Hello Fantastic Farmers!

Hopefully, the information you are obtaining will be a wonderful resource and guide as you prepare for life after high school graduation. We have received questions about a 2 year junior college or community college and the four year college options. Of course, you and your family will decide which is best for you and your situation however, we would like to provide resources to guide your decision.

Texas includes a wide variety of educational environments. Although you may think a 4 year college or university is the only next step after high school for higher education, many high school graduates choose to begin their post graduation education by attending a 2 year college. There are benefits to starting your education in a junior college or community college, some of these include smaller class size, less tuition, and more flexibility. As you research the 2 year college option, you will find schools which are in an area for commuter students only (no living on campus), and some which provide a big college experience in a smaller setting, with athletic teams, clubs and dorms on campus. If these are desirable attributes for you, this may be a choice to consider. Some students choose to attend one of these educational institutions for up to two years then transfer to a 4 year college where, others might obtain a degree or certification and move directly into the work force.

We have attached a handout “The Facts About College”, which you can contrast and compare the various school options: Community Colleges, 4 year state colleges/universities, selective colleges/universities, out of state colleges/universities, 4 year private colleges, highly selective colleges/universities and technical colleges.

Below are resources to help you compare your opportunities:

Cost of College - Public Universities

<http://www.collegeforalltexans.com/apps/collegecosts.cfm?Type=1&Level=1>

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| [College For All Texans: College Costs](http://www.collegeforalltexans.com/apps/collegecosts.cfm?Type=1&Level=1)[www.collegeforalltexans.com](http://www.collegeforalltexans.com)Institution Tuition and Fees Books and Supplies Room and Board Transportation Other Costs Total; Alamo Community College - Northwest Vista College - Alamo Community ... |

Cost of community College

<http://www.collegeforalltexans.com/apps/collegecosts.cfm>

Community Colleges: A Quick and affordable education with flexible scheduling

<http://www.ereferencedesk.com/articles-online/education/adult/community-college/>

Two-Year vs. Four-Year Colleges: Which One is Right for You?

<http://www.collegeview.com/articles/article/two-year-vs-four-year-colleges-which-one-is-right-for-you>

College 101

<http://www.shmoop.com/college/community-college-vs-four-year-college.html>

Dual Credit

<http://www.nctc.edu/DualCreditHome.aspx>

10 tips for 1st year community college students

<http://www.mendocino.edu/tc/pg/5099/tips_for_first_year.html>

Tips for college savings in community college

<http://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/paying-for-college/articles/2013/09/25/4-college-savings-tips-for-community-college-students>

Do not forget Career Cruising! It can be your main resource for all your post high school planning!

Have a wonderful Wednesday!

From you Killough counselors,

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