

### LEAP COLLEGE LIFESAVERS

# Community College and Technical Schools

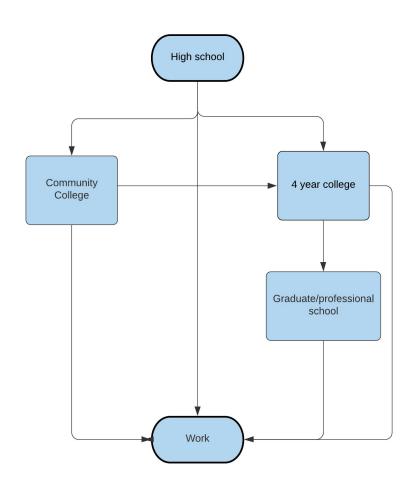
# What we'll cover today

- Does community college make sense for you?
- How to transfer to 4 year college
- Making the best of your community college experience
- Overview of technical schools

### After high school

- Work
- Military
- Higher education 4 kinds of degrees:
  - Associate's 2-year college
  - Bachelor's 4 year college
  - Master's MBA, MA, etc.
  - o Doctoral PhD, MD, JD, DDS, etc.
- Certificate program shorter than degree program; specific to career; does not lead to a degree

#### **Educational Pathways after High School**



Is community college the right choice for me?

### Pros and cons

#### **Pros**

- Lower cost
- Open access
- Slower transition to independence

#### Cons

- Lower avg earnings with AA
- Lack of campus culture and few extracurriculars
- Have to live at home
- For strong students, can be more expensive than 4-year after financial aid
- An extra application and transition to go to 4-year
- Less time at second college

### **CT Community College Costs**

Sticker price 2020-21

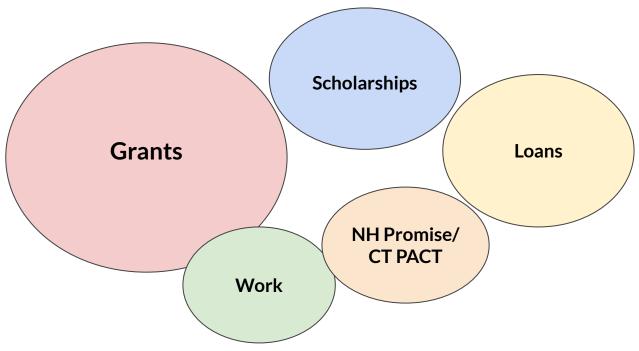
Tuition and most fees \$4,476
Books and supplies \$1,200
Personal expenses \$3,558

Total \$9,234

Using Gateway CC net price calculator; with household income under \$30,000/yr and family of 3:

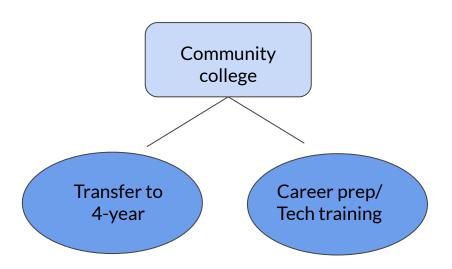
Net price \$4,567

Paying for college:



For detail on all of these options, check out the LEAP College Lifesaver's Financial Aid resources.

### Two paths in community college

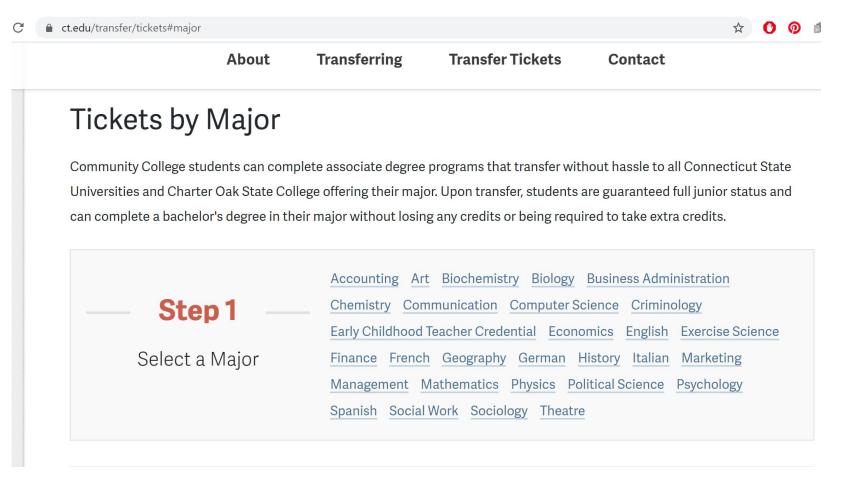


### Transfer to 4-year college

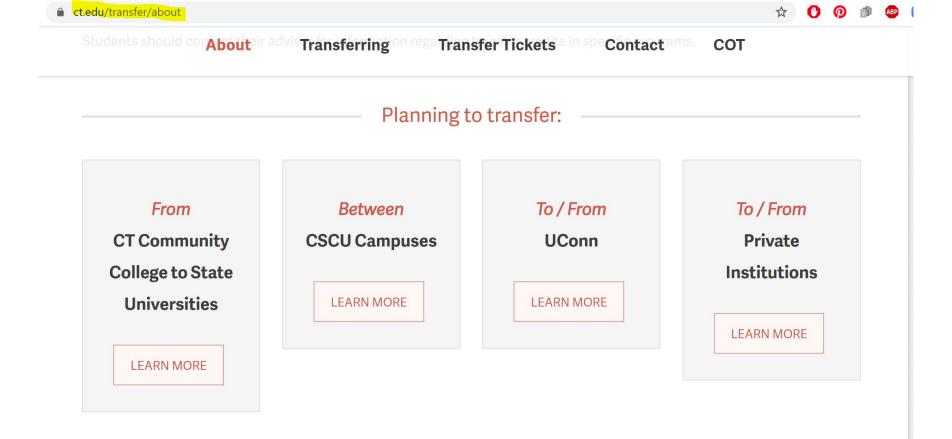
- You can apply anywhere, subject to your target school's transfer policies.
- Apply in your first or second year of community college.
- Meet with your academic adviser and choose your courses carefully to align with target college's first and second year courses and not lose credits/tuition.

### Simplified transfers within CT

- CT State Universities (Southern, Eastern, Central, Western)
  - Dual admission program: <a href="https://www.ct.edu/admission/dual">https://www.ct.edu/admission/dual</a>
  - Transfer ticket majors: <a href="https://www.ct.edu/transfer/tickets#major">https://www.ct.edu/transfer/tickets#major</a>
- UConn Guaranteed Admission Program
  - https://admissions.uconn.edu/apply/transfer/gap
  - Must apply before earning 30 credits
  - Not all schools within UConn are eligible for GAP



Transfer Ticket Majors (for transfer to CT State Universities)



See the CT Department of Ed website for information on transfers between all state schools.



From UConn website - course equivalencies between CT community colleges and UConn. If UConn is your target, check this before enrolling in community college courses.

Nead School of Education:

Decision Anneal Process

### Activity!

Find a course guide for Gateway students looking to transfer to UConn

# Additional simplified transfer options from Gateway (see GCC website):

- Quinnipiac Seamless Transfer Agreement\*
  - Guaranteed admission as long as requirements are met
- University of New Haven
- Engineering and Technology Pathway
  - Integrated curriculum
  - Transfer to UConn, University of Hartford, Fairfield, CCSU, Charter Oak State College (CT online college)
- Nursing pathway for RN to BSN/MSN degree
  - Transfer to several colleges, including Central, Southern, Sacred Heart, and others

<sup>\*</sup>A "transfer agreement" is an agreement between a community college and a four-year college on how to transfer between the institutions, so that a student does not have to repeat courses to earn credit at the second institution. Also called "transfer guide", transfer pathway", or "articulation agreement".

## How to create a strong transfer profile:

- Take a variety of academic courses and get the best grades you can
- Prepare for SAT/ACT
- Extracurriculars, research, leadership and work experience
- Get to know your professors: recommendations.
  - How can we get to know our professors?

### Advice on transferring to a 4-Year

- Very important to take liberal arts curriculum with a wide variety of courses you may be behind in requirements if you take everything in one subject area
- Some competitive universities will not accept business, communication, management, other pre-professional credits - departments have to line up at the 4 yr target college
- Look at the target school's course guide when choosing courses
- There is a bright side to having to forego credits -- you get more time at the 4-yr college

## What are 4-year colleges looking for in transfer students?

"Activities, leadership, research pursuits, and employment are valued, along with academics. Personal qualities demonstrating resourcefulness, teamwork, compassion, listening to others and community spirit are important too."

Advice from an admissions officer at a highly selective 4-year college

### Things to watch out for at community college:

- Placement tests
  - In Math and English
  - May be placed in remedial/developmental/basic courses without a qualifying score. This
    courses will not transfer to a 4-year college.
  - Can waive out of them with qualifying SAT scores
- Credit policies.
- Keep in close contact with your academic adviser.
- Community college is still college: can be rigorous and can require strong study skills.

# Advice from a college admissions officer on getting the most out of community college:

"Community college is a second chance and can be transformative. Get involved in your community college in a way that will make it a better place. Get to know your professors. Get a solid grounding in math and learn to write well. The more involved you are, the more you'll enjoy your experience."

### How to apply to CT community college

- Apply online on college's website.
- \$20 fee.
- You will need to upload copy of diploma and proof of certain immunization.
- Can apply for fall or spring semester.
- Registration for fall classes opens in the spring. Classes fill up, so register early.

# Advice from a Gateway Alum:

#### You should know:

 Dichotomy between day classes and night classes

How to find your "people"

Faculty: Megan Deliveron (Chem), James
 Brunt (English), Susan Spencer (Math)

## What should you consider when looking for a transfer school?

- Where will you be happy and thrive? Don't focus on prestige you can get a great education at many places.
- Academic offerings and strengths
- Academic and extracurricular balance which is right for you?
- Average class size and teaching style are you more comfortable in lectures or seminars?
- Financial aid
- See LEAP College Lifesavers presentation on Building a College List

### The second path - Career prep/technical training

- Associate's degree (2 years) or certification (less time)
- Credits for career prep courses will not transfer to a 4-year college.

### Ask two questions about career prep before beginning:

- Is a degree or certification actually required in the field?
- Will the degree or certification pay for itself?

### **Technical Schools**

### General thoughts about tech school

- Few, if any, general education requirements.
- Credits will not transfer to a degree program at a college.
- Programs can be expensive, but Federal financial aid is available.
- May still be demanding, even if the program is not academic.

### Weigh your options carefully

- Technical schools are almost always for-profit, unlike technical high schools, which are run by the state.
- The cost of programs can be high.
- Expect high-pressure sales tactics once you make contact.
- Always look carefully at community college first, because of the lower cost.



### Automotive Technology DIPLOMA PROGRAM

1560 HOURS DAY, AFTERNOON OR EVENING PROGRAM

EW East Windsor Campus

#### **ESTIMATED EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES\***

Tuition	-				•								•				\$	31	,954.0
Tools/Uniform**		•												•			•	1	,648.0
Registration Fee		•	•					•			•			•		Ž.	•	(*)	100.0
Student Fee				•										÷			•	•	650.0
Technology Fee.				•		•		•	•	`.		•		•			•	•	150.0
Total				30				•				٠.	•				\$:	34	,502.0

\*Based on current education expenses and subject to change.

### Eli Whitney Technical School

"Our students go on to become licensed trade-persons in Electrical, Plumbing and the HVAC trades. In order to sit for the licensing test our students need to take the 20 trade specific courses we offer. They also need to work as a licensed apprentice for 8000 hours in their trade to sit for the state licensing test.

You do not need to be working as an apprentice to take our courses. In fact, we have a number of students looking for work in the trades and get word of mouth information or job leads from our teachers.

Our program is open to all and has no prerequisites.

More information about times, costs, etc. can be found on the Eli Whitney website under Adult Ed."

### Eli Whitney Technical School

"I think it's also important to know the CT apprenticeship program is low cost and available in some of our sister schools across the state (Bridgeport, Hartford and Waterbury etc.)

Students earn while they learn working as apprentices. Many times their employer may even cover the cost of tuition.

8000 hours of on the job training and 720 hours of evening classroom experience runs about 4 years working and going to school full-time."

# CTECS' Adult Apprenticeship Program

#### **Tuition Information:**

If you are a registered apprentice with a valid state apprentice ID card listing your current employer and are taking a state apprentice program class:

- Tuition: \$325 per course
- Non-refundable Registration Fee: \$25

If you are a registered apprentice taking a course outside of your state apprentice program or are not a registered apprentice:

- Tuition: \$350
- Non-refundable Registration Fee: \$25

Certified bank checks or money orders are accepted. No personal checks, cash or credit cards will be accepted. Please make certified bank check or money orders payable to: Treasurer, State of Connecticut.

### Activity!

Find out how much an apprenticeship program costs...

How much is a course?

How many courses are needed to complete a program?

#### Things to watch out for...

"Lincoln Educational Services, Inc., the owner of Lincoln Technical Institute, will pay eligible graduates of its criminal justice program in Somerville and Lowell \$850,000 and will forgive \$165,000 worth of private student loans. The attorney general's office found that students were not able to find work in law enforcement and private security, and the school included unrelated jobs, such as general retail positions, in its placement data.

The school also allegedly told recruiters to "establish unhappiness, create urgency," and "bring out the pain" to pressure prospective students to attend the school instead of military or community college. The for-profit school instructed recruiters to contact students at least seven times within the first three days to convince them to enroll."

"Two for-profit colleges settle lawsuit with attorney general for \$2.3 million" Boston Globe. July 30, 2015.

### How do you research tech schools?

- Speak to employers and people working in the field.
- Google schools to look for pending lawsuits and investigations. Keep in mind that great reviews could be posted by employees.
- Talk to current students.
- Tour the school and visit classes before enrolling.
- Consider trying out one course before committing to an entire program.