

Tips for Selecting a College or University

1. Determine the your field of interest and find colleges who offer degrees for that field. (For example, do you want a BA in Child Development or a Liberal Arts degree with an emphasis in Child Development?)
2. Find out if your program is offered locally, online or as a hybrid and the day and times the courses are offered. (For example, are classes available in the evening or on the weekend? If you work full-time it may be difficult to attend courses held in the day)
3. Research the Accreditation Status of your college or colleges of interest. If you are attending a local CA college, the college should be WASC Accredited (Western Association of Schools & Colleges). If you are attending an out-of-state/online college, the college should be Regionally Accredited.

Learn more about Accreditation or check the status of your college's Accreditation by [clicking here](#).

4. Review the Higher Education Brochure and do a comparison of local degree programs; Degree Programs, Program Type, Admissions Requirements, Graduation Requirements, Cost, Scholarships, etc.

[Click here](#) to view the Higher Education Brochure.

5. Complete the Higher Education Readiness Survey. The readiness survey was developed by the ECE Workforce Consortium to serve as a "referral" program to help students who are interested in obtaining a bachelor's or graduate degree connect with a local University. First 5 Santa Barbara County reviews surveys and connects the student to resources and an Admissions Counselor.

[Click here](#) to complete the Higher Education Readiness Survey!

6. Ready to Go? Contact the Admissions Office and schedule an appointment to talk about your educational background, interests and your readiness to transfer. This is an excellent time to find out if your college or college of interest offers scholarships, grants or tuition discounts for your major.