



# College 101


October 11, 2016

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# Questions to be discussed


- ▶ What are the types of schools your student can attend after high school?
  - ▶ What are the different degrees? What's a major? How do students get one?
  - ▶ How do students figure out their options?
  - ▶ How do students pay for college?
- 



# Types of schools and more



# Types of Schools

- ▶ Public and private colleges
  - ▶ Two-year colleges
  - ▶ Four-year colleges
  - ▶ Universities
  - ▶ Colleges with a special focus
- 



# Public vs. Private



## ▶ PUBLIC COLLEGES


- ▶ Funded by local and state governments. Usually offer lower tuition rates than private colleges, especially for students who are residents of the state where a college is located.

## ▶ PRIVATE COLLEGES

- ▶ Rely mainly on tuition, fees and private sources of funding. Private donations can sometimes provide generous financial aid packages for students.




# 2- Year Colleges: Community Colleges

- ▶ Offer 2-year associate degrees
  - ▶ Prepare students for a career or to transfer to a 4-year college to earn a bachelor's degree.
  - ▶ Often an affordable option with relatively low tuition
  - ▶ Colorado Community College System has 13 colleges throughout the state.
  - ▶ All are open enrollment.
  - ▶ Metro area community colleges:
    - ▶ Community College of Denver
    - ▶ Front Range Community College
    - ▶ Community College of Aurora
    - ▶ Arapahoe Community College
    - ▶ Red Rocks Community College
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# 2- Year Colleges: Technical Colleges

- ▶ Prepare students for a specific career field
  - ▶ 2 years or less to receive degree or certificate
  - ▶ Students are only taught skills for their career choice
  - ▶ Denver area:
    - ▶ Emily Griffith
    - ▶ Pickens Tech
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# 4yr Schools



- ▶ UNIVERSITIES

- ▶ Often are larger

- ▶ Offer more majors and degree options: bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees


- ▶ COLLEGES

- ▶ Offer four-year programs that lead to a bachelor's degree.





# Colorado Public Colleges & Universities

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- ▶ Adams State University (Alamosa)
  - ▶ Colorado Mesa University (Grand Junction)
  - ▶ Colorado School of Mines (Golden)
  - ▶ Colorado State University (Fort Collins)
  - ▶ Colorado State University-Pueblo (Pueblo)
  - ▶ Fort Lewis College (Durango)
  - ▶ Metropolitan State University of Denver (Denver)
  - ▶ University of Colorado Boulder (Boulder)
  - ▶ University of Colorado Colorado Springs (CO Springs)
  - ▶ University of Colorado Denver (Denver)
  - ▶ University of Northern Colorado (Greeley)
  - ▶ Western State Colorado Univ. (Gunnison)



# Colorado Private Colleges & Universities

- ▶ Colorado College
- ▶ Johnson & Wales Univ.
- ▶ Regis University
- ▶ University of Denver
- ▶ Colorado Christian
- ▶ Naropa University



# In-state vs. Out-of-state

- ▶ Take into consideration
  - ▶ Out of state tuition
  - ▶ Residency for student (based on state parent lives in)
  - ▶ Living situation (dorms, with family, apartment etc)
  - ▶ **Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)**
    - ▶ A program through which students can attend participating institutions in other states for reduced tuition. Instead of paying full out-of-state tuition, a **WUE** participant pays the regular in-state tuition plus 50 percent of that amount.
    - ▶ <http://www.wiche.edu/wue>



# Degree Options



- ▶ ASSOCIATE'S Degree (2 Year)
  - ▶ Associate of Arts (A.A.), Associate of Science (A.S.), or Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.)
- ▶ BACHELOR'S Degree (4-5 year)
  - ▶ Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or Bachelor of Science degree (B.S.)
- ▶ GRADUATE Degree (2-5+ years)
  - ▶ Advanced degree pursued after earning a bachelor's degree.
  - ▶ Master of Arts (M.A.) or Master of Science (M.S.) degree
  - ▶ Doctoral degree (a Ph.D.)
- ▶ PROFESSIONAL Degree (3+ years)
  - ▶ To become licensed to work in professions like medicine or law.
  - ▶ Example: Medical Doctorate (M.D.)




# College Major



- ▶ A specific subject that students can specialize in.
- ▶ Between  $\frac{1}{3}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the courses you take in college are in your major or related to it.
- ▶ By completing a major, you demonstrate sustained, high-level work in one subject.
- ▶ Double major or minor.




# Deciding your major

- ▶ Examine your interests.
  - ▶ Examine your abilities.
  - ▶ Examine what you value in work.
  - ▶ Do some career exploration.
  - ▶ Reality check: volunteer, internships, informational interviews
  - ▶ Narrowing your choices and focusing on choosing a major.
  
  - ▶ Useful websites
    - ▶ Naviance: Family Connections
    - ▶ [bigfuture.collegeboard.com](http://bigfuture.collegeboard.com)
    - ▶ [collegeincolorado.org](http://collegeincolorado.org)
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# How do you get a major?

- ▶ You declare a major while in college
  - ▶ Working with an Academic Advisor you will decide your major (minor, double major, etc)
  - ▶ Usually declare immediately at a 2 year school or by the end of your sophomore year at a 4 year school
  - ▶ Experiment with your classes
  - ▶ Make sure you are passionate about it
  - ▶ Most college students change majors at least once--sometimes several times-- in their college careers.
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# Financial Aid





# Types of financial aid

- ▶ Federal student aid includes:
  - ▶ Grants—financial aid that doesn't have to be repaid (unless, for example, you withdraw from school and owe a refund)
  - ▶ Loans— borrowed money for college or career school; you must repay your loans, with interest
  - ▶ Work-Study—a work program through which you earn money to help you pay for school
  
- ▶ Institutional or private aid includes:
  - ▶ Grants- see above
  - ▶ Scholarships- a grant or payment made to support a student's education, awarded on the basis of academic or other achievement.

Sources: [studentaid.ed.gov](http://studentaid.ed.gov)

# How to qualify for federal student aid




The screenshot shows the Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) website homepage. At the top, it features the logo for Federal Student Aid, an office of the U.S. Department of Education, and the FAFSA logo. Below the logo is a navigation bar with icons for Home, About Us, FSA ID, StudentAid.gov, and Help. A search bar is also present. The main heading reads "Get help paying for college" with a sub-heading "Submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)". Below this is a banner image showing four diverse college students. The page is divided into two main sections: "New to the FAFSA?" with a "Start A New FAFSA" button, and "Returning User?" with a list of options: "Make a correction", "Add a school", and "View your Student Aid Report (SAR), and more...", followed by a "Login" button.

- Opens October 1<sup>st</sup>
- Provides financial/income information to institutions
- Can qualify students for federal aid only
- Universities will then send a financial aid letter to students




# Institutional and private aid

- ▶ Requires additional applications
  - ▶ Additional research
  - ▶ Checking university/college fin aid website
  - ▶ Resources
    - ▶ [Fastweb.com](http://Fastweb.com)
    - ▶ Denver Scholarship Foundation
    - ▶ Daniels Fund
    - ▶ Boettcher Foundation
    - ▶ Greenhouse Scholars
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# Timeline



School Year	What to do:
Middle School	Get involved; Develop study skills; School of choice process in 8th grade
9th and 10th grade	Get good grades Get and stay involved Look for scholarships Will take the PSAT in April 10th grade
11th grade	Fall: Take the PSAT/NMSQT; Get good grades; Stay involved; Look into possible majors and schools  Spring: Take SAT in April and maybe early summer; Apply for scholarships; Narrow down list of schools; Make a trip to visit the schools; Continue to get good grades and be involved
12th grade	Fall: Retake the SAT; Complete FAFSA; Apply to schools; Apply to major scholarships; Continue to get good grades and be involved  Spring: Review financial aid packets; Continue to get good grades and be involved; Keep applying for scholarships; Choose your school by May1st



Questions?



# High School Log-in

[succeed.naviance.com/dcis](https://succeed.naviance.com/dcis)

Welcome to Family Connection

Nice to see you again! Please log in.

username

password

remember me

Student ID #

mmdyy

Log In



Click, "Log In"



# Middle School Log-in

[www.connection.naviance.com/dcisms](http://www.connection.naviance.com/dcisms)

## Welcome to Family Connection

Nice to see you again! Please log in.

username

Student ID #

password

mmddyy

remember me

Log In



Click, "Log In"