

# New England 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
<b>Amherst College*</b>	Amherst
Assumption University	Worcester
<b>Bates College*</b>	Lewiston
Bennington College	Bennington
Bentley University	Waltham
<b>Boston College*</b>	Chestnut Hill
<b>Boston University*</b>	Boston



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

*See second page for more private colleges & universities*

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## Private financially safer colleges & universities

College	City
<b>Bowdoin College*</b>	Brunswick
<b>Brandeis University*</b>	Waltham
<b>Brown University*</b>	Providence
Champlain College	Burlington
Clark University	Worcester
<b>Colby College*</b>	Waterville
College of Our Lady of the Elms	Chicopee
College of the Atlantic	Bar Harbor
<b>College of the Holy Cross*</b>	Worcester
<b>Connecticut College*</b>	New London
<b>Dartmouth College*</b>	Hanover
<b>Franklin W Olin College of Engineering*</b>	Needham
<b>Harvard University*</b>	Cambridge
Husson University	Bangor
<b>Massachusetts Institute of Technology*</b>	Cambridge
Middlebury College	Middlebury

College	City
<b>Mount Holyoke College*</b>	South Hadley
<b>Northeastern University*</b>	Boston
Norwich University	Northfield
Providence College	Providence
Saint Joseph's College of Maine	Standish
Saint Michael's College	Colchester
Salve Regina University	Newport
Simmons University	Boston
<b>Smith College*</b>	Northampton
The New England Conservatory of Music	Boston
<b>Trinity College*</b>	Hartford
<b>Tufts University*</b>	Medford
<b>Wellesley College*</b>	Wellesley
Wesleyan University	Middletown
Wheaton College (MA)	Norton
<b>Williams College*</b>	Williamstown
<b>Yale University*</b>	New Haven

### 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.

*Recommendations are current only for 2023-2024 academic year*

Source: Based on uAspire's analysis of the U.S. Department of Education's [College Scorecard](#) data from Spring 2023 and Third Way's [economic mobility index](#).