



College Planning

At Winnebago Lutheran Academy, assistance with college planning is provided by its Guidance Dept. To aid parents and students in that planning, provided here is an extensive list of resources, tools, and helpful links to college planning websites.

1. The College Planning Process
2. Colleges, Universities, and Service Academies
3. College Majors
4. National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Information
5. Helpful Links

THE COLLEGE PLANNING PROCESS

The college planning process has four parts:

1. Preparing
2. Researching
3. Applying
4. Deciding

Follow the links below to find out more about each step from ACT, the nonprofit organization that produces the ACT college and admissions placement test.

Preparing

1. Choosing Courses in High School

If success in the college admissions process is important, then your student needs to choose the right classes.

The high school transcript is almost always the most important document in a student's application. Keep in mind, though, rarely would there ever be one particular class on a transcript that would determine the applicant's outcome.

While there's no 100% guaranteed future college admissions formula, there are some strong patterns for success.

Here are some tips to guide you:

Meet the high school requirements.

Take a balanced set of classes.

Choose a smart range of college-prep courses.

Show colleges a positive pattern.

Know the admissions guidelines for top choice colleges.

Pursue intellectual interests.

Consider online and dual enrollment options.

Consult with teachers, a high school counselor and/or an expert college advisor from International College Counselors on what courses are most appropriate.

Do not catch Senioritis!

Researching Colleges and Universities

- [Quick Guide: Starting Your College Search](#)
- [36 Questions to Ask During a College Visit](#)
- [Reach – Target – Safety Schools](#)
- [College Affordability Guide](#)
- [How to Apply for College in the US As an International Student](#)

Applying to Colleges

- [Applying to Colleges Information](#)
- **The Common Application:** A not-for-profit organization that has over 500 participating universities and colleges. Apply to any one of these 500 member schools with this organization's one common application.
- **State University System of Florida International Students Guidelines:** Specific guidelines for international students when applying to the state of Florida's university system.

Deciding

- [After Acceptance: How to Finally Decide on One School](#)

- College Cost & Aid Comparison Worksheet

COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES, and SERVICE ACADEMIES

- **UW System:** The UW System, with 13 universities across 26 campuses and a statewide extension, is home to world-class education, research and outreach.
- **Wisconsin Technical College System:** The mission of the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) is to deliver skills training that recognizes the rapidly changing educational needs of residents to keep current with the demands of the workplace. Message from Morna Foy, System President.
- **Wisconsin's Private Colleges:** This site provides insight on college enrollment & financial aid for Wisconsin's 24 private, nonprofit colleges & universities, all members of WAICU.

WELS and ELS Colleges

- **Martin Luther College:** Martin Luther College (MLC) is a college for training teachers and pastors for service in the Wisconsin Lutheran Synod. It is located in New Ulm, Minnesota.
- **Wisconsin Lutheran College:** Wisconsin Lutheran College (WLC) is a liberal arts college located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- **Bethany Lutheran College:** Bethany Lutheran College (BLC) is a private, Christian, and coeducational liberal arts college that is owned and operated by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. It is located in Mankato, Minnesota.

Service Academies

- **United States Air Force Academy**
- **United States Coast Guard Academy**
- **United States Merchant Marine Academy**
- **United States Military Academy at West Point**
- **United States Naval Academy**

COLLEGE MAJORS

Find out more about specific college majors and fields of study with the following resources:

- **Big Future's Major and Career Search:** Explore college majors and career options with this online tool.
- **Big Future's Article:** "10 Ways to Find a College Online"

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION INFORMATION

The [NCAA website](#) aids student-athletes, parents, guardians, coaches and administrators with the college sports eligibility process. A [NCAA registration checklist](#) and [worksheet](#) are useful tools. [NCAA Division 1 Initial-Eligibility Requirements](#) are changing. Be aware of course requirements for eligibility!

Visit the “Resources/Downloads” tab at <https://www.freerecruitingwebinar.org> for a wealth of information.

HELPFUL LINKS FOR COLLEGE PLANNING

- [Helping Students Access Their Top-Choice Schools](#)
- College Planning Checklist from studentaid.gov
- [Common Application essay prompts](#)
- Recommendation letter request form
- **eCampusTours.com**: This website offers virtual tours of over 1300 colleges and universities.
- **ACT College Search**: This website narrows the college options by allowing students to search for potential colleges by selecting options such as location, major, and size.
- **WELS Campus Ministry**: This ministry by the WELS helps college students grow in their faith and share that faith with their fellow students.
- Online college options from bestschools.com:
 - [Costs](#)
 - [Financial Aid](#)
 - [High School Profile](#)
 - [FL Online Colleges](#)
- Summer Programs:
 - [Summer Discovery](#)
 - [Discovery Internships](#)
 - [JR Discovery](#)