Community College Lesson Plan

RaiseMe

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LESSON PLAN INSTRUCTIONS

Objectives:

Students will consider the role that HSIs have played in the landscape of higher education and articulate the importance of these institutions for improving access to opportunity.

() Key Points:

- There's no such thing as a typical college student. 30% of students in higher education are enrolled at a 2-year institution and 38% are part-time enrolled. 45% live in off-campus housing and 62% are employed concurrently while attending college.
- 49% of all bachelors degree earners in 2016 had been enrolled in community college.
- Net Price is the actual cost of attendance after grants and scholarships have been applied. For community college students, 71% pay \$1,000 or less a year.
- The difference in tuition and fees between public 4-year and 2-year colleges is, on average, \$6,570.
 - a. Affordability is a big reason to consider starting your higher education path at a community college.
- RaiseMe is available for transfer students, meaning students in community college can earn micro-scholarships to transfer to a 4-year to complete a B.A.
- Degree completion leads to higher salary expectations. An A.A. degree increases your earning potential by \$6,800 and a B.A. increases your earning potential by \$18,000.

Activities:

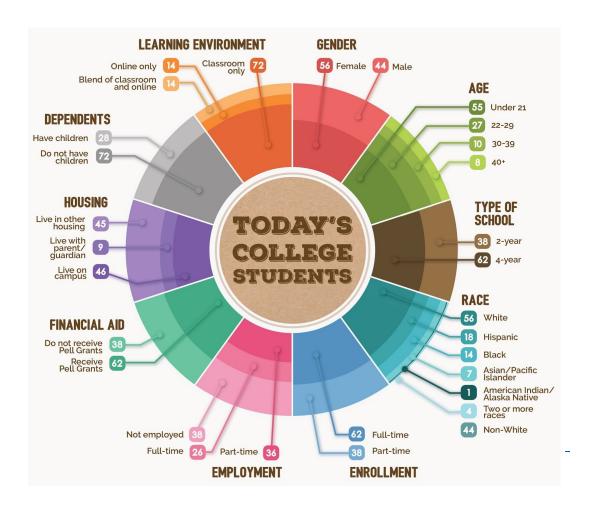
- 1. Worksheet: Researching HSIs
 - a. Estimated time: 15 -20 min
 - Students will conduct research on an HSI of their choosing, including information on the undergraduate population and graduation rates.
 Students will consider the importance of federal funding for colleges that educate a high percentage of underrepresented students.

Requirements:

1. Printed hard copies of the worksheet

Pathways to Higher Education

There's no such thing as a typical college student. We'll use the chart below to discuss the diversity of experiences you can have while pursuing a degree in 2019.



https://postsecondary.gatesfoundation.org/what-were-learning/todays-college-students/

The chart shows the ratio of undergraduate students in each category. For example, "Type of School" demonstrates that 38% of undergrads are in a 2-year college, and 62% are in a 4-year college. Or in "Housing", 46% live on campus, 45% live in other housing, and 9% live with a parent/guardian.

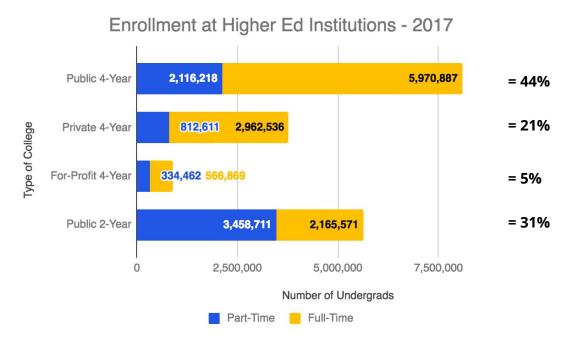


CONSIDER

- 1. What details come to mind when you picture a college student? Does the chart agree with that person in your head?
- 2. Is there anything you find surprising or unexpected about the data?
- 3. Take a look at type of school and aid. What do you notice?
- 4. How might enrollment and employment be related?

College Enrollment by the Numbers

Guess what? In Fall 2017 there were 18.4 million undergraduate students:



https://nscresearchcenter.org/current-term-enrollment-estimates-fall-2017/



CONSIDER

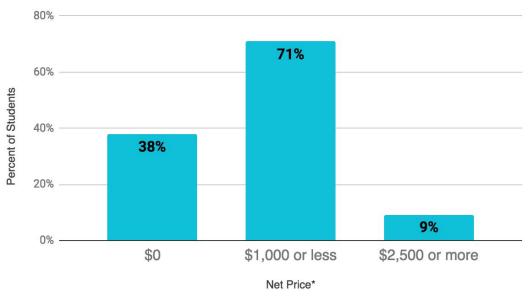
- 1. What are your options when it comes to type of college?
- 2. What do you think are some considerations for enrolling in one institution type vs. another?
- 3. What does it mean to be a part-time vs. full-time student?
- 4. What do you think are the reasons for enrolling part-time instead of full-time?

Community College: Costs and Aid

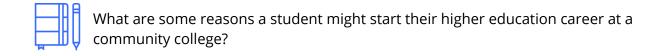
Did you know that one third of all students in higher education are enrolled at a public 2-year, or community college? That's a lot!

What's more, 49% of all students⁵ who earned a bachelor's degree in 2015-16 had been enrolled in a community college!



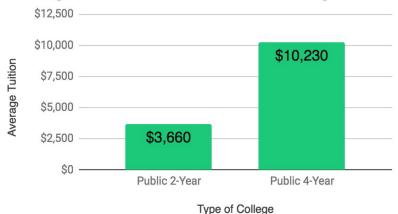


^{*}Net Price is the final cost to attend after grants and scholarships have been applied.



⁵ https://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/Community-College-FAQs.html

Average Tuition & Fees at Public Colleges





What is the cost of community college for the majority of students enrolled? How does that compare to a public 4-year institution?

Community College: Transfers

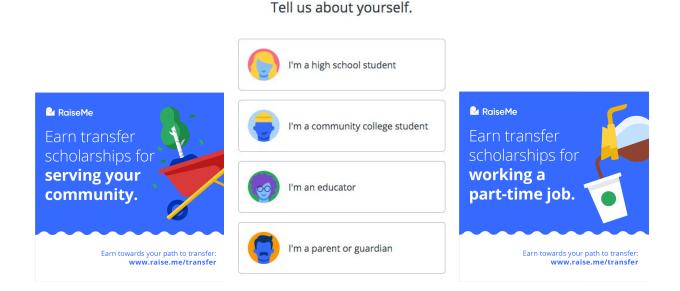
Many community college (CC) students start college with the goal of earning a bachelor's degree. One way this can happen is to complete the 2-years at CC, earning your associate's degree, then **transfer** to a 4-year college to complete the remaining credits necessary for a bachelor's. This is a great, cost-effective option!



RaiseMe for Transfers

For students interested in community college, there's now RaiseMe for transfers!

Great news: just like in high school, community college students can input their achievements and earn micro-scholarships toward 4-year institutions. Then, they cash in on that hard work upon transferring to a participating 4-year college.

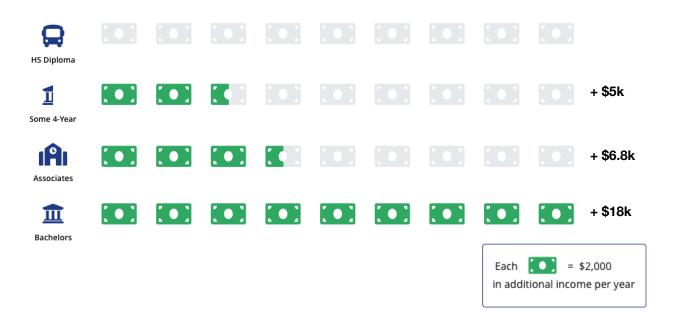




Can you think of some reasons why a student might choose to pursue a bachelor's degree by transferring, instead of starting at a 4-year institution?

Value of a Degree

Research⁶ conducted by Columbia University in 2017 found that, on average, college exposure – *and even more so degree completion* – is associated with higher earnings.





What are your biggest takeaways from the data presented? Is college worth it, then? Explain your answer.

⁶ https://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/publications/estimating-returns-to-college-attainment.html



- 1. What information was most striking to you? Why?
- 2. What factors would you consider when deciding what type of colleges to apply to?
- 3. Based on the data presented, what are some of the most cost-effective options available to degree seekers?
- 4. Is college worth it? Explain your answer.
- 5. Data shows that there are financial benefits to going to college and that there are many pathways to getting a degree. That said, what are some ways, in your opinion, that higher education could improve? Are there any gaps in opportunity, and how would you go about addressing that?

Dual Enrollment

Want to get a jump on college now? You're on RaiseMe, so you're already doing great. Here are some things to consider (all micro-scholarship awards as well!)...

Quick Facts⁷:

- 82% of high schools reported that students were enrolled in dual enrollment, that's approximately 2 million students.
- Research has found that dual enrollment participation has a positive effect on college outcomes, including:
 - Enrolling in and graduating from college,
 - earning more credits, and
 - higher college GPA

ACTION 1: Consider enrolling in a few courses at your local community college!

AP Courses

In addition to dual enrollment, AP courses are a way to earn college credit and demonstrate your mastery of challenging subject matter!

Quick Facts⁸:

- In 2018, 2.8 million students took an AP course, and 5.1 million AP exams were
- The most taken AP course by grade level were:
 - 9th: Human Geography
 - 10th: World History
 - o 11th: English Language and Composition
 - 12th: English Literature and Composition
- The AP courses that saw a surge in enrollment in 2018 were Seminar and Computer Science Principles

ACTION 2: Consider enrolling in an AP course or two!

⁷ https://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/Community-College-FAQs.html

⁸ https://research.collegeboard.org/programs/ap/data/participation/ap-2018

Visit a College Campus

We talked about all the different types of colleges you could attend. How will you know what setting is best for you?

Our Top Reasons for Taking a Campus Visit:

- 1. A tour gives valuable information about the college, and is typically lead by a current student.
- 2. Info sessions allow you to talk to current students and ask questions about their experience.
- 3. Eat in the dining hall or food court and tour the dorms!
- 4. Sit in on a class!
- 5. Meet with someone in their admissions and financial aid office.
- 6. Check out a club, sporting event, or student activity.

ACTION 3: Talk to your counselors or family members to plan a campus visit!



What are some actions you can commit to taking to further support your college going path?