



Choosing a Four-Year College and Financing Your Education

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Users may follow a variety of pathways to find information about Choosing a Four-Year College and Financing Your Education:

- Find Books: VU WebCat Catalog (books, music, videos, ebooks, periodicals, etc.)
- Find Articles: Periodical Databases (EBSCOhost, LexisNexis Academic, ProQuest, etc.)
- Library Reference Books (dictionaries, encyclopedias, handbooks, statistics, etc.)
- Internet Resources

If you need help, ask a librarian at the reference desk.

Finding Books in the Shake Library

Users may find books, audio-visual resources, and other items in the Shake Library through our online card catalog, VU WebCat.

To reach VU WebCat from www.vinu.edu, click on **Majors and Academics**, then **Libraries**, then **Find Books**, and then **VU WebCat**.

Subject headings related to choosing a four year college and financing your education include *College Applications*, *College Majors*, *Degrees*, *Scholarships*, *Student Aid*, and *Universities and Colleges*.

Selected Reference Books with Information about College

- *Book of Majors 2009* (Ref. 378.1 C697m 2009)
- *College Blue Book* (Ref. 378 C697c)
- *College Board Book of Majors* (Ref. [378.1 C697m](#))
- *Community Colleges: A Reference Handbook* (Ref. 378.1543 L665c 2005)
- *Financial Aid for the Utterly Confused* (Ref. 378.3 B443f 2007)
- *Paying for College* (Ref. 378.3 C459p 2009)

Selected Circulating Books with Information about College

- *Barron's Profiles of American Colleges* (378.73 B277p)
- *College Financing Information for Teens: Tips for a Successful Financial Life, Including Facts about Planning, Saving, and Paying for Post-Secondary Education, with Information about College Savings Plans, Scholarships, Grants, Loans, Military Service, and More* (378.3 C697b 2008)
- *College Planning for Dummies* (378.3 O65c 1997)
- *Do It Write: How to Prepare a Great College Application* ([378.105 D631d](#))
- *Guide to Distance Learning Programs* (378.1554 P485d)
- *How to Choose a College Major* (378.194 A567h 1998)

- *How to Get into the College of Your Choice and How to Finance It* (378.1 S849h)
- *How to Write a Winning College Application Essay* (378.1 M411h 1994)
- *How to Write Your College Application Essay* (378.1057 N933h 2001)
- *Scholarship Handbook* (378 C697s 2008)

Finding Periodical Articles

Periodicals include magazines, journals, and newspapers. To reach article databases from www.vinu.edu, click on Majors and Academics, then on Libraries, and, finally, Find Articles.

To find information about colleges and college finances, try searching the names of colleges, college rating guides, and articles by college faculty in your major of choice. Article databases useful for those researching Colleges and Paying for College include the following:

EBSCOhost database provides access to a wide range of articles and citations useful for college writers.

Lexis-Nexis provides access to a wide range of products, including world-wide news reports.

Internet Sites with Information about Colleges and Paying for College

- The College Board--<http://www.collegeboard.com/>
Information about colleges and college entrance exams
- Department of Education College Site-- <http://www.college.gov/wps/portal>
Reasons to go to college paired with practical advice for potential college students
- FinAid--<http://www.finaid.org/calculators/>
Financial aid calculators and college finance information, including access to FastWeb scholarship search
- Go To College--<http://www.gocollege.com/>
Information about colleges, financial aid, and admissions
- Students.Gov--<http://www.students.gov/STUGOVWebApp/Public>
One-stop source for government information on college topics. Some link lists occupy more than one web page, so be sure to click the “next” button when it is available
- US Dept. of Ed Financial Aid Site--<http://www.ed.gov/finaid/landing.jhtml>
Information about a variety of financial aid options
- US Government Official Financial Aid Site-- <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>
Everything students need to start filling out the FAF to apply for federal financial aid.