

BROUGHT TO YOU BY

MOUNT VERNON
NAZARENE UNIVERSITY



5 STEPS TO
MAKE YOUR COLLEGE
INVESTMENT COUNT

TRYING TO PICK A COLLEGE?



Don't stress.

These days, making the right college choice is more important than ever. For most families, college will be a significant financial investment. But it is an investment with an incredible, worthwhile payoff. People with four-year degrees make an average of over \$23,000 more a year than those with just a high school diploma!

A COLLEGE DEGREE AFFECTS:

- YOUR JOB
- YOUR SALARY
- YOUR FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

Simply choosing to go to college isn't enough. Choosing the right college is essential.

We work with thousands of high school students every year. Our advice is always the same: When considering your options, look for ways to maximize your college investment. After all, it's an investment in you and your future.

That's what this booklet is all about — **YOU**. We believe there is a bright future waiting for you, and these steps can help you get there. So what are you waiting for? **Let's get started!**

1



PLAN AHEAD

*The earlier you start,
the better off you'll be.*

- **GRADES MATTER.** Colleges compete for the best students, and they will use your high school transcript and GPA as factors when deciding whether to accept you. Plus, the better your grades, the more academic scholarships you'll qualify for.
- **DUAL ENROLLMENT = SAVINGS.** Each year there are more opportunities to earn college credit while in high school. In some cases, dual enrollment credits could allow you to graduate from college a semester or even a year early.
- **EXPLORE YOUR COLLEGE OPTIONS:** Every visit and conversation helps you discern where you're called to be. Attend college fairs, schedule visits, and experience different campuses to discover the place that can best support your future.



Want to get a head start on your college journey? Check out our Summer Learn and Dual Enrollment options where you can earn credits for college now!

mvnu.edu/summerlearn

mvnu.edu/dual-enrollment

\$21,000

top academic scholarship
based on high school GPA

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FIND YOUR CALLINGS

Every student's path looks different, and that's okay!

- **EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS.** From education to biology, there are career paths that can help connect what you love with meaningful work. Research career fields, ask questions, and explore where your strengths can make the greatest impact.
- **LEARN FROM EXPERIENCE.** Hands-on opportunities such as internships, job shadowing, and career fairs can give you a glimpse of what it's like to work in a certain field. Could you see yourself doing _____ for the rest of your life?
- **EXPAND YOUR SKILLSET.** You can pair your major with a minor or elective courses that expand your knowledge and abilities. For example, communication, leadership, and business principles are valuable in most any field and can help you stand out wherever you're called to serve.



At MVNU, our faculty are specifically focused on helping students discover what God is calling them to.

With a variety of programs, you are sure to ignite your passion at MVNU! Learn more at

mvnu.edu/academics

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CALCULATE ALL THE COSTS

The total cost is more than just tuition, room, and board.

- ➔ **LOOK FOR HIDDEN FEES.** Many schools increase costs for room and board and other areas through fees, in order to avoid openly raising tuition. Make sure you know what the real total cost will be.
- ➔ **PRIVATE CAN COST LESS THAN PUBLIC.** When comparing colleges, it is important to review the final cost to you after financial aid packages have been offered. Many times, private schools will offer more financial aid bringing your final bill well below the cost of a public institution. Also confirm if scholarships are good for four or five years.
- ➔ **THE FINANCIAL AID FACTOR.** Remember financial aid when determining cost. Keep this equation in mind for every college you consider: $\text{Tuition} + \text{Fees} - \text{Financial Aid} = \text{Actual Cost}$.

Our team is here to guide you through the Financial Aid process, delivering excellent service to both students and their families.



Do the math:

calculator.mvnu.edu

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LOOK FOR ADDED VALUE

*Practical skills, experience,
and a solid support system
are important for success.*

- ➔ **RELATIONSHIPS MATTER.** A degree can take you far, but relationships open doors. College should provide mentors, positive friendships, and a network of professionals that will help you build lifelong success.
- ➔ **GET HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE.** The right school should offer internships, international programs, and community service opportunities. Start adding to your résumé at a college that helps you gain real-world experience.
- ➔ **PREPARE FOR MORE THAN A JOB.** With careers evolving, it's vital to gain skills that apply across many fields, while also being rooted in a Christian community that shapes both your character and your calling.

At MVNU, professors teach with purpose, investing in both your education and your walk with Christ.

With a **13:1** student-faculty ratio, you will create **STRONGER RELATIONSHIPS** with your professors and peers.



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FIND YOUR FIT

You're going to spend four years of your life in college. Make sure the environment fits you.

- ➔ **FIND A COMMUNITY.** Living alongside hundreds of peers for four years will shape who you become — in both faith and character. Surround yourself with a community rooted in Christ, committed to encouraging you, praying with you, and helping you grow into the person God has called you to be.
- ➔ **MAKE FRIENDS FOR A LIFETIME.** College can be the place where deep relationships are formed, spouses are met, and lifelong friendships are made. Talk to current students to get a feel for the kind of people you will meet and interact with at a college.
- ➔ **LOCATION. LOCATION. LOCATION.** Where you go to college may impact where you build your career after graduation. Visit colleges in varying locations to help you determine where you fit best.



GET ACTIVE! 50+ clubs & organizations, sports, choirs, bands, theatre & drama groups, community events, and more!

mvnu.edu/life-at-mvnu



MVNU is just 60 minutes north of Columbus.

NOW WHAT?

Step forward with faith. Choosing a college is important, but God's hand is on every part of your journey. Commit your plans to Him, and let Him transform your college years into a season of spiritual growth and meaningful connections.

Start with us!

- Schedule a campus visit today.
 - Talk with our experts about how MVNU can help you maximize your college investment.
 - Meet with a faculty member in your desired major.
 - Not sure what you want to major in? Meet with our Career Development Center for a personalized career and personality assessment.

Schedule
a campus
visit today!



mvnu.edu/visit

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