

# Great Schools, Great Prices

The formula used to determine which colleges and universities offer the best value relates a school's academic quality, as indicated by its *U.S. News* ranking, to the net cost of attendance for a student who receives the average level of need-based financial aid. The higher the quality of the

program and the lower the cost, the better the deal. Only schools ranked in the top half of their categories are included, on the premise that the most significant values are among colleges that are above average academically.

## NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES

Rank	School (State) (*Public)	% receiving grants based on need ('05)	Average cost after receiving grants based on need ('05)	Average discount from total cost ('05)
1.	California Institute of Technology	53%	\$13,694	67%
2.	Harvard University (MA)	49%	\$16,346	63%
3.	Princeton University (NJ)	51%	\$16,917	61%
4.	Yale University (CT)	42%	\$16,268	63%
5.	Massachusetts Inst. of Technology	60%	\$18,587	58%
6.	Stanford University (CA)	43%	\$18,767	58%
7.	Dartmouth College (NH)	50%	\$18,804	58%
8.	Rice University (TX)	34%	\$15,561	52%
9.	U. of North Carolina–Chapel Hill*	31%	\$14,464	47%
10.	Duke University (NC)	38%	\$20,172	54%
11.	University of Pennsylvania	41%	\$21,205	53%
12.	Columbia University (NY)	45%	\$21,690	52%
13.	University of Chicago	45%	\$21,977	51%
14.	Cornell University (NY)	43%	\$21,757	50%
15.	Vanderbilt University (TN)	38%	\$20,154	55%
16.	Brown University (RI)	40%	\$22,356	50%
17.	University of Virginia*	24%	\$17,906	47%
18.	Washington University in St. Louis	42%	\$23,645	47%
19.	Brigham Young Univ.–Provo (UT)	29%	\$11,027	19%
20.	Northwestern University (IL)	42%	\$23,674	48%
21.	Emory University (GA)	35%	\$21,710	49%
22.	Howard University (DC)	36%	\$12,222	44%
23.	Case Western Reserve Univ. (OH)	60%	\$22,276	45%
24.	Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst. (NY)	70%	\$23,585	45%
25.	Texas A&M Univ.–College Station*	37%	\$15,084	40%
26.	Tufts University (MA)	36%	\$21,735	51%
27.	Univ. of Southern California	42%	\$22,709	49%
28.	Lehigh University (PA)	42%	\$21,749	48%
29.	University of Rochester (NY)	56%	\$23,478	45%
30.	Johns Hopkins University (MD)	41%	\$26,118	40%
31.	University of Texas–Austin*	54%	\$19,248	31%
32.	North Carolina State U.–Raleigh*	43%	\$15,032	42%
33.	Carnegie Mellon University (PA)	48%	\$26,234	39%
34.	Clark University (MA)	54%	\$19,220	48%
35.	Brandeis University (MA)	45%	\$24,631	43%
36.	Pepperdine University (CA)	45%	\$21,205	50%
37.	Georgetown University (DC)	37%	\$26,550	42%
38.	University of the Pacific (CA)	64%	\$21,040	45%
39.	Wake Forest University (NC)	33%	\$24,353	41%
40.	Yeshiva University (NY)	43%	\$22,702	42%
41.	Boston College	36%	\$24,279	45%
42.	Worcester Polytechnic Inst. (MA)	68%	\$26,678	38%
43.	SUNY Col. of Environ. Sci. & Forestry*	80%	\$20,981	11%
44.	University of Miami (FL)	51%	\$24,507	41%
45.	University of Georgia*	8%	\$15,901	39%
46.	Illinois Institute of Technology	57%	\$21,254	39%
47.	University of California–Berkeley*	28%	\$27,318	33%
48.	St. Louis University	57%	\$23,923	35%
49.	Syracuse University (NY)	52%	\$26,575	36%
50.	Marquette University (WI)	52%	\$22,071	34%

## LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGES

Rank	School (State)	% receiving grants based on need ('05)	Average cost after receiving grants based on need ('05)	Average discount from total cost ('05)
1.	Williams College (MA)	43%	\$15,621	64%
2.	Amherst College (MA)	46%	\$16,177	64%
3.	Wellesley College (MA)	58%	\$17,547	59%
4.	Skidmore College (NY)	41%	\$11,952	66%
5.	Pomona College (CA)	53%	\$17,740	59%
6.	Swarthmore College (PA)	48%	\$18,692	57%
7.	Middlebury College (VT)	44%	\$19,216	56%
8.	Bowdoin College (ME)	44%	\$18,965	57%
9.	Macalester College (MN)	69%	\$18,774	51%
10.	Grinnell College (IA)	54%	\$18,395	49%
11.	College of the Atlantic (ME)	85%	\$13,913	60%
12.	Colgate University (NY)	39%	\$17,604	59%
13.	Colorado College	41%	\$16,483	59%
14.	Wabash College (IN)	70%	\$16,156	49%
15.	Carleton College (MN)	58%	\$21,525	49%
16.	Claremont McKenna College (CA)	50%	\$20,097	53%
17.	Smith College (MA)	60%	\$20,568	53%
18.	Centre College (KY)	60%	\$16,891	48%
19.	Wesleyan University (CT)	45%	\$20,502	54%
20.	Haverford College (PA)	41%	\$20,276	54%
21.	Colby College (ME)	36%	\$18,318	58%
22.	Bryn Mawr College (PA)	52%	\$19,882	54%
23.	Lyon College (AR)	70%	\$12,837	44%
24.	Wells College (NY)	74%	\$12,802	48%
25.	Vassar College (NY)	53%	\$21,226	52%
26.	Lafayette College (PA)	48%	\$18,299	55%
27.	Hanover College (IN)	77%	\$15,632	49%
28.	Agnes Scott College (GA)	63%	\$16,754	52%
29.	Mount Holyoke College (MA)	60%	\$21,148	52%
30.	Harvey Mudd College (CA)	51%	\$21,788	50%
31.	Furman University (SC)	44%	\$17,210	52%
32.	Occidental College (CA)	54%	\$19,784	54%
33.	Scripps College (CA)	43%	\$19,678	54%
34.	Hamilton College (NY)	51%	\$22,115	49%
35.	Beloit College (WI)	76%	\$19,472	43%
36.	Thomas Aquinas College (CA)	59%	\$15,718	43%
37.	Lake Forest College (IL)	78%	\$17,529	50%
38.	Barnard College (NY)	40%	\$19,891	55%
39.	Bates College (ME)	39%	\$20,150	54%
40.	Kenyon College (OH)	41%	\$19,583	53%

### METHODOLOGY:

These rankings were based on three variables: 1. Ratio of quality to price: a school's overall score in the *America's Best Colleges 2007* survey divided by the net cost to a student receiving the average need-based scholarship or grant. The higher the ratio of rank to the discounted cost (total costs less average scholarship or grant), the better the value. 2. Percentage of all undergraduates receiving need-based scholarships or grants during the 2005–2006 year. 3. Average discount: percentage of a school's 2005–2006 total costs (tuition, room and board, fees, books, and other expenses) covered by the average need-based scholarship or grant to undergraduates. In the case of public institutions, 2005–2006 out-of-state tuition and percentage of out-of-state students receiving need-based scholarships or grants were used. Only those schools ranked in the top half of their categories were considered. The schools' overall ranks were determined by first standardizing the scores achieved by every school in each of the three variables and weighting those scores. The ratio of quality to price accounted for 60 percent of the overall score, the percentage of all undergraduates receiving need-based grants accounted for 25 percent, and the average discount accounted for 15 percent. The school with the highest total weighted points became No. 1 in its category. The other schools were then ranked in descending order.

## UNIVERSITIES—MASTER'S

Rank	School (State) (*Public)	% receiving grants based on need ('05)	Average cost after receiving grants based on need ('05)	Average discount from total cost ('05)
<b>NORTH</b>				
1.	Gallaudet University (DC)	65%	\$11,745	51%
2.	Alfred University (NY)	83%	\$17,184	48%
3.	Hood College (MD)	78%	\$17,171	46%
4.	Villanova University (PA)	39%	\$24,741	40%
5.	Bentley College (MA)	43%	\$21,338	45%
6.	Le Moyne College (NY)	79%	\$18,555	41%
7.	St. Michael's College (VT)	63%	\$21,477	39%
8.	Lebanon Valley College (PA)	77%	\$18,764	44%
9.	Ithaca College (NY)	65%	\$23,447	37%
10.	Gannon University (PA)	83%	\$16,981	41%
11.	Providence College (RI)	55%	\$25,580	30%
12.	St. Bonaventure University (NY)	71%	\$18,773	39%
13.	Nazareth College of Rochester (NY)	78%	\$20,027	34%
14.	University of Scranton (PA)	63%	\$24,891	32%
15.	St. Francis University (PA)	83%	\$17,601	43%
<b>SOUTH</b>				
1.	Rollins College (FL)	41%	\$18,515	56%
2.	The Citadel (SC)*	30%	\$14,765	43%
3.	Converse College (SC)	70%	\$15,194	50%
4.	Stetson University (FL)	53%	\$18,505	48%
5.	Mercer University (GA)	64%	\$18,617	44%
6.	Mississippi College	41%	\$12,230	40%
7.	Meredith College (NC)	67%	\$17,052	39%
8.	Centenary College of Louisiana	60%	\$17,061	40%
9.	Carson-Newman College (TN)	69%	\$14,127	39%
10.	Brenau University (GA)	73%	\$14,389	46%
11.	Samford University (AL)	34%	\$18,619	26%
12.	Spring Hill College (AL)	64%	\$18,858	42%
13.	Bellarmino University (KY)	65%	\$18,302	39%
14.	Murray State University (KY)*	56%	\$15,590	17%
15.	Harding University (AR)	47%	\$14,340	26%
<b>MIDWEST</b>				
1.	University of Evansville (IN)	69%	\$15,822	49%
2.	Valparaiso University (IN)	67%	\$19,203	39%
3.	Drury University (MO)	88%	\$16,510	29%
4.	Creighton University (NE)	50%	\$21,119	36%
5.	Bradley University (IL)	69%	\$19,445	31%
6.	Doane College (NE)	77%	\$14,698	41%
7.	Drake University (IA)	61%	\$20,513	34%
8.	University of Detroit Mercy	70%	\$16,095	54%
9.	Xavier University (OH)	52%	\$22,318	31%
10.	Dominican University (IL)	80%	\$17,583	39%
11.	Butler University (IN)	57%	\$21,894	37%
12.	John Carroll University (OH)	67%	\$22,447	33%
13.	Baldwin-Wallace College (OH)	77%	\$19,600	34%
14.	Heidelberg College (OH)	81%	\$15,348	39%
15.	Capital University (OH)	79%	\$19,515	41%
<b>WEST</b>				
1.	Seattle Pacific University	60%	\$17,878	45%
2.	University of Redlands (CA)	66%	\$20,947	47%
3.	Whitworth College (WA)	71%	\$20,765	37%
4.	Trinity University (TX)	38%	\$20,995	35%
5.	Pacific University (OR)	71%	\$18,082	39%
6.	Wayland Baptist University (TX)	71%	\$9,834	41%
7.	Gonzaga University (WA)	57%	\$21,626	36%
8.	St. Mary's Univ. of San Antonio	61%	\$16,809	42%
9.	George Fox University (OR)	79%	\$19,485	37%
10.	University of Portland (OR)	51%	\$20,651	41%

Rank	School (State)	% receiving grants based on need ('05)	Average cost after receiving grants based on need ('05)	Average discount from total cost ('05)
11.	Houston Baptist University	84%	\$14,729	34%
12.	Oklahoma City University	47%	\$15,937	42%
13.	Chapman University (CA)	59%	\$23,662	43%
14.	Westminster College (UT)	65%	\$18,577	35%
15.	St. Mary's College of California	56%	\$24,208	41%

## COMPREHENSIVE COLLEGES—BACHELOR'S

Rank	School (State) (*Public)	% receiving grants based on need ('05)	Average cost after receiving grants based on need ('05)	Average discount from total cost ('05)
<b>NORTH</b>				
1.	Grove City College (PA)	33%	\$12,563	28%
2.	Elizabethtown College (PA)	70%	\$19,306	42%
3.	Elmira College (NY)	78%	\$22,070	42%
4.	Stonehill College (MA)	61%	\$24,188	35%
5.	College of St. Elizabeth (NJ)	69%	\$17,842	44%
6.	Cedar Crest College (PA)	85%	\$19,921	38%
7.	Wilson College (PA)	71%	\$17,209	42%
8.	Neumann College (PA)	82%	\$15,596	47%
9.	Keuka College (NY)	89%	\$18,022	37%
10.	Colby-Sawyer College (NH)	69%	\$23,946	33%
<b>SOUTH</b>				
1.	University of the Ozarks (AR)	52%	\$9,536	59%
2.	Clafflin University (SC)	83%	\$10,878	50%
3.	Berry College (GA)	57%	\$16,214	41%
4.	Ouachita Baptist University (AR)	45%	\$13,412	39%
5.	Maryville College (TN)	74%	\$17,704	44%
6.	Florida Southern College	68%	\$15,587	46%
7.	LaGrange College (GA)	73%	\$16,183	36%
8.	Kentucky Wesleyan College	84%	\$14,074	41%
9.	Covenant College (GA)	68%	\$16,001	41%
10.	Pikeville College (KY)	95%	\$12,122	45%
<b>MIDWEST</b>				
1.	Eureka College (IL)	73%	\$9,614	53%
2.	Wartburg College (IA)	78%	\$16,640	43%
3.	Manchester College (IN)	85%	\$14,416	49%
4.	Simpson College (IA)	85%	\$17,100	42%
5.	Clarke College (IA)	85%	\$14,093	48%
6.	Augustana College (SD)	68%	\$15,420	41%
7.	Mount Union College (OH)	79%	\$16,731	40%
8.	McKendree College (IL)	77%	\$15,256	44%
9.	Taylor University (IN)	52%	\$18,145	37%
10.	Central College (IA)	80%	\$18,458	38%
<b>WEST</b>				
1.	Brigham Young University—Hawaii	67%	\$6,840	37%
2.	East Texas Baptist University	61%	\$11,971	38%
3.	Univ. of Science and Arts of Okla.*	54%	\$9,594	43%
4.	Corban College (OR)	86%	\$18,719	32%
5.	Carroll College (MT)	62%	\$17,771	34%
6.	Northwest Christian College (OR)	90%	\$15,608	42%
7.	Rocky Mountain College (MT)	73%	\$15,180	36%
8.	Master's Col. and Seminary (CA)	67%	\$19,178	36%
9.	Howard Payne University (TX)	73%	\$12,694	37%
10.	McMurry University (TX)	78%	\$15,894	33%