

Oregon Schools

Opening

Hello, my name is Collin Ellis, from the Oregon Student Access Commission, also called OSAC for short. Today, I'd like to talk I want to talk to you about the college options in Oregon including community colleges, the public Oregon University System (OUS), and private colleges and universities.

Body

At this point, as a high school student, you are probably starting to look at which school you might want to attend after high school or maybe you know what school you want to attend, but are unsure. I am here to give you some information that might make your decision a little bit easier.

The three main categories that schools fall under are community colleges, public universities, and private colleges or universities. All of these options have their own pros and cons, so take notes, as I am going to give you some great information

At a community college, one big pro is that you will save money on classes in comparison to public or private university classes, which are much more expensive. Community colleges offer two-year trade programs that might be a better fit if you do not want to attend the four years that it would take for you to get a bachelor's degree. One possible con might be that community college does not offer the full college life activities that you may be expecting, such as fraternities and sororities

At a public university, you will experience that big college feel that you see in movies and television. These schools also come at a higher cost than community colleges, but a lower cost than private universities. In addition to an exciting college life, an OUS school has lots of resources such as housing, counseling and health care on campus. A potential con is that it can be really easy to get lost in a public university if you don't keep track of everything yourself. It's crucial to keep yourself organized!

At a private university, you will have a smaller class-size and more chances to get to know other students and faculty on a one-one one basis. A possible con for private universities is the cost. Although the cost of these schools is much larger than that of a community college or a public university, they may have a lot more scholarship money to offset that high cost. If a private university is for you, be sure to apply for scholarships at that particular college during late fall of your senior year of high school.

A word of personal advice from me--someone who attended a community college before going to a public university college is that saving money wherever you can is important. College can be expensive and sometimes you may have to take out student loans to supplement your expenses. If you have to go to a community college for a year or two before going to your "dream" school, it pays off in the long-run by saving you money. I saved about \$1000 a term by attending a community college first.

Conclusion

Thank you for taking the time to learn about this important topic. For more podcast topics, please visit www.OregonStudentAid.gov. From all of us here at the Oregon Student Access Commission, this is Collin Ellis. We look forward to helping you again soon.