



NEWS & INFORMATION ABOUT
PLANNING FOR AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

The GEAR UP Gazette

NOVEMBER

FOR PARENTS OF 7TH & 8TH GRADE STUDENTS

KNOW YOUR COLLEGE OPTIONS



Portland State University is an example of a public university.

There are many different ways to continue education after high school and receive a degree. The type of career your student is interested in will help determine the type of degree and what school she or he chooses to attend.

type of education	# of years	type of degree	examples
Technical or Vocational School or Apprenticeship	1-2	Certificate, Diploma or Associate's	Oregon School of Massage Oregon Culinary Institute
Community College	1-2	Certificate or Associate's	Lane Community College Umpqua Community College
Public University	4	Bachelor's	Oregon State University Southern Oregon University
Private College or University	4	Bachelor's	Linfield College Harvard University
For Profit University	1-4	Associate's or Bachelor's	University of Phoenix Pioneer Pacific College

DID YOU KNOW?

What's the difference between a *college* and a *university*?

Traditionally, *universities* offer graduate programs (Master's and Doctoral degrees), while *colleges* do not. However, there are no official designations for these terms, so colleges can call themselves whatever they want!

COLLEGE MYTHS (AND REALITIES)

MYTH: Students only attend community college because they can't get in to a four-year university.

REALITY: There are many reasons students attend community colleges instead of traditional four-year colleges. Cost is one of the biggest incentives, since community college is usually more affordable. Therefore, many students choose to take core classes at a community college and then transfer to a 4-year university. In addition, many students choose to live at home to save money on housing costs. Class schedules can be more flexible, as well, so students can work more hours. However, community colleges often have fewer services and support and lower graduation rates than 4-year colleges, so the savings might come at a cost.

Source: Scholarships.com

PARENT CHECKLIST

- ☐ **Visit campus.** Serve as a chaperone on school field trips to college campuses to learn more about different postsecondary options.
- ☐ **Explore careers and college programs.** Talk to your student about different careers they might be interested in and what education they might need.
- ☐ **Continue learning about college readiness and the benefit of college.** Keep reading these newsletters, attend events at the school, and check out resources like oregongoestocollege.org or bigfuture.collegeboard.org which have information specifically for parents.

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



GEAR UP stands for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs and is a federally-funded program that helps rural, low-income middle and high schools prepare students for education after high school.

Visit oregongearup.org to learn more and access resources to help your students make a plan. © 2016 Oregon GEAR UP

COLLEGE. It's not a dream, it's a plan.