

Mid-Atlantic region's financially safer colleges

What is a "financially safer" college?

A college that supports its students better than other similar colleges in terms of cost, graduation rate, debt burden, and mobility, based on our analysis of College Scorecard data. [Click here for a detailed explanation of the data we use and how we analyze it.](#)



Families with low to moderate income pay less out of pocket



Low-income and students of color graduate at similar rates as their counterparts



Low-income students leave with less debt and are better able to repay their loans



Low-income students recoup the costs of their degree faster

Should I only apply to financially safer colleges?

uAspire strongly recommends that every student apply to at least *one* financially safer college. We also encourage you to include a variety of different types of colleges on your list.

What's the difference between public and private colleges & universities?

Both public and private colleges & universities are often referred to as "4-year schools". They offer Bachelor's degrees ("4-year degree") and also advanced degrees. Public and private colleges differ in many ways, but most notably in cost of attendance. Among private colleges, those that meet full financial need are likely to be more affordable, but more difficult to get into.

Private financially safer colleges & universities

College	City
Allegheny College	Meadville
American University	Washington
Bard College	Annandale-On-Hudson
Barnard College*	New York
Bryn Mawr College*	Bryn Mawr
Caldwell University	Caldwell



Scan or [click](#) to view all financially safer colleges in the Mid-Atlantic on a map, along with their average net prices

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College	City	College	City
Canisius College	Buffalo	Haverford College*	Haverford
Carnegie Mellon University*	Pittsburgh	Hobart William Smith Colleges	Geneva
Colgate University*	Hamilton	Johns Hopkins University*	Baltimore
Columbia University*	New York	Juniata College	Huntingdon
Cornell University*	Ithaca	Lafayette College*	Easton
D'Youville University	Buffalo	Le Moyne College	Syracuse
Daemen University	Amherst	Lehigh University*	Bethlehem
Dickinson College	Carlisle	Lycoming College	Williamsport
Drew University	Madison	Manhattan College	Riverdale
Drexel University	Philadelphia	Manhattanville College	Purchase
Fairleigh Dickinson University - Florham Campus	Madison	McDaniel College	Westminster
Franklin and Marshall College*	Lancaster	Mercy College	Dobbs Ferry
Geneva College	Beaver Falls	Messiah University	Mechanicsburg
George Washington University	Washington	Muhlenberg College	Allentown
Georgetown University*	Washington	New York University	New York
Gettysburg College	Gettysburg	Niagara University	Niagara
Goucher College	Baltimore	Princeton University*	Princeton
Hamilton College*	Clinton	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	Troy

Recommendations are current only for 2023-2024 academic year

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College	City	College	City
Saint Peter's University	Jersey City	Trinity Washington University	Washington
Skidmore College*	Saratoga Springs	Union College*	Schenectady
St Bonaventure University	Saint Bonaventure	University of Pennsylvania*	Philadelphia
St. Lawrence University	Canton	University of Rochester*	Rochester
St. Francis College	Brooklyn	Vassar College*	Poughkeepsie
St. Joseph's University - New York	Brooklyn	Villanova University	Villanova
Swarthmore College*	Swarthmore	Washington & Jefferson College	Washington
Syracuse University	Syracuse	Washington College	Chestertown
The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science & Art	New York	Wells College	Aurora
Thomas Jefferson University	Philadelphia	Westminster College	New Wilmington

What does it mean if a college is bold with an asterisk next to it?

These are financially safer colleges that **meet students' full financial need**, which means they guarantee to provide the full amount of financial aid they determine a student needs.

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