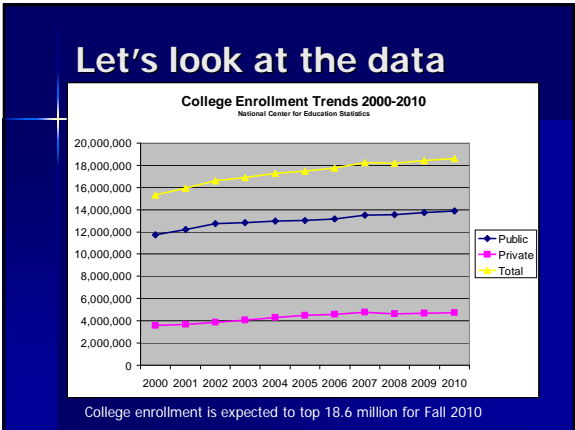

 Missouri Baptist University
 mobap.edu

Why are you here?

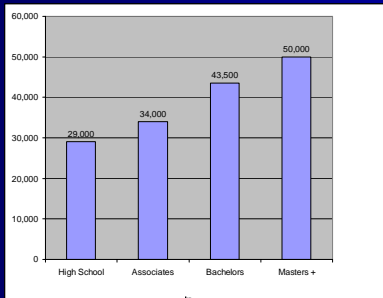
- How close are your kids to college?
- How early should you start planning?
- Why should you care now?



Degrees earned in U.S.

- 27.2% of the U.S. population had a bachelor's degree in 2006 (this was 13% in 1990)
- 8.9% have a master's degree
- 3% have more advanced degrees

Earnings Based on Education



2009 College Costs

- Public 4-year colleges average \$7,020 per year for tuition and fees.
- Public 2-year colleges average \$2,544 per year for tuition and fees.
- Private colleges average \$26,273 per year for tuition and fees.
- We will discuss discounting and net charges later.

What does this mean for me?

- The bachelor's degree is not what it used to be, and is more of an industry standard now.

- College selection is a critically important investment.

- Education is becoming a lengthier process, and students are going on to advanced studies in order to stand out in the job market.

Where do you begin?

The following are steps to take to help ensure that you are ready.

Sophomore Year

- You should begin receiving information from colleges in your mailbox.
 - Search List Providers
 - ACT/SAT Records

- Start taking standardized test
 - ACT offered in Sept., Oct., Dec., Feb., April, June (\$32 without writing; \$47 with writing)
 - SAT offered in Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., March, May, June (\$45 for basic test)

- Think about what careers interest you. Consider taking a career interest test.

Sophomore Year

- Meet with your guidance counselor to ensure you are on the right path regarding recommended college prep. courses.

ENGLISH – 4 units

MATH – 3 units high school level algebra and beyond

SOCIAL STUDIES – 3 units

SCIENCE – 3 units selected from biology, chemistry, or physics; 1 lab

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS – 1 unit

ADDITIONAL – 3 units in physical education, health education, finance

ELECTIVES – 7 units

TOTAL - 24

Junior Year

- Start researching colleges

UCAN Report <http://members.ucan-network.org>

College Board <http://www.collegeboard.com/splash/>

College Navigator <http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>

- Think about what you want in a college and narrow your search to 5 to 10 schools
 - Size
 - Proximity to home
 - Urban vs. rural
 - Majors
- Continue taking standardized test
 - ACT offered in Sept., Oct., Dec., Feb., April, June
 - SAT offered in Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., March, May, June
- Visit the campus on larger-scale campus visit days

Dual Enrollment

- Some colleges sponsor programs that allow students to enroll concurrently in high school and college.
 - Typically you have to be 16 years or older
 - This may be offered in your high school (UMSL, MBU, SLU)
 - There are other opportunities to take courses on campus
- This credit is often a fraction of the cost of full-time college credit.
- You may earn up to a year of college credit.

Senior Year

- Narrow the search to fewer than 5 schools
 - Visit the campus personally in the fall
 - Ask to meet with students; maybe stay overnight on campus
 - Meet with professors in your areas of interest
 - Meet with financial services to discuss costs
- Submit applications early to the schools you desire
 - Some schools waive the application fee if you apply online
- Ask your high school to send a sixth semester transcript and your ACT scores
- Apply for housing and deposit early
- Familiarize yourself with admissions, scholarship and registration requirements at each school

According to *University Business Magazine*

65% of students say that the campus visit was most influential in choosing the right school.

Financial Aid

- Institutional Aid
 - Scholarships given by the school. May be endowed, but are most likely discounts.
- Federal Grants
 - Pell (up to \$5,550 per year)
 - SEOG (Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant)
 - SMART (The National Science & Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grant)
 - ACG (Academic Competitiveness Grant)
 - TEACH (Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education)

Financial Aid

- Federal Loans
 - Stafford Subsidized (\$3,500 for Freshmen)
 - Stafford Unsubsidized (\$2,000 for Freshmen)
 - Parent (up to balance with credit approval)
- State Grants
 - Access MO
 - Up to \$4,600 at 4-year privates
 - Up to \$2,150 at 4-year publics
 - Up to \$1,000 at 2-year publics
 - Bright Flight (ACT of 31 or higher)
 - A Plus Program (mostly 2-year; some 4-year)

File The FAFSA

- You should think about filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) immediately after Christmas of your senior year.
 - www.fafsa.ed.gov

A word on Loans

- Borrowing is necessary for most students
 - 65% of college students graduated with debt in 2008
- Borrow only what you need
 - The average student indebtedness for bachelor's graduates in 2008 was \$23,186.

What is discounting

- Many private colleges who don't receive state funding and don't have large endowments engage in discounting.
 - Gross tuition is set at a higher rate than the institution needs to operate in order to allow for scholarships to recruit students.
 - The average discount rate at private 4-year institutions is around 34%.
 - Public schools also discount at around 15%.

Be more concerned with net price (out of pocket costs) at private schools than the advertised tuition.

Support Systems / Spiritual Foundation

■ DEVELOP SUPPORT SYSTEMS

- Family
- Church
- Campus Organizations
 - BSU - (Baptist Student Union)
 - FCA - (Fellowship of Christian Athletes)
 - Campus Crusade for Christ
- Personal relationship with God

Questions?

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