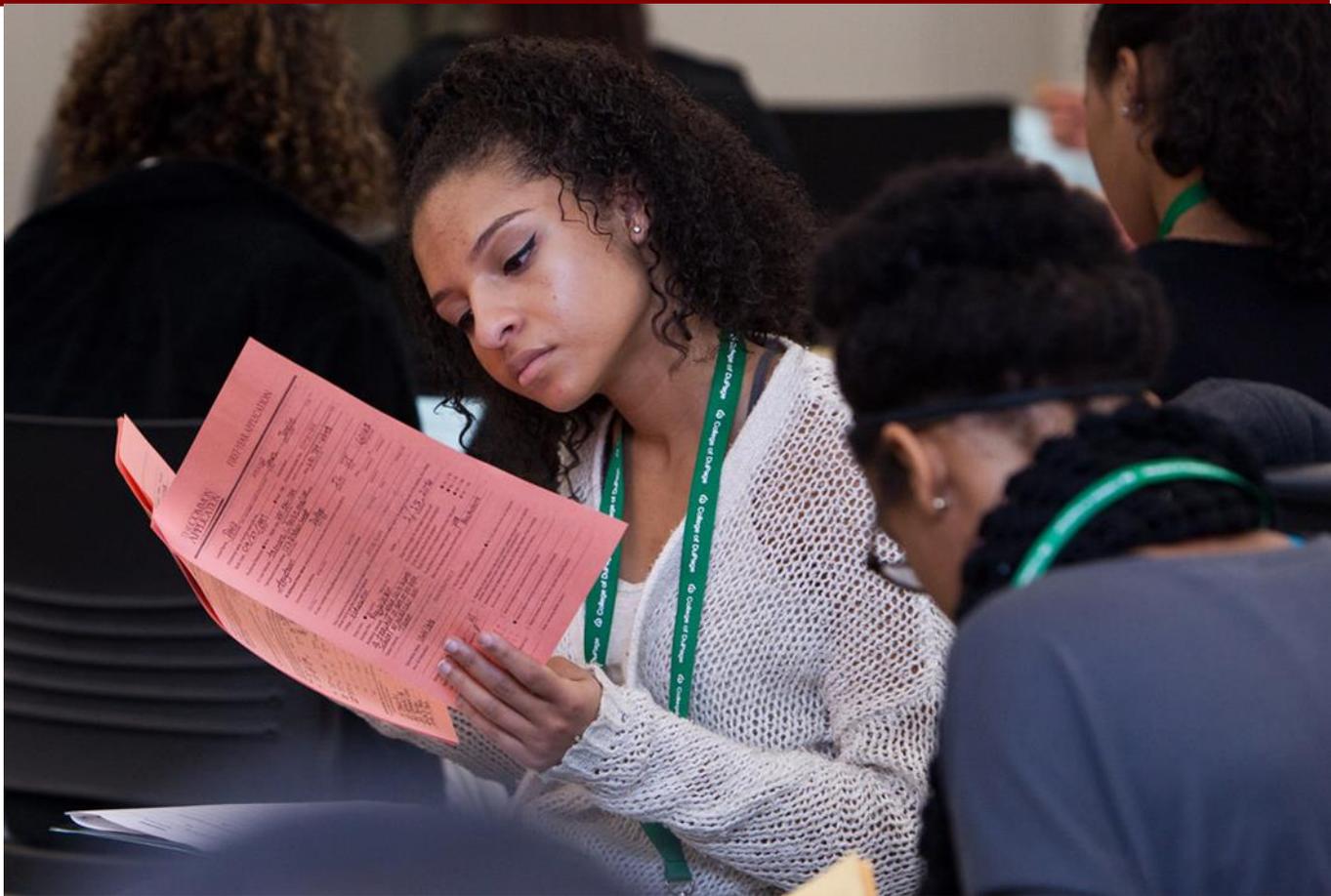


2021

# UCAN HBCU Recruitment Fair Resource Packet





## College Admissions Preparation “TOOLKIT”

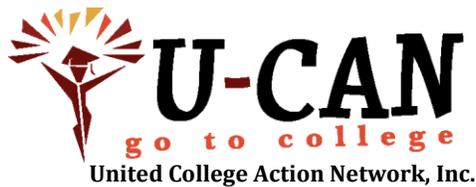
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# College Fair Checklist - Get the Information You Want

## What happens at a college fair?

A college fair is a gathering of college representatives who are looking for the right students for their institutions. They're there to spread the word about their college to high school students — and they want to talk to you.

College fairs may be held at your school, a conference center or a local community center, and the colleges may be local or from around the country. The representatives usually sit at booths or tables and hand out brochures and cards. They can tell you about everything from academics to campus life at their college, and they can also answer more-general questions about college. The checklist below will help you get the most out of each fair.

### Before You Go

- Find out which colleges will be at the fair (a list may be posted on the fair's website) and write down the names of the ones you want to learn about.
- Make a list of any questions you have.
- Bring your list, a pen, paper and a bag to hold college brochures.
- Make sure the email address that you give out won't embarrass you — remember, college admission officers will see it.

### While You're There

- Get a map of the fair and plan a route that will take you to the booths of all the colleges on your list. If there is no map available, do a quick survey of the room to locate your colleges.
- Visit booths and ask college representatives questions. For example, you can ask, "What kind of student are you looking for?" or "What makes your campus special?"
- Take a minute to jot down any information you think is important before moving on to the next booth.
- Check out some of the other booths when you're done with the colleges on your list. You may stumble onto a great college you hadn't considered.
- Attend an information session, if any are offered. Typical topics include applications and financial aid. These sessions are good opportunities to get expert advice.

### When You Get Home

- Ask yourself which colleges stood out and why.
- Organize the college material you collected and review it that week while it's fresh in your mind.
- Go over any notes you took during the fair.
- Throw out the pamphlets of colleges you've ruled out so you can focus on the colleges you're interested in.
- Do more research on the colleges you're thinking about. Explore websites, contact the admission office or plan a campus visit. If you liked what you saw at the fair, it may be time to see the college in person.

## ACTIVITY: QUESTIONS TO ASK ON A COLLEGE VISIT



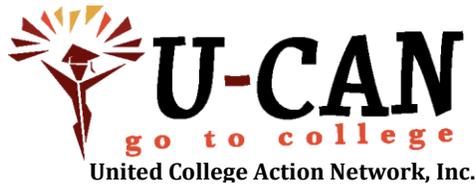
Asking questions will help you decide if a college is a good fit. Below are sample questions to ask admissions directors, tour guides, and students during college visits and at college fairs. Make a copy of this page for each college visit and bring a notebook in which to write down the answers or use the SUTC mobile app.

College/University: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I spoke with: \_\_\_\_\_

Ask Admissions Representatives

Ask Students



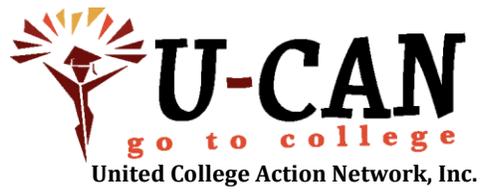
School  
Name:

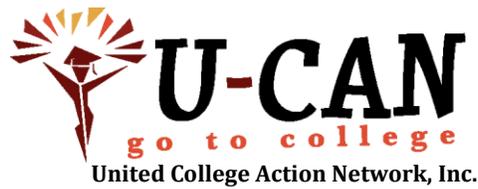
Insert College/University Name Below:



College Evaluation Worksheet

Criteria	Rating	Notes
<b>Curriculum</b> .....1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10		
<i>Range of majors</i>		
<i>Range of courses in area of interest</i>		
<i>Professional certification training</i>		
<i>Special study programs</i>		
<b>Quality of education</b> ..... 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10		
<i>Faculty contact</i>		
<i>Professors/teaching assistants</i>		
<i>Research involvement</i>		
<b>Prestige</b> ..... 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10		
<i>Of the school</i>		
<i>Of the faculty</i>		
<i>Of the department</i>		
<b>Campus</b> .....1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10		
<i>Size</i>		
<i>Student life and involvement</i>		
<i>Facilities, grounds, buildings</i>		
<i>Transportation</i>		
<b>Cost</b> ..... 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10		
<i>Tuition</i>		
<i>Room and board</i>		
<i>Fees, etc</i>		
<i>Financial aid</i>		
<b>Location</b> .....1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10		
<i>Urban or small-town</i>		
<i>Distance from home</i>		
<b>Security</b> .....1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10		
<i>Campus safety</i>		
<i>Neighborhood/community</i>		
<b>Housing</b> .....1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10		
<i>Condition</i>		
<i>Availability</i>		
<i>Guaranteed for return students</i>		
<b>Athletics</b> ..... 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10		
<i>School sports</i>		
<i>Intramural opportunities</i>		
<i>Facilities</i>		
<b>Religious affiliation</b> .....1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10		
<b>Retention, graduation rates</b> .....1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10		
<b>Fraternity/sorority</b> .....1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10		
<b>Extracurricular activities</b> .....1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10		
<i>Theater, clubs, events</i>		



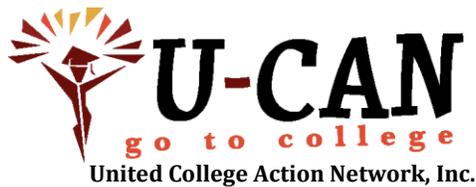


*College Comparison Worksheet*

<b>COLLEGE NAME</b>			
<b>Location</b> —distance from home			
<b>Size</b> —enrollment —physical size of campus			
<b>Environment</b> —type of school (2- or 4-year) —school setting (urban, rural) —location & size of nearest city —co-ed, male, female —religious affiliation			
<b>Admission Requirements</b> —deadline —tests required —average test scores, GPA, rank —notification			
<b>Academics</b> —your major offered —special requirements —accreditation —student-faculty ratio —typical class size			
<b>College Expenses</b> —tuition, room and board —estimated total budget —application fee, deposits			
<b>Financial Aid</b> —deadline —required forms —percentage receiving aid —scholarships			
<b>Housing</b> —residence hall requirement —food plan			
<b>Facilities</b> —academic —recreational —other			
<b>Activities</b> —clubs, organizations —Greek life —athletics, intramurals —other			
<b>Campus Visits</b> —when —special opportunities			

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## California Community College Transfers

California community college transfer students with a GPA of 2.5 or higher are guaranteed admission to HBCU partner schools using either of the following two options: (1) complete a minimum of 30 UC or CSU units (2) complete a transfer level-associate degree (ADT) using the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) or the California State University General Education Breadth pattern. Students who qualify for this guarantee can also receive an application fee waiver code for the online Common Black College Application to apply to a participating partner HBCU (four max). There may be additional prerequisites or other requirements for certain majors. Additional program benefits for students under the agreement include priority consideration for housing, consideration for transfer scholarships for students with a 3.2 or higher GPA, and pre-admission advising.

### HBCU Transfer

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) have an excellent academic track record. While only about 17 percent of black undergraduate students attend an HBCU, more than 28 percent of African-Americans who receive a bachelor's degrees obtain them from an HBCU. These colleges and universities are also leading institutions in awarding degrees to African-American students in the life sciences, physical sciences, mathematics and engineering programs.

Thanks to an agreement signed March 17, 2015 between the California Community Colleges and several HBCUs, California community college students who complete certain academic requirements are guaranteed transfer to a participating HBCU. HBCUs were established primarily to serve the higher education needs of the African-American community, however they are open to students of all ethnicities. There are more than 100 HBCUs in the country, with most located in the South and on the East Coast. Most award bachelor's degrees in many fields. Some also award master's and doctorate degrees.

Many historically black colleges and universities were founded after the Civil War, in response to legislation (the Morrill Act) signed by President Lincoln creating land grant colleges in the states. However, seventeen states, mostly in the South, would not grant money to black colleges. As a result, further legislation was adopted in the 1890s requiring the states to establish a second land grant act that would provide funding for black colleges.

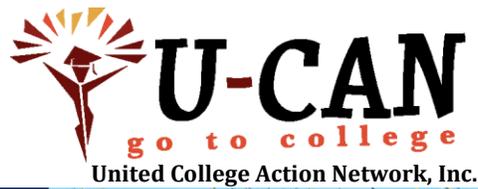
The goal of the California Community Colleges HBCU Transfer Guarantee Program is to educate students about additional transfer opportunities at these institutions and develop pathways that will ultimately contribute to an increase in baccalaureate degree attainment.

### HBCU History

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) were created by the Morrill Act. This act was introduced to congress by Justin Smith Morrill, a congressman from Vermont, in 1862. The goal of this act was to establish land grants colleges that would bring higher education to people in each state. However, seventeen states, mostly in the south, excluded blacks from their land grant colleges. A second Morrill Act was passed in 1890 that expanded the system of grants to include black institutions. Most Historically Black Colleges and Universities were established after the American Civil War. Three that were established prior to the Civil War include Cheyney University of Pennsylvania (1837), Lincoln University in Pennsylvania (1854) and Wilberforce University in Ohio (1856). By 1902, 85 HBCUs had been established. Currently, there are 105 Historically Black Colleges and Universities located mainly in the south and on the East Coast.

### About HBCU

The objective of the California Community Colleges Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) Transfer Program is the development of Transfer Guarantee Agreements that will facilitate a smooth transition for students from all of the California Community Colleges to partnered HBCUs. These agreements will simplify the transfer process and reduce students' need to take unnecessary courses, thereby shortening the time to degree completion with a cost



California Community Colleges  
Transfer Guarantee to

## Historically Black Colleges & Universities



## Transfer Guarantee Partners

**Alabama State University**  
Montgomery, Alabama

**Alcorn State University**  
Lorman, Mississippi

**Arkansas Baptist College**  
Little Rock, Arkansas

**Benedict College**  
Columbia, South Carolina

**Bennett College**  
Greensboro, North Carolina

**Bethune-Cookman University**  
Daytona Beach, Florida

**Bowie State University**  
Bowie, Maryland

**Central State University**  
Wilberforce, Ohio

**Clafin University**  
Orangeburg, South Carolina

**Clark Atlanta University**  
Atlanta, Georgia

**Dillard University**  
New Orleans, Louisiana

**Edward Waters College**  
Jacksonville, Florida

**Fisk University**  
Nashville, Tennessee

**Florida Memorial University**  
Miami Gardens, Florida

**Fort Valley State University**  
Fort Valley, Georgia

**Grambling State University**  
Grambling, Louisiana

**Hampton University**  
Hampton, Virginia

**Harris-Stowe State University**  
St. Louis, Missouri

**Huston-Tillotson University**  
Austin, Texas

**Kentucky State University**  
Frankfort, Kentucky

**Lane College**  
Jackson, Tennessee

**Lincoln University of Missouri**  
Jefferson City, Missouri

**Lincoln University of Pennsylvania**  
Oxford, Pennsylvania

**Mississippi Valley State University**  
Itta Bena, Mississippi

**North Carolina Central University**  
Durham, North Carolina

**Philander Smith College**  
Little Rock, Arkansas

**Shaw University**  
Raleigh, North Carolina

**Southern University and A&M College**  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**Southern University at New Orleans**  
New Orleans, Louisiana

**Stillman College**  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama

**Talladega College**  
Talladega, Alabama

**Tennessee State University**  
Nashville, Tennessee

**Texas Southern University**  
Houston, Texas

**Tougaloo College**  
Tougaloo, Mississippi

**Tuskegee University**  
Tuskegee, Alabama

**Virginia State University**  
Petersburg, Virginia

**West Virginia State University**  
Institute, West Virginia

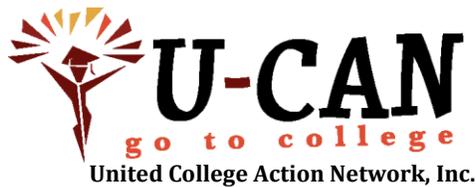
**Wiley College**  
Marshall, Texas

**Xavier University**  
New Orleans, Louisiana

**To learn more, email: [HBCUTransfer@CCCCO.edu](mailto:HBCUTransfer@CCCCO.edu)**

 [California Community Colleges Transfer Guarantee to HBCUs](https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaCommunityColleges)

 [@ccctransfer2hbcu](https://www.instagram.com/ccctransfer2hbcu)



## Community College: FAQs

### Answers to Frequently Asked Questions About Community Colleges

#### What is community college?

Community college is the most common type of two-year college. These colleges offer many types of educational programs, including those that lead to associate degrees and certificates. Certificates and some types of associate degrees focus on career readiness. Other types of associate degrees are good preparation for study at a four-year college where graduates can earn a bachelor's degree.

#### Can I get financial aid?

Even though tuition at community colleges is usually low, financial aid is available. The Federal Pell Grant, for example, is open to students attending any accredited postsecondary institution. You can even qualify if you go part time.

#### Who goes to community college?

More than 40 percent of U.S. undergraduate students attend community colleges. Students who are 18 to 24 years old make up the largest age group. Community colleges also attract working adults, retirees and others who want to learn.

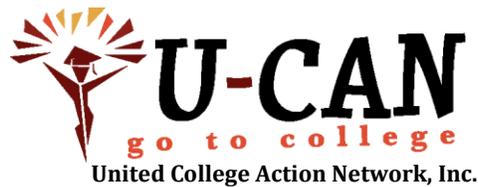
#### Why should I consider going to one?

At a community college, you can:

- **Save money.** Costs are generally much lower than those at four-year colleges. On average, tuition and fees at public two-year colleges are \$3,347 a year.
- **Prepare for transfer to a four-year college.** Many community college graduates decide to transfer and complete their bachelor's degrees. Planning in advance can help ensure that the credits you earn will count toward your degree at the four-year college you hope to attend. Get [more information about transferring](#).
- **Get ready for a career.** If you want to enter the workforce sooner, you can earn a certificate or degree in a career-oriented field, such as firefighting or engineering technology.
- **Try out college.** Most programs are open admission. This means that you can go to college even if your high school grades aren't strong. A community college is also a good option if you're not sure you're ready for college. You'll have a chance to challenge yourself and see if college is right for you.
- **Take advantage of a flexible schedule.** Most community colleges are convenient — you can attend full time or part time, and you can schedule your courses around home and work commitments. There's a campus within a short driving distance of almost every town in the United States.

You can use [College Search](#) to find a community college that is a good fit for you.

#### How can a community college help me decide what to do with my life?



You can explore different subjects before committing to a program, without having to be too concerned about tuition costs. If you take a wide range of courses — including those in the liberal arts and those that are career oriented — you can check out many different options in one place. Many community colleges offer intensive counseling that can help you assess your abilities, interests and education options.

## Why do I have to work hard in high school if open admission is common?

In order to succeed in college, you need a solid foundation in reading, writing and math skills. Unless you build them in high school, you may have to take remedial, or catch-up, courses when you arrive at a community college. They are also called developmental or basic skills courses. These courses don't count toward your degree, so graduating will take you longer and cost you more if you're not prepared. You'll probably take placement tests when you start college. The results will show whether you need to take any catch-up courses before beginning college-level study.

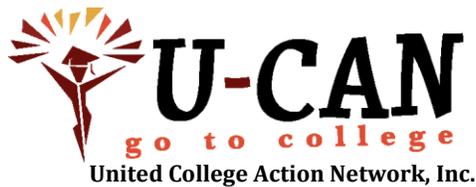
## Is there an on-campus community?

Unlike residential colleges, many community colleges lack on-campus housing — most students live nearby. Therefore, many of these colleges make a special effort to build a sense of community on campus. You'll find a wide variety of activities, similar to those at four-year colleges.

## Has anyone famous gone to community college?

Plenty of high achievers started out at community college. Here's a short list of successful alumni:

- Gwendolyn Brooks, Pulitzer Prize-winning poet
- Eileen Collins, former National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) astronaut
- Joyce Luther Kennard, California Supreme Court justice
- Jeanne Kirkpatrick, former United Nations ambassador
- Nolan Ryan, retired Major League Baseball professional athlete
- Jim Lehrer, news anchor
- Robert Moses, choreographer and dance company founder
- Sam Shepard, Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright
- James Sinegal, cofounder and chief executive officer of Costco
- Maxwell Taylor, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff



## Tips on Transferring from a 2-Year to a 4-Year College

Many students use a community college or another two-year college as a stepping-stone to a four-year college and a bachelor's degree. If you want to take this path, here's what you should do:

- Make sure that the credits you earn from your classes at the two-year college will count at your four-year college so you can start out there as a junior. This can save you time and money.
- Sign up for a transfer program at a two-year college. These programs include the same kinds of courses that you'd take in your first two years at a four-year college. They're designed specifically to help you succeed at making the transition.

### Makes the Transfer Process Go Smoothly...Plan Ahead and Ask Questions

Since each college has its own requirements, the most important thing you can do to make the transfer process run smoothly is plan ahead. Get help from these resources:

- Your high school counselor
- College websites
- The admission or counseling office of the two-year college you're thinking of attending
- Transfer advisers at the admission offices of the four-year colleges you're considering

Ask these questions:

- Does the two-year college have a special transfer relationship — often called an articulation agreement — with any four-year colleges?
- Will the credits I earn be accepted at the four-year colleges I'm considering?
- What grades do I need to earn in my classes to get credit at the four-year colleges?
- What's the minimum GPA I need to maintain to get into the four-year colleges?

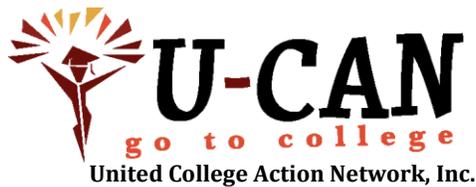
### How It Works

So what happens when you transfer? Your four-year college will look at the courses you took and the grades you earned at your two-year college and decide how much credit to give you. Each course is worth a certain number of credits, often three, and students need to earn enough credits, usually 120, to graduate.

Here are more transfer facts:

- If enough of your courses transfer, you'll start at the four-year college as a junior.
- If you don't get credit for some of your courses, you may need to take them again at the four-year college.
- When you graduate from the four-year college, only that college's name will appear on your bachelor's degree.

You can learn more about transferring to a four-year college, such as information about individual college requirements and application deadlines, by checking out [College Search](#).



## Reserve Officers Training Corp (ROTC) The Pros and Cons of ROTC Programs

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Reserve Officers' Training Corps, often referred to as ROTC, is a college-level program offered by every branch of the military except the Coast Guard. For students who are interested in commissioning as an officer in the U.S. military, ROTC programs provide the opportunity to achieve a bachelor's degree while simultaneously preparing for the rigors of military life. Students can attend a college of their choice while receiving significant financial aid (as long as the college offers an ROTC program or is affiliated with one that does), provided they agree to accept a commission and serve in the military for a period of time after graduation. If you think that you would enjoy the discipline and training associated with an ROTC program, and are interested in joining the military after receiving your degree, read on!

---

### What is ROTC?

In 1819, Captain Alden Partridge, a former superintendent of West Point, founded Norwich University. His idea was to create an institute that would train students in both traditional subject areas and military science. These students would then be capable of acting in a military capacity when necessary, but also fully able to live a successful civilian life in times of peace. His program was to differ from a service academy in that students would elect to join the training program on top of attending school. (At service academies, militaristic training has always come first and foremost.) Ergo, Norwich University prides itself on being the birthplace of ROTC programs. It wasn't until 1916, however, when President Woodrow Wilson signed the National Defense Act of 1916, that the military training that occurred at colleges and universities was brought under the control of the federal government and the ROTC program was given its name.

The main purpose of ROTC programs today is to train young men and women to become officers in the military. Officers must have a college degree, so it only makes sense that school and military training go hand in hand. After graduation, the students (called cadets or midshipmen while they are participating in an ROTC program) immediately begin serving in the military as officers. The Army has the largest ROTC program of any branch of the military, simply because it is the largest branch. The Coast Guard, being the smallest, does not offer any ROTC programs at any institutions. It does, however, offer the [College Student Pre-Commissioning Initiative](#). Students who receive an ROTC scholarship and those who enroll in the Advanced ROTC course for the final two years of college are obligated to serve in the military for a certain number of years after graduation, usually eight.

ROTC programs are offered at three different types of postsecondary institutions:

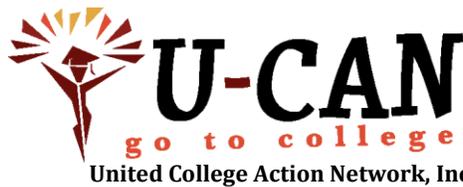
- [Senior military colleges](#) (all branches of the military)
- [Junior military colleges](#) (Army and Air Force only)
- Traditional four-year degree-granting colleges and universities (Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marines)

Senior military colleges immerse students in a much more militaristic lifestyle than traditional institutions. Typically, at both senior and junior military colleges, cadets wear uniforms every day and live in barracks. In a traditional ROTC program, cadets are required to wear their uniforms a certain number of times each month and often live in dorms. Cadets at military colleges live regimented lifestyles. They are told when to wake up, when to eat, when to work out, and when to sleep. Traditional ROTC cadets enjoy much of the freedom that is experienced by their classmates, while still learning the discipline and leadership skills valued in military officers.

### Traditional ROTC Programs

Traditional ROTC programs are four-year programs that students add onto their normal college obligations. While enrolled in school, a student's time commitment to a military lifestyle is minimal (as opposed to the commitment at a [junior military college](#), [senior military college](#), or [service academy](#)). Students are only required to register for one ROTC class and its associated lab each semester. They may also have to dedicate extra time during the semester to physical training. Students should be prepared for field exercises and weekend and summer obligations as well, depending on their ROTC branch.

The nice thing about a traditional ROTC program is that cadets and midshipmen can have the same college lifestyle that regular, non-ROTC students are having. Students may live in dorms, wear the clothes they want (most of the time), take part in extracurricular activities, and eat with their non-ROTC friends at the dining hall.



Additionally, scholarships are relatively easy to receive, provided students meet all eligibility requirements. Accepting a scholarship does oblige you to serve in the military after graduation, however. Students without scholarships do not have to make a decision about commissioning until their junior year. This allows uncertain students to participate in ROTC for their first two years of college to get a taste of military training and the associated lifestyle before they must make a military commitment.

After graduating, new second lieutenants and ensigns will receive all the benefits associated with being in the military, including health insurance, a steady paycheck, paid vacation, and job security.

ROTC programs are offered at over 1,100 traditional colleges and universities in the United States.

- Schools with [Army ROTC](#)
- Schools with [Air Force ROTC](#)
- Schools with [Navy ROTC](#)

### Pros and Cons of Enrolling in ROTC

Regardless of the type of institution and the branch of the military you pick, enrolling in an ROTC program is not an overnight decision. Before signing up, even just for the Basic ROTC course freshman year, consider the benefits and drawbacks associated with an ROTC program. For further consideration, read about the [pros and cons associated with joining the military](#) in general.

#### Benefits:

- **Financial aid:** The military loves to help its members receive their education. As such, there are many scholarships available to ROTC cadets. Even if you do not receive a full four-year scholarship, many institutions offer financial incentives to ROTC students.
- **Like-minded classmates:** By enrolling in an ROTC program, you are guaranteed to meet a group of students who share your interests. It's kind of like having instant friends! Not only that, but your ROTC instructors will be experienced officers and noncommissioned officers (highly experienced enlisted personnel), able to answer any questions you have about the military, the lifestyle, and the jobs.
- **Education:** You are getting an education and a career in one fell swoop. How cool is that?
- **Rank:** When you graduate, you will commission as an officer. Depending on your career aspirations within the military, you may be required to be an officer before you can pursue certain positions (pilot jobs, for example, are generally closed to enlisted personnel). You can also expect to be promoted regularly; with experience and time come higher ranks.
- **Career stability:** After completing an ROTC program, you will commission as a second lieutenant or an ensign. Having an officer's rank means a higher paycheck, along with the benefits of a steady job, health insurance, and paid time off.
  - Before committing, think about how a military career aligns with your overarching career goals. Even if it doesn't directly compare, you'll gain valuable leadership experience that will impress most potential employers in the future. You'll also still be young enough after fulfilling your service commitment to begin a second career if you desire.

#### Drawbacks:

- **More responsibilities in college:** While in college, you will have more mandatory commitments than the average student. You must take the classes required for your ROTC program in addition to all the classes required for your major. You will have to participate in mandatory training events outside of class time; this may eat up a chunk of your summer vacation too. Additionally, if you receive a scholarship, you must maintain a minimum GPA to retain your eligibility.
- **Service commitment:** If you continue on with ROTC past sophomore year or receive an ROTC scholarship at any point, you must serve in the military for an eight-year period (both on active duty and in the Reserves). This is not just a way to get through college; the military will become your career and life after graduation.



- **Financial aid:** Yes, there are a wide variety of scholarships available. However, if you are thinking about participating in ROTC solely to pay for college, the program might not be right for you. If you accept any scholarship at all, you must join the military after graduation. Don't participate just for the funding.

**Consequences of dropping out:** What happens if you continue with ROTC for the final two years of college, but do not graduate or end up dropping out? You may be forced to serve as an enlisted soldier on active duty or required to pay back any scholarship money you received. If you think you are at risk of changing your mind, ROTC is not for you.

