

College Bound

March 2010

This pathfinder will be useful in finding information about college selection, applications and financial aid.

For an introduction to the topic, see:

- FSA – Federal Student Aid (U.S. Department of Education)
<http://studentaid.ed.gov/>
- College Application Calendar
<http://www.collegeboard.com/apply>

Key Resources at a Glance:

- [College Handbook](#) by College Board (378.73 COL)
- [Getting Financial Aid](#) by College Examination Board (378.3 GET)
- [College Board Scholarship Handbook](#) (378.34 COL)

Reference Background

- [Peterson's Guide to Four-Year Colleges](#) (378.73 PET) – presents basic information (costs, size, degrees/majors) on over 2100 institutions in the U.S. and Canada. Includes 2-page “in-depth” spread for 1000 of those schools. Quick answers to many questions such as: “Which colleges offer Army ROTC programs?” A good place to start.
- There is also a guide to [Two-Year Colleges](#) (378.73 PET)
- [College Blue Book](#) (R 378.73 COL) – a six volume comprehensive look at colleges.

Resources

Books

- [Insider's Guide to the Colleges](#) (378.73 INS) Standard information plus things you won't find on the school's website – such as quality of cafeteria food.
- ACT and SAT study guides (378.1662)
- Advanced placement study guides (shelved by subject matter)
- CLEP study guides (378.1662)

Search Aids

Search Terms

(Use for computer searches)

- College admissions
- Student financial aid
- Universities and colleges -- Directories
- Student Aid
- College applications -- Handbooks

Call Number

- 378 (Dewey Decimal)

Indexes and Abstracts

- EBSCOhost
<http://search.ebscohost.com>
- FirstSearch
<http://firstsearch.oclc.org>

Library catalogs

- Urbandale Public Library
<http://www.urbandalelibrary.org>
- SILO (Iowa Locator)- State-wide catalog
<http://z3950.silo.lib.ia.us/cgi-bin/zform.CGI?SILO>
- WorldCat - World-wide Catalog
<http://worldcat.org>

Magazine Articles

- “The College Search, One Step at a Time,” *Careers & Colleges*, Spring 2009, volume 28, no. 3, p. 6-7. [Available through EBSCOhost](#). (full-text magazine database)
- “Comparing Financial Aid Offers,” *Business Week Online*, Feb 4, 2008. [Available through EBSCOhost](#). (full-text magazine database)

Web Pages and Web Portals

- Peterson’s Education Portal
<http://www.petersons.com>
- FAFSA on the Web
<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>
- U.S. News & World Report -- College
<http://colleges.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com>
- College on Princeton Review
<http://www.princetonreview.com/college/>
- College Board (producers of the SAT)
<http://www.collegeboard.com>
- ACT
<http://www.act.org>
- College Savings Plans Network
<http://www.collegesavings.org>
- College Savings Iowa
<http://collegesavingsiowa.com>

Organizations and Special Collections

- Iowa College Student Aid Association
<http://www.iowacollegeaid.gov/>

This pathfinder has been provided to you by

URBANDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY *it's your place.*

<http://www.urbandalelibrary.org>