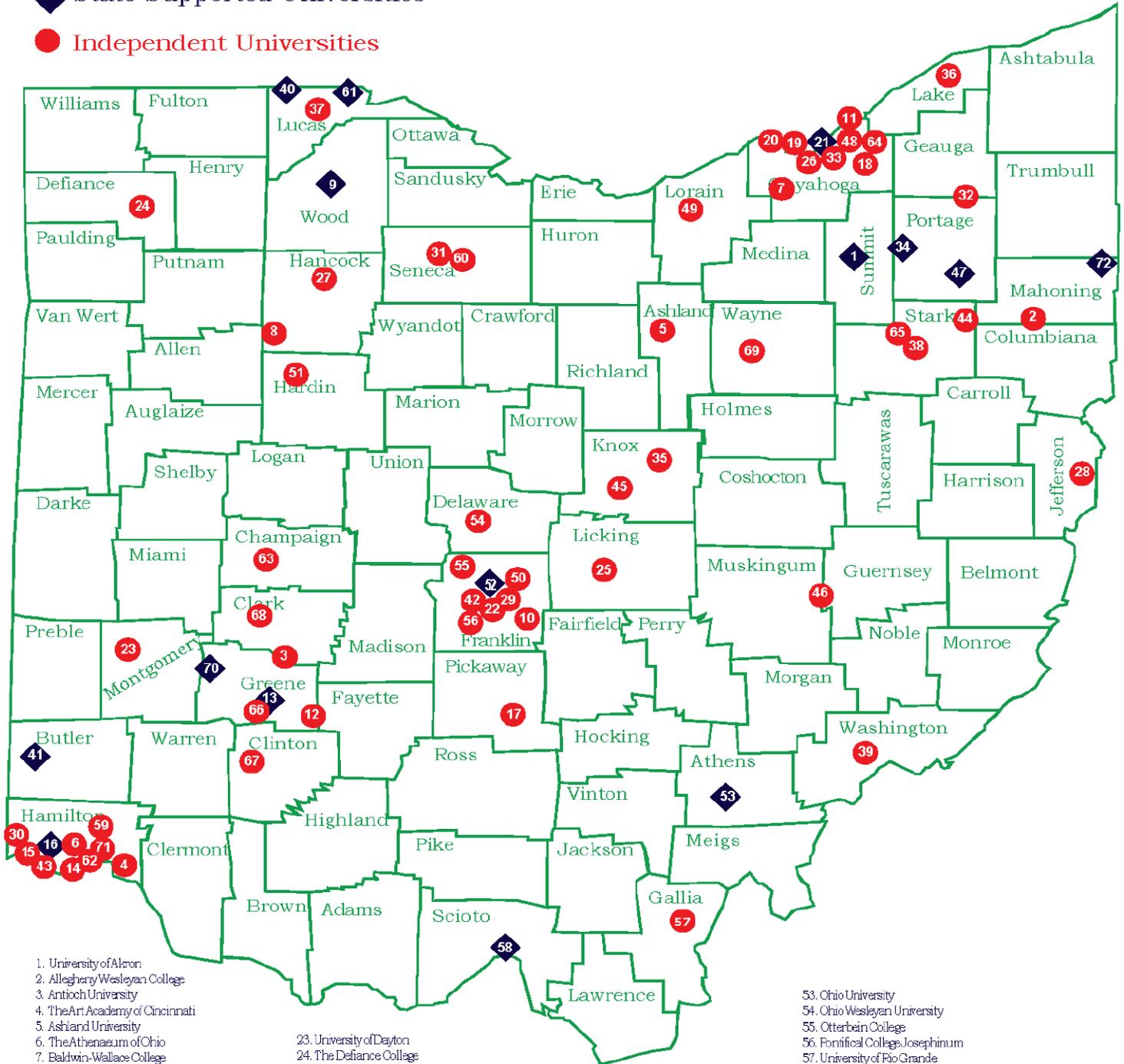
- 31. Miami University - Middletown
- 32. Muskingum Area Technical College
- 33. North Central State College
- 34. Northwest State Community College
- 35. Northwestern College
- 36. The Ohio State University - Lima
- 37. The Ohio State University - Mansfield
- 38. The Ohio State University - Marion
- 39. The Ohio State University - Newark
- 40. Ohio University - Belmont
- 41. Ohio University - Chillicothe
- 42. Ohio University - Ironton
- 43. Ohio University - Lancaster
- 44. Ohio University - 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 University - Lake Campus

Courtesy of the Ohio Board of Regents

# 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 University
- 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. University of Cincinnati
- 17. Circleville Bible College
- 18. Laura and Alvin Stegal College of Judaic Studies
- 19. Cleveland Institute of Art
- 20. Cleveland Institute of Music
- 21. Cleveland State University
- 22. Columbus College of Art & Design

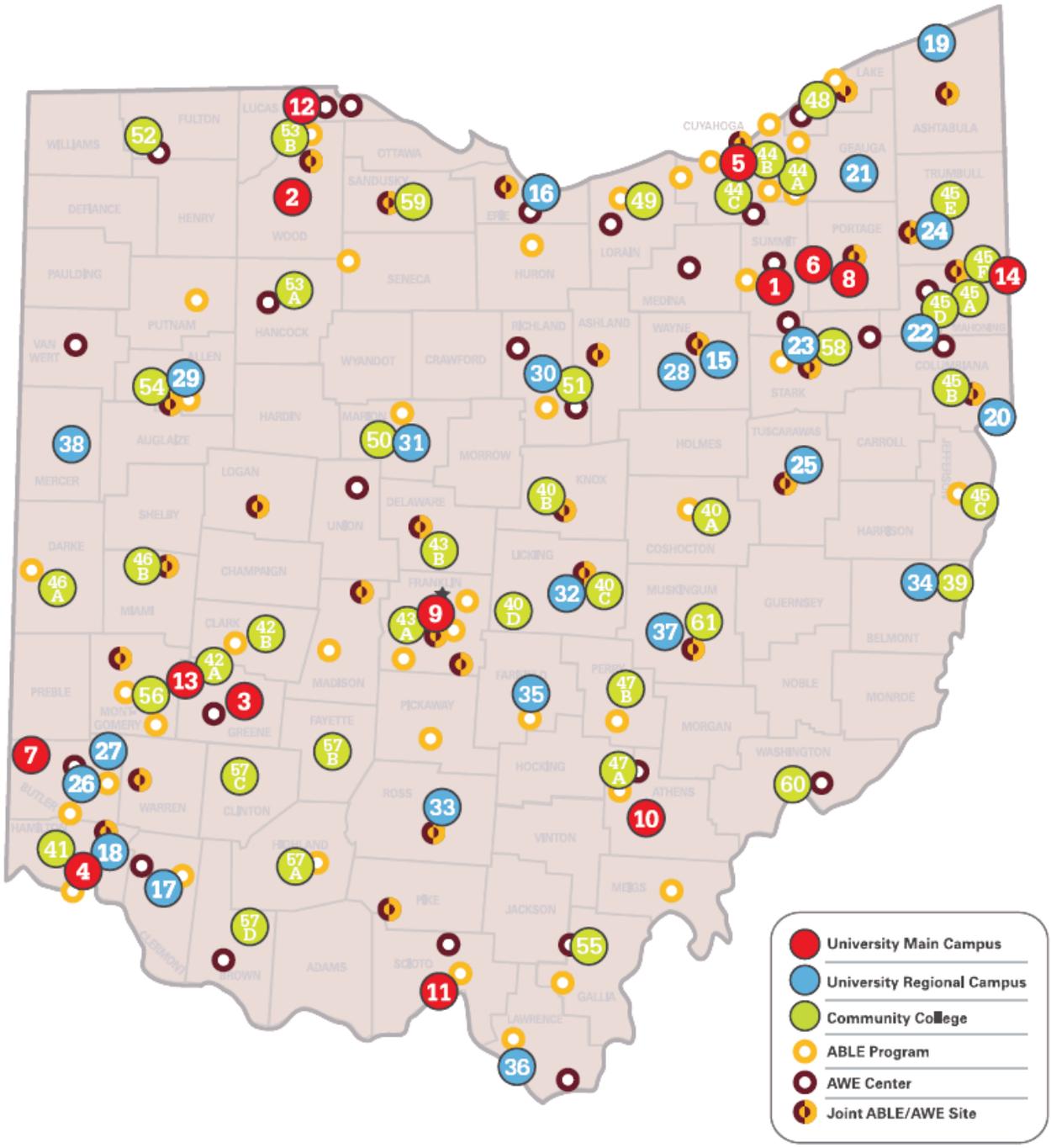
- 23. University of Dayton
- 24. The Defiance College
- 25. Denison University
- 26. David N. Myers College
- 27. University of Findlay
- 28. Franciscan University of Steubenville
- 29. Franklin University
- 30. God's Bible College
- 31. Heidelberg College
- 32. Hiram College
- 33. John Carroll University
- 34. Kent State University
- 35. Kenyon College
- 36. Lake Erie College
- 37. Lourdes College
- 38. Malone College
- 39. Marietta College

- 40. Medical College of Ohio at Toledo
- 41. Miami University
- 42. Mt. Carmel College of Nursing
- 43. College of Mount St. Joseph
- 44. Mount Union College
- 45. Mt. Vernon Nazarene College
- 46. Muskingum College
- 47. Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine
- 48. Notre Dame College of Ohio
- 49. Oberlin College
- 50. Ohio Dominican College
- 51. Ohio Northern University
- 52. The Ohio State University

- 53. Ohio University
- 54. Ohio Wesleyan University
- 55. Otterbein College
- 56. Fontinal College Josephinum
- 57. University of Rio Grande
- 58. Shawnee State University
- 59. Temple Baptist College
- 60. Tiffin University
- 61. University of Toledo
- 62. The Union 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

Courtesy of the Ohio Board of Regents

# University System of Ohio





# University System of Ohio

## 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 - Clermont
18. University of Cincinnati - Raymond Walters
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 - Southerm
37. Ohio University - Zanesville
38. Wright State University - Lake

## Community Colleges

39. Belmont Technical 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 Community 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

## Adult Basic & Literacy Education Programs (ABLE)



**ALLEN:** Lima City Schools

**ATHENS:** SEPTA Correctional Facility

**BUTLER:** Hamilton City School District, Middletown City School District

**CLARK:** Springfield City Board of Education

**CLERMONT:** Clermont County Educational Service Center

**COSHOCTON:** Coshocton County Job & Family Services

**CUYAHOGA:** Cleveland Heights-University Heights ABLE; Cuyahoga Community College; Euclid City Schools; Lakewood City Schools; Parma City School District; Westlake City Schools

**DARKE:** Greenville City Schools

**FAIRFIELD:** Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency

**FRANKLIN:** Godman Guild Association; Leo Yassenoff Jewish Community Center; South-Western City Schools

**GALLIA:** Gallia-Jackson-Vinton Joint Vocational School District

**HAMILTON:** Cincinnati Public Schools

**HIGHLAND:** Southern State Community College

**HURON:** Norwalk City Schools

**JEFFERSON:** Eastern Gateway Community College

**LAKE:** Painesville City Local Schools

**LAWRENCE:** Lawrence County Joint Vocational High School

**LORAIN:** Lorain County Community College

**MADISON:** London City School District

**MARION:** Marion Technical College

**MEIGS:** Athens-Meigs Educational Service Center

**MONTGOMERY:** Kettering City School District; Miami Valley Literacy Council

**PERRY:** Perry-Hocking Educational Service Center

**PICKAWAY:** Pickaway County Educational Service Center

**PUTNAM:** Putnam County Educational Service Center

**RICHLAND:** Mansfield City Schools-Adult & Community Education

**SCIOTO:** South Central Ohio Educational Service Center

**SENECA:** Fostoria Community Schools

**STARK:** Massillon City Schools

**SUMMIT:** Project Learn of Summit County

**WOOD:** Owens Community College

## Adult Workforce Education Centers (AWE)



**ATHENS:** Tri-County Career Center

**BROWN:** Southern Hills Career & Technical Center

**BUTLER:** Butler Technology & Career Development Schools

**CLERMONT:** U.S. Grant Joint Vocational School District

**COLUMBIANA:** Salem City Schools

**CUYAHOGA:** Cuyahoga Valley Career Center

**ERIE:** EHOVE Career Center

**FULTON:** Four County Career Center

**GALLIA:** Buckeye Hills Career Center

**GREENE:** Greene County Career Center

**HANCOCK:** Findlay City Schools

**LAKE:** Willoughby-Eastlake City Schools

**LAWRENCE:** Collins Career Center/Lawrence County Joint Vocational School

**LORAIN:** Lorain County Joint Vocational School

**LUCAS:** Oregon City Schools; Toledo City Schools

**MAHONING:** Mahoning County Career & Technical 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:** Akron City Schools; Portage Lakes Career Center

**UNION:** Tri-Rivers Career Center

**VAN WERT:** Vantage Career Center

**WASHINGTON:** Washington County Career Center

## Joint ABLE/AWE



**ALLEN:** Apollo Career Center

**ASHLAND:** Ashland County-West Holmes Career Center

**ASHTABULA:** Ashtabula County Joint Vocational School

**COLUMBIANA:** Columbiana County Career & Technical Center

**CUYAHOGA:** Polaris Joint Vocational School District

**DELAWARE:** Delaware Area Career Center

**ERIE:** Sandusky City Schools

**FRANKLIN:** Columbus City Schools; Eastland-Fairfield Career Center

**HAMILTON:** Great Oaks Institute of Technology

**KNOX:** Knox County Career

**LAKE:** Auburn Career Center

**LICKING:** C-TEC

**LOGAN:** Ohio Hi-Point Joint Vocational School District

**MADISON:** Tolles Career & Technical Center

**MAHONING:** Youngstown City Schools

**MIAMI:** Upper Valley Joint Vocational School

**MONTGOMERY:** Miami Valley Career Technology Center

**MUSKINGUM:** Mid-East Career & Technology Center

**PIKE:** Pike County Career Technology Center

**PORTAGE:** Maplewood Career Center

**ROSS:** Pickaway-Ross Career & Technology Center

**SANDUSKY:** Vanguard-Sentinel Career Centers

**STARK:** Canton City Schools

**TRUMBULL:** Trumbull Career & Technical Center

**TUSCARAWAS:** Buckeye Joint Vocational School District

**WARREN:** Warren County Career Center

**WAYNE:** Wayne County Schools Career Center

**WOOD:** Penta Career Center

# 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](http://www.fasfa.ed.gov). It explains all about different types of available financial aid. You should apply for the FAFSA as close to the beginning of the year as possible.  
- Rachael, University of Northern Iowa

### Loans

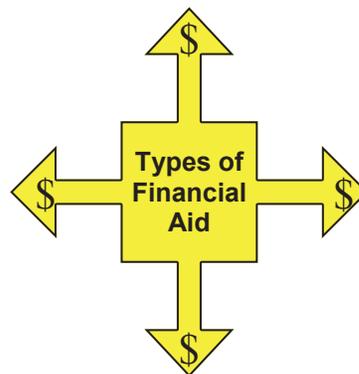
Loans are money borrowed by the student that must be paid back. The Department of Education awards two types of loans to students attending college: **Subsidized** and **Unsubsidized** Loans. A “subsidized” loan means that the government pays the interest. An “unsubsidized” loan means that the student 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. ETV has additional eligibility requirements. Please refer to their website [www.statevoucher.org](http://www.statevoucher.org) for more information and to complete an application.

# Chart the Costs

Exploring financial aid for a post-secondary education begins with finding out what the costs might be, researching the financial aid that may be available, and then building a financial plan that outlines estimated costs and how they will be covered.



|  | Tuitions & Fees | Books & Supplies | Room & Board | Transportation | Other/Personal | Total    |
|--|-----------------|------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------|
| <b>4-year public colleges</b>  |                 |                  |              |                |                |          |
| Resident   | \$7,605         | \$1,137          | \$8,535      | \$1,037        | \$2,025        | \$20,339 |
| Commuter   | \$7,605         | \$1,137          | \$6,620      | \$1,200        | \$1,862        | \$18,424 |
| Out of State   | \$19,595        | \$1,137          | \$8,535      | \$1,037        | \$2,025        | \$32,329 |
| <b>4-year private colleges</b>   |                 |                  |              |                |                |          |
| Resident   | \$27,293        | \$1,181          | \$9,700      | \$1,037        | \$1,265        | \$40,476 |
| Commuter   | \$27,293        | \$1,181          | \$6,620      | \$1,200        | \$1,102        | \$37,396 |
| Out of State   | \$27,293        | \$1,181          | \$9,700      | \$1,037        | \$1,265        | \$40,476 |
| <b>2-year public colleges</b>  |                 |                  |              |                |                |          |
| Commuter   | \$2,713         | \$1,096          | \$4,029      | \$1,200        | \$2,040        | \$11,078 |
| <b>Public career/technical programs</b>  |                 |                  |              |                |                |          |
| Because these programs vary in length, tuition estimates are based on the number of credits the student takes each term. |                 |                  |              |                |                |          |



### WHAT A MENTOR CAN HELP THE 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.

### 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. 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.



#### **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](http://www.sss.gov).**



# 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 [www.ohioreach.wikispaces.com](http://www.ohioreach.wikispaces.com) to view a list of the Ohio Reach Liaisons and for more information.

## Emancipation Services

The mission of Franklin County Children Services’ Emancipation 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 applications and fees
- ⇒ Computers
- ⇒ Dorm setup
- ⇒ Housing during college breaks
- ⇒ Independent living preparation
- ⇒ Rent and utility assistance
- ⇒ Furniture and housewares
- ⇒ Job/trade assistance
- ⇒ Groceries



For more information, contact FCCS Emancipation Department at 614-278-5972.



# Support Services



## FCCS College Bound Mentor Program

College Bound Mentors support, assist and guide youth under the care of Franklin County Children Services in reaching their dreams of higher education. Mentors assist youth in preparing for college and planning for successful futures.

This may include helping the youth with ACT/SAT registration, college and scholarship applications, and college visits. College Bound Mentors give youth the opportunity to have positive and meaningful relationships with adults.

To be linked with a mentor, contact Chuck Cochran at 614-275-2598.

## Foster Care Alumni Association [www.fostercarealumni.org](http://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!

## I Know I Can [www.iknowican.org](http://www.iknowican.org)

### **Dream Big. Work Hard. We'll Help.**

That's our promise to all Columbus City Schools students. I Know I Can believes that every Columbus City Schools student deserves the opportunity to achieve their dream of earning a college education. And we're here to help.

From elementary school through college, I Know I Can College Advisors and volunteers encourage students to dream big and work hard. As one of the largest and most successful college access programs in the country, we provide the inspiration to ignite ambition, the advice to excel and the financial support and guidance to enable students to earn a college degree.



## Important Information

# Students with Disabilities

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 and 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 11<sup>th</sup> grade, request a reassessment of the special needs. Follow up to make sure the reassessments takes place and discuss the results with the IEP or 504 plan coordinator.

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

- Post-ITT - has a good series of activities that help students to compare the disability support services at various schools. Go to [www.PostITT.org](http://www.PostITT.org) click on Enter and than click Enter as a visitor. Click Guidance Activities, and than click Section 5: Accessing support at College.
- Selecting a college for students with Learning Disabilities or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is available at [www.heath.gwu.edu](http://www.heath.gwu.edu), Click Publications, and than click Fact Sheets.
- **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. To get a copy, go to [www.cwla.org/pubs](http://www.cwla.org/pubs).

### Steps to get ready for college:

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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)!

# Students with Disabilities

5. 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.

## Service area that could be provided at college

These are some services that could be provided through the office of disability services. They 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.



# College Life: Former Foster Youth Speak Out



Getting ready for college is not one the easiest things in life to do. It may seem as if it's just moving all your stuff from here to there, but it's more than that. Some tend to forget that getting ready for college is like getting ready to face the world by yourself. So, being independent is the key.

Think, you're on your own now. Can you manage being an adult? How do you get ready for college? It's just like getting ready to enter high school with a little more independence involved. Make sure you have school supplies like a couple book bags but also basic everyday supplies like hygiene products, food, clothes, laundry detergent, dishes, etc. Know how to clean! You may have a roommate who is filthy and nasty, so you need to know and have the supplies to keep your room clean and disinfected.

Let's talk money. Tuition isn't the only thing that's expensive on campus. You have to pay for laundry, food, campus events, and of course parties (but not too much of that!). Applying for scholarships and grants are helpful because you can get extra money. But, try to get a job early and SAVE!

Now that you're heading to college, you've had the option to schedule your own classes. So one thing you may want to do is take two weeks before you leave and live by your college schedule. Include the times you have class, read or write, and your free time on the schedule. But make sure once college starts you spend time studying! Start college with a strong academic foundation. So, while other students may end up on academic probation by the end of the first quarter or semester because they spent their time partying and goofing off, you will be feeling proud and at ease because you spent time hitting the books!

Getting ready for college is one of the most exciting things in life to do. But be careful and be smart when getting ready because once you're there, there's no turning back!

Hello future college students,

It puts a smile on my face to know that you pursuing a degree in higher education. Congratulations on your success throughout the difficulties and troubles you may have faced. I also would like to acknowledge your wonderful decision. Good job!!! This is one of the best decisions that you have made. When entering college, I strongly advise you to network. This means building positive relationships with peers, professors, faculty and any other staff members. This will allow your name to be familiar with important people on a positive basis. Get involved!!! Being involved with student activities and organizations is the key to success during your college tenure.



Master the skill of time management. Learning positive techniques to manage time is very important in college. This is the ability to balance school work assignments with activities and study time. You will find this effective shortly after you arrive on your campus. Be a good student consistently. Everybody will have good and bad days in college. The longer you become a consistent and good student, the more positive attention you will receive. Other students will begin looking up to you and even asking you for advice. I truly wish you all the best.

Good Luck on your first year!!

# 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!



***OOPS!***

# 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.mycoolcareer.com](http://www.mycoolcareer.com)**

Online Self Assessments to explore interests, skills, values and then match them to careers.

**[www.educationplanner.org](http://www.educationplanner.org)**

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

**[www.careervoyages.gov](http://www.careervoyages.gov)**

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

**[www.caseylifeskills.org](http://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.princetonreview.com](http://www.princetonreview.com)**

Compares 2 year/4 year/ technical schools benefits and costs

**[www.mycollegeguide.org](http://www.mycollegeguide.org)**

Enter desired region, cost, class size and other demographical information and click college search.

**[www.foothill.edu/fac/shaner/sab](http://www.foothill.edu/fac/shaner/sab)**

Click how to choose a College and complete College Choice Worksheet.

**[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)**

Click Students and Quick Finder then click College Matchmaker.

**<http://test.nacenet.org/MemberPortal/Events/CollegeFairs>**

Locations of College Fair dates and locations across the United States.

**[www.community-college.org](http://www.community-college.org)**

State listings of community colleges

**[www.college-finder.info](http://www.college-finder.info)**

Information on career colleges and technical programs.

**[www.campuscompare.com](http://www.campuscompare.com)**

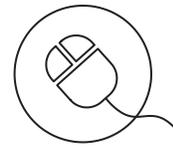
Information on academics, campus life, college trends, financial aid, and scholarships for over 3,000 colleges and universities.

**[www.collegegrazing.com](http://www.collegegrazing.com)**

Interactive self discovery surveys and feedback on college readiness, preferences and characteristics.



# Appendix



## Useful Websites

### Visiting a College/ University/ Technical School:

**[www.collegeapps.about.com](http://www.collegeapps.about.com)**

Commonly asked questions, scheduling interviews etc.

### College Admissions Testing:

**[www.number2.com](http://www.number2.com)**

Free online test preparation

**[Martin.896@osu.edu](mailto:Martin.896@osu.edu)**

Ms. Martin is the Ministry Coordinator through local church who provides assistance with SAT/ACT Preparation. Please place SAT/ACT on Memo Line.

**[www.act.org/compass](http://www.act.org/compass)**

Sample Questions math, reading, writing, for Compass Placement Test offered through Columbus State Community College.

**[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)**

Official Website for American College Test (ACT Exam)

**[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)**

Official Website for SAT College Admittance Exam.

### College Applications:

**[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)**

Click **Students Apply to College, Application**

Download Applications forms and submit them online.

**[www.collegesmiths.com](http://www.collegesmiths.com)**

Provide Assistance with completing college applications, developing resumes and writing essays.

**[www.ohiocan.org](http://www.ohiocan.org)**

Provide Trained Advisors to assist High School Students with all aspects of application process.

### Writing College Essays:

**[www.collegeboard.com/apply](http://www.collegeboard.com/apply)**

Click Essay Skills

**Google** Essay Edge.

Access to over 100 free sample admissions essays.

### Financial Aid:

**[www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://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.regents.state.oh.us/sgs](http://www.regents.state.oh.us/sgs)**

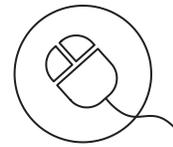
Ohio Board of Regents Website.

**[College Access Information Hotline](tel:1-877-428-8246)**

**1-877-428-8246.** Hotline Maintained by Ohio Board of Regents.



# Appendix



## Useful Websites

**[www.oasfaa.org](http://www.oasfaa.org)**

State and Federal Financial Aid Information, links, and resource materials for students, parents.

**[www.edfund.org/students](http://www.edfund.org/students)**

Overview of all major financial aid programs, including eligibility, how to apply and deadlines.

**[www.finaid.org/fasfa/errors.phtml](http://www.finaid.org/fasfa/errors.phtml)**

Checklist to use to avoid errors before submitting the FASFA Form

**[www.statevoucher.org](http://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/sqs/index/php>**

Information on State Grants and Scholarships through Ohio Bd. Of Regents.

**[www.orangewoodfoundation.org/programs/GScholars](http://www.orangewoodfoundation.org/programs/GScholars)**

Listing and Links to colleges that provide support programs and scholarship assistance for students from foster care.

**[www.collegeboard.com/student](http://www.collegeboard.com/student)**

Enter **Scholarship Search**

Listing of Scholarships and financial aid from over 3,000 national, state and public/private sources.

**[www.finaid.org/otheraid/disabled.phtml](http://www.finaid.org/otheraid/disabled.phtml)**

Scholarships and Fellowships available to Students with Disabilities.

**[www.finaid.org/otheraid/minority.phtml](http://www.finaid.org/otheraid/minority.phtml)**

Information on Scholarships, databases and award programs for minority students.

**[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)**

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

**[www.ohiocan.org](http://www.ohiocan.org)**

“**Last Dollar Scholarships**” assists students after using all other sources of Financial Aid in locating Scholarships

### Services for Students with Disabilities

**[www.ed.gov](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.cambridgestratford.com)**

Successful College Students with disabilities offer advice on campus life and classroom experiences.

**[www.heath.gwu.edu](http://www.heath.gwu.edu)**

Pre-enrollment programs for youth with Learning Disabilities.



# Appendix



## Useful Websites

### Online Learning Opportunities:

<http://worldwidelearn.com>

Listing of Online Degree Programs

### Foster Care Youth: Campus Services and Supports

<http://ohioreach.wikispaces.com>

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.nataviguides](http://www.nataviguides)

Advice and resources for navigating your freshman year in college.

[www.cova.org](http://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.

### Miscellaneous:

[knowican.org](http://knowican.org)

Provides student advice, counsel, and financial support for youth enrolled in Columbus Public Schools.

[www.techprepohio.org](http://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](http://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.oaeopp.org/programs](http://www.oaeopp.org/programs)

Information regarding Trio Programs and participating colleges and universities in Ohio.

[www.csocollegecenter.org](http://www.csocollegecenter.org)

Website targeted with information for first generation, low income and minority students

[www.blackexcel.org](http://www.blackexcel.org)

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

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**Alright, let's get busy!**