



Apollo College Series:3 What's The Right Path for Me?

Apollo High School



Choosing College

- After high school....there are many paths you can choose for higher education. The 2 main options would be to enroll in:
 1. Technical/Community College (Certificate, AA): 1-2 Years
 2. College/University (Bachelor's degree or Masters/ beyond) 4 years+
- To learn more about the differences between a 2 year and 4 college view this link: [Difference between 2 and 4 year college](#)
- To learn more about what trades or certificates you could earn at a Technical or Community College view this link: [MN Goes to College](#), [Trade school vs. College](#)

Things to consider when choosing:

- Location
- Cost
- Degrees/majors
- Size of campus
- Campus Environment
- Housing Options
- Social Activities/clubs
- Athletics
- Financial Aid

For more information follow this link:

[Considerations](#)

Use this [link](#) to view an interactive map of colleges in the MINNSTATE system

What are the different types of colleges

- Public and private colleges
- For-profit colleges
- Four-year and two-year colleges
- Liberal arts colleges
- Universities
- Community colleges
- Vocational-technical and career colleges
- Colleges with a special focus

To learn more click on this [link](#)



Types of Degrees

- Associate's Degree
 - 2-year program
- Bachelor's Degree
 - 4-year program
- Master's Degree
 - 2-year program
- Doctorate Degree
 - 3 to 6-year program

To learn more about each level click on this [video](#)



What is a Major/Minor?

- Major
 - A specific area of study you focus on while completing your degree
 - Qualifies for an undergraduate degree
- Minor
 - Like a mini major
 - Consist of 18-30 credits towards a specific subject matter
 - Must be combined with a major

To learn more click on this link



What is the right choice for You

Is there a Right Choice



- 51 percent of students are not confident in their career path when they enroll in college
- Almost two-thirds of students feel overwhelmed by the process of selecting a major
 - Gen Z (68 percent) and Millennials (63 percent) feel the most stress, followed by a large percentage of Gen X students (49 percent).
- One in three students are not sure which major aligns with their chosen career path
- More than half of students change their major at least once

To read more about how it is okay and usual to be unsure of our career path, click this [link](#)

Know your Why



- How do I know my why?
- What is my purpose behind my actions?
- When you know your why, your what becomes more impactful
- To learn more about this concept click on this [video](#)

Know Your Values

- Values drive our actions and motivate our goals...learn your most important values and they will help you determine what your future goals are (in work, home and personal life)
- What does successful mean to you?
 - Money?
 - Influencing people?
 - Helping others?
- What are your priorities
- View this list of values and see which ones tend to be the most important for you: [click here](#)



Know Yourself: Personality Inventories

- Personality inventories is a self-assessment tool that career counselors and other career development professionals use to help people learn about their personality types and how that can turn into a career path
- It reveals information about individuals' social traits, motivations, strengths and weaknesses, and attitudes.
- Keep in mind that the results is best aligned with what you answered, and it might not completely describe you
- There a several inventories you can do online (some free and some that cost money)

[16 Personalities](#)

[Holland's](#)



Minnesota Career Fields, Clusters & Pathways



Career Wheel: to learn about different careers in different fields...

[click here](#)

Minnesota State College System



- MINN state has some great links to websites that help you explore careers
- They also help you connect with career centers on campuses
- [MINNstate](#)



College Visits

- How to set them up
 - All colleges have admission offices that can help you plan your visit. You can plan your own informal visit to a college campus.
 - Contact the college admission office through the college's website or by email or phone to get details and make a reservation.
 - Schedule time to be on your own. Walk around the public areas of the college and don't be shy about asking students questions.

To learn more click on this [link](#)



College Visits

- During your Jr/Sr years of high school is a great time to visit colleges to learn more about their program and if the college is a good fit for you
- What to expect
 - Campus visits can range from a quick hour to an overnight stay, from a casual guided tour to a formal presentation
 - Many colleges offer virtual tours

To learn more click on this [link](#)



College Visits

- Questions to ask
 - What is the average class size of introductory classes?
 - How widely used are teaching assistants on your campus?
 - What is the average class size of upper-division courses?
 - What is your average financial aid package?
 - What is the typical breakdown of loans versus grants?
 - What percentage of financial need does the school typically meet?

For more helpful questions to ask, [click here](#)

College Visits

- When to do college visits
 - If possible, it's best to visit colleges before your applications are due. That way, you can be confident you'd be happy at any of the colleges you're applying to.
 - It's also best to go is when the college is in session. That way, you'll get to see it when classes are meeting, and day-to-day activities are taking place.

To learn more click on this [link](#)



Career Exposure Options

- Internships
 - Visit college career centers to find internships relating to your career interest
 - Click on this [link](#) to go to MINNstate career centers
- Job Shadowing
 - short term learning experience (day or week) which is an opportunity for students to gain exposure to an industry and/or a work setting
 - Click on this [link](#) to learn more on how to set up a job shadow
- Interviewing
 - These types of interviews are used to learn about the skills, training, and experience needed for an occupation. This allows you to evaluate how well your skills and interests fit with a career or employer.
 - Click on this [link](#) to learn how to set up an informational interview



Talk to your Counselor/ Parents/ Teachers



Last Names A-D

Gretchen
Van Hauen
320-370-8666
gretchen.vanhauen@isd742.org



Last Names E-Le

Jessica Glieden
320-370-8650
jessica.glieden@isd742.org



Last Names Lf-P

Rick Larson
320-370-8664
richard.larson@isd742.org



Last Names Q-Z

Toni Backes
320-370-8663
toni.backes@isd742.org

