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# Uncover the Perfect Miami College

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Newcomers flock to the Magic City to watch professional sporting events, enjoy the ocean front or experience the diverse culture. Some arrive in search of the perfect Miami college. If you are new to the city, thoughts of sandy beaches and lush palm trees swaying in the tropical breeze can make your mind swirl. Once you are acclimated, you will discover a long list of excellent schools in the greater Miami area.

When choosing the best Miami college to fit your needs, make it personal. Itâ€™s all about you. If you prefer smaller classes where the instructor knows your name, avoid the huge universities. Smaller schools tend to be able to focus more on the individual student. You are more apt to have one-on-one instructor time. If you need extra help, you can ask for a tutor, work with a peer or join a study group.

Next, determine the amount of time you want to spend in school. If you arenâ€™t looking for the social scene and general education classes spanning over the traditional four-year period, a community college might be best for you.

Excellent two-year colleges focus on preparing students for some of the top jobs in Florida and throughout the country. Once you find a good school, you can tackle classes based on your interests, train for a specific field and reap the rewards of employment in 24 months or less. After you decide on the amount of time you plan to invest in school, think about the money. The dollar signs often trump all the other details. Most community schools in Miami will assist you with the process of filing for financial aid. From helping with paperwork to providing resources, an admissions counselor or college advisor should be willing to help you with each step.

If you donâ€™t have a bulging bank account, donâ€™t be too worried. Many students need financial assistance for college. In order to receive any financial aid, you need to submit the FAFSA, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Once you receive results, youâ€™ll know if you are eligible for federal grants and loans. Counselors can recommend local scholarships and grants based on your circumstances.

Your ideal Miami college should help plan a flexible class schedule. If you need to work on certain days, there are many options including weekend classes, independent study and on-line classes to fit your personal schedule.

The distance from your residence to school might be important to you. It shouldnâ€™t be a big problem as many colleges furnish the convenience of several satellite schools located throughout the city. The main campus serves as a base but classes are held at several locations to avoid long commute times.Â The city hosts several modes of public transportation through Miami-Dade Transit. Those familiar with the city can help you plan the best route. Downtownâ€™s Metromover, the Metrorail and an extensive Metrobus system weave throughout greater Dade County. A special Para transit system complements the other networks.

All the attractions in the city can cause distractions from your quest to find the best Miami college. Take the time to think clearly. Then narrow down your options by focusing on your individual goals and expectations. Once you settle in to your new schedule, youâ€™ll have plenty of time to bask in the sun and sip some lemonade.

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Amy Russell is an independent college counselor who enjoys helping others achieve their education goals. Many students looking for a  a Miami college have come to her for questions about their career selection. Being a South Florida local, she tends to refer students in the area looking for schools to a http://www.cbt.edu/.

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