

Navigating the College Application Process



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CHOOSING A COLLEGE

Location And Size

Academic Programs

Campus Resources

Campus Life & Activities

Cost Of Attendance

Campus Visit

Overall Fit

COMMON STUDENT PITFALLS

- “I’m applying to this college because all my friends are going there.”
- “All colleges are the same, so why bother with all this work.”
- “I’m going to this college because my father, mother, brother, etc. went there (or wants me to go there).”
- “This college is too expensive for me.”
- “I’m not applying there because I’ll get rejected.”



Gonzaga University

MAJOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES IN WASHINGTON STATE



TYPES OF COLLEGES

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PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

Usually larger schools, prioritize in state students, publicly funded



PRIVATE COLLEGES

Smaller schools, privately funded, may have religious affiliations, sometimes specialize in specific fields like art and performance



COMMUNITY COLLEGES

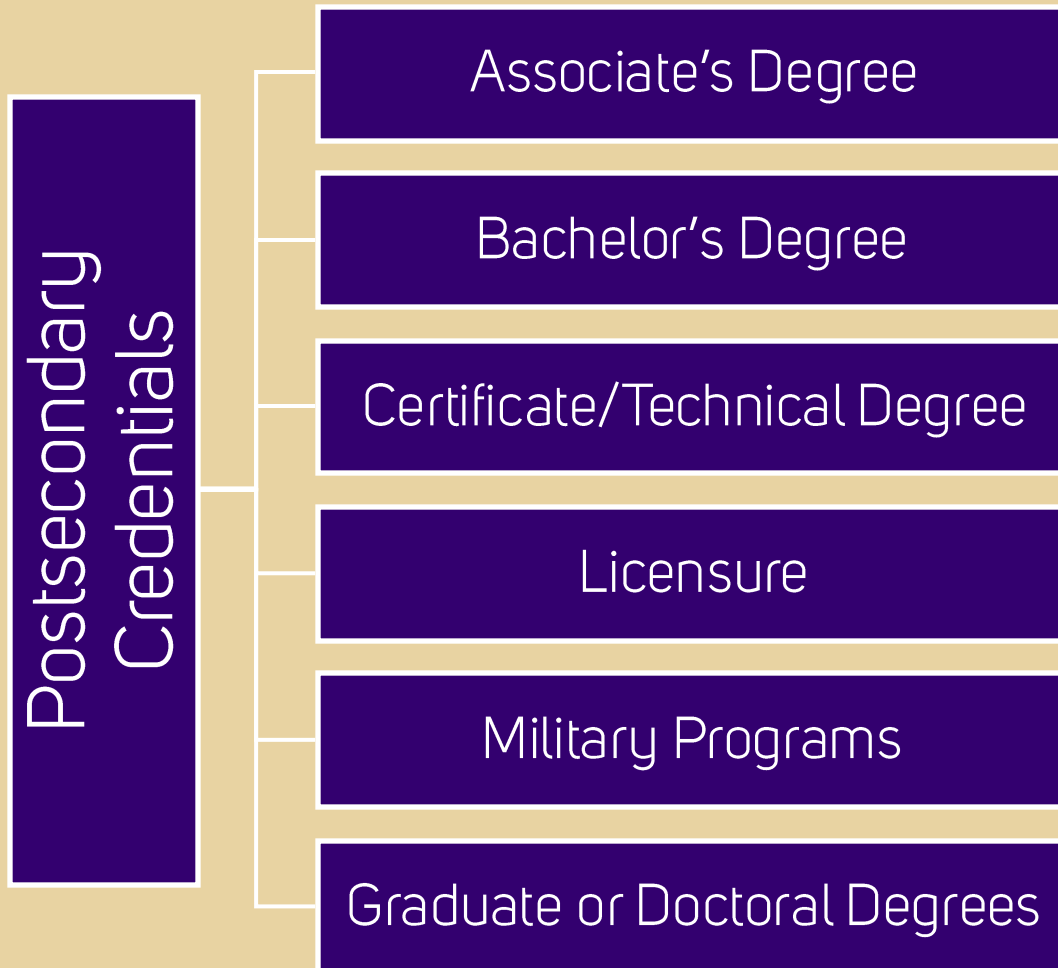
Cheaper option, 2-year degree, more flexible on pathways, transfer



TECHNICAL COLLEGES

Specific to field or trade, can be certificate or vocational degree

TYPES OF POST-SECONDARY DEGREES



- The Degree type needed depends on your desired career goals
- Washington State has several ways to pursue degrees and transfer programs

4-YEAR COLLEGE COMMON ADMISSIONS FACTORS

- GPA and Trends
- Required Courses -CADRs
- SAT/ACT
- Writing Samples
- Activities
- Rigor Of Curriculum

*** *Speak to a College Admissions Counselor for further clarification regarding their school's requirements and exceptions.*



Eligibility vs. Competitiveness

Eligibility

- Minimum benchmark that school needs to see for admission
- Demonstrates that you are potentially ready to benefit from what the school has to offer
- Example: Guaranteed Admissions Program (GAP)

Competitiveness

- For selective schools or majors, what the school wants to see from applicants for its limited number of spaces
- You could meet the eligibility criteria to apply, but that does not mean that you are competitive for admission
- Example: Computer Science Programs at all three UW campuses

College Application Deadline Terms

Early Action

- Non-binding, early notification
- May grant priority access to things like housing
- Admissions rate might be slightly higher than Regular Decision

Early Decision

- Binding, usually notified of decision in December
- Only can apply to one school using this status
- May increase chance of admission to that school

Regular Decision

- Apply by deadline set and usually find out in February/March

HOW TO PREPARE FOR COLLEGE


- Consider advanced coursework – honors, AP, IB, running start
- Connect with your high school counselor
- Attend college fairs, visit campuses, and connect with admissions
- If applicable, apply for FAFSA/WASFA and third-party scholarships
- If applicable, take the SAT/ACT and submit scores to schools



Washington State University

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

- Support students and families in the college search
- Advising of first year and transfer admissions
- Find the right fit
- Connections to resources on campus
- Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)



We want this to be you!

THE ROLE OF ADMISSIONS



**THANK YOU!
QUESTIONS?**

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Please SCAN the QR
CODE to be directed
TO AN Attendee Survey
(Code is also within
Your Program).

Your feedback is
Welcomed and
Appreciated.