

Search

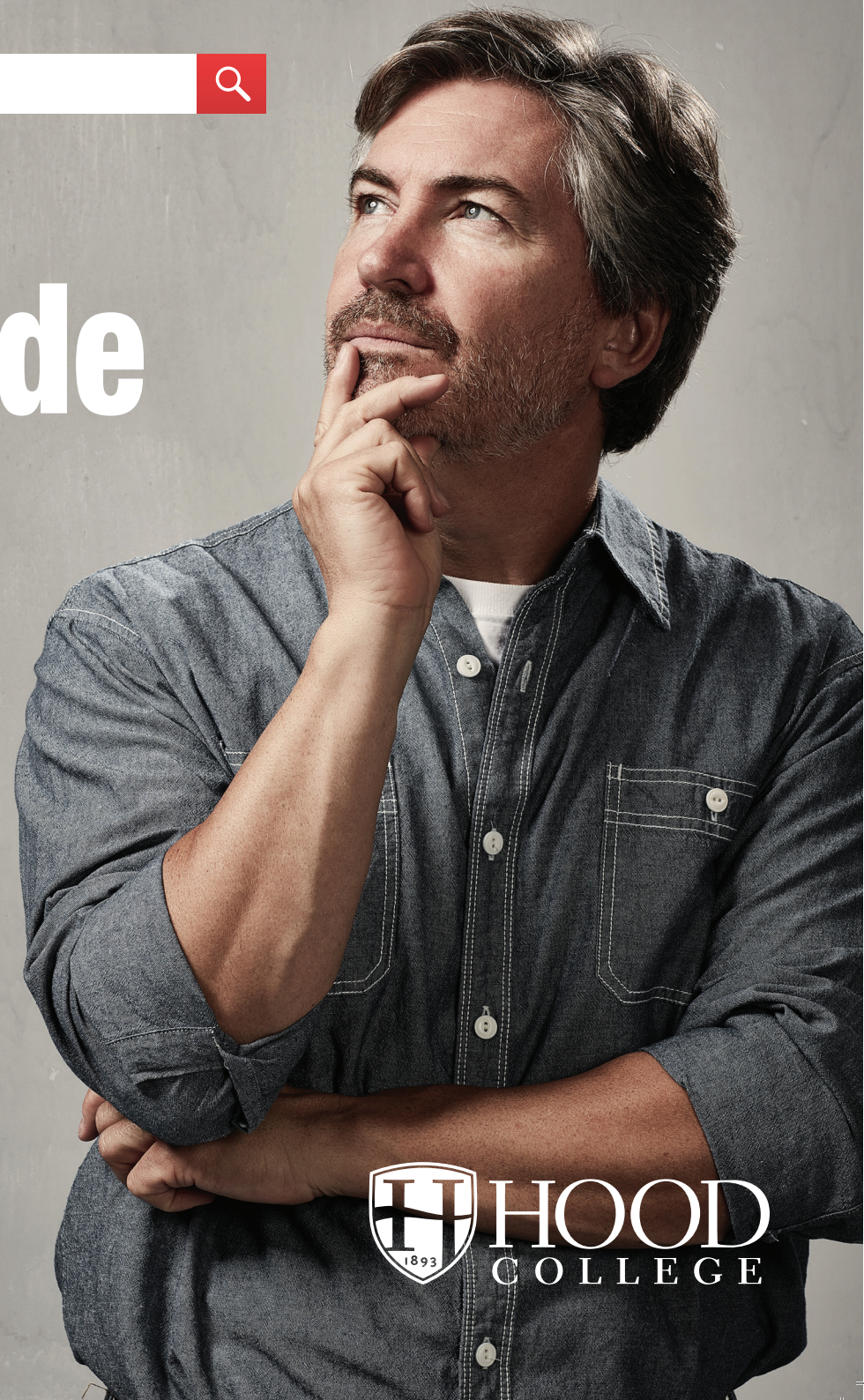


# A Parent's Guide to the College Search

EXPLORING THE MOST COMMON QUESTIONS  
AND ADVICE FROM THE EXPERTS



HOOD  
COLLEGE







President Chapdelaine and her family.

**“Parents and all those supporting students, as the president of Hood College and a parent of college-aged children, I know you will see a lot of information from institutions promising all kinds of things for your students, but I wanted to give you some information about Hood that I would want as a parent...”**

*Anelisa E. Chapdelaine*





# College search tips

## 1. Visit.

**Visit many types of schools,** narrow down your list and then go back and visit those you like again and again until your student is confident in their decision.

## 2. Apply.

**Apply early.** The best opportunities for scholarships and admission are provided to those who apply early. The Common Application opens August 1. Hood begins sending admission decisions in mid-October each year.

## 3. Advocate.

**Get in touch and stay in touch with your admission counselor.** These representatives will be the advocates for your student on campus and if they know your student, can often be the first to hear about opportunities and scholarships that may apply to your student.

As you and your student begin the college search process, you may be looking at many institutions of various sizes from community college to research universities and liberal arts colleges. It's important to understand how the size of an institution impacts the class size and classroom experience.

## Questions to ask

What is the application process?

What is the largest class my student will have?

What is the style of the curriculum?





What is the application process?



Our application process involves a truly holistic review of your student. We look at grade trends throughout high school, rigor of courses, activities, leadership, employment, volunteer hours and the application essay all to provide a complete picture of your student and help us determine how successful they will be at Hood. Students can apply beginning in August of their senior year using the Common Application or the Hood application - both can be accessed from [hood.edu/apply](https://hood.edu/apply).

What is the largest class my student will have?



For Hood College, the largest classes will be introductory courses and may include as many as 40 students, though that is rare and typically even “large” classes are only about 30. The average class size is just 15, so students get to know each other through engaging in discussion-based learning, and faculty get to know each student as an individual. No one will ever just be a number at Hood.







### What is the style of the curriculum?



Hood is an independent liberal arts college that trains students to communicate, write, problem-solve, think critically, use and integrate technology and work in collaborative environments. Through a broad curriculum covering the humanities, social sciences, physical sciences and the arts, Hood students develop core skills that employers look for most: critical and analytical thinking, communication and leadership skills.

### What academic support is available?



Hood offers a wide variety of student support services including tutoring, a writing center and more. Our director of accessibility services meets with each student individually to finalize 504 or IEP plans. There is no charge from the college for these services.

To find out more, email [AccessibilityServices@hood.edu](mailto:AccessibilityServices@hood.edu).





Downtown Frederick, MD at Carroll Creek



*The best way to get a sense of campus life and the surrounding area?*

**Visit! Plan a trip - get to know Hood's campus and explore our town.**

# Location

There are several important factors to consider when sending your student to college. Among those:

## DISTANCE FROM HOME

Some students decide on a college across the country while others stay close to home. Whatever your student's preference, it's important to talk to them about the pros and cons of the location.

## CAMPUS LOCATION

Does your student want a college campus in the middle of a city, in a rural environment or somewhere in between? Knowing the college's surroundings can assist you and your student in finding the best fit.

## Questions to ask:

What is the area around campus like?



Hood College is located in Frederick, Maryland – a “hip and historic” city with the quaintness of a walkable downtown and the amenities of a metropolitan area. Students can walk just a few blocks to Downtown Frederick to shop, dine at any number of eclectic restaurants and cafés, hear local bands and attend festivals and events. In this setting – among mountains, rolling farmlands and rivers – students can enjoy the outdoors in all seasons.

Is the campus and surrounding area safe?



Both Hood College and the city of Frederick are safe areas. The campus is served by 24-7 campus safety with the additional support of Frederick police. Hood provides blue light stations to immediately contact security throughout campus and campus safety officers provide safety escorts when needed. The College publishes online an Annual Security and Fire Safety Report, per the Clery Act, with any campus crime statistics.

How is the local job market?



The vibrancy of Frederick, along with the proximity to Baltimore, D.C. and the I-270 biotech corridor, have insulated us and left us with higher-than- average employment rates. With a top-tier school district, an award-winning health system, a growing pharmaceutical industry and countless small businesses



and entrepreneurship opportunities, Hood is located in a hot spot and a great job market for our grads.

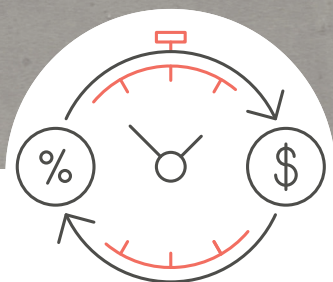
When is a good time to visit?



At Hood, we encourage visits at any point in the process, whether college is several years away or coming up fast. We offer many types of visits, from

virtual to in-person tours and opportunities to sit in on a class or even stay overnight, we encourage you and your student to experience Hood firsthand.

Frederick typically sees four distinct seasons, with an average temperature of 65. We encourage you to walk around campus and explore downtown, so plan around the season you prefer.



## Internships

**18,400** INTERNSHIP HOURS (2018-19)

**289 credit hours**

IN FREDERICK COUNTY



## Diversity at Hood College

**37.8%**  
UNDERGRADUATE

**19.3%**  
GRADUATE

UNDERGRADUATE  
STUDENTS

26 states, plus Washington,  
D.C. and Guam

22 countries

GRADUATE STUDENTS

11 states plus Washington, D.C.

16 countries



Data collected 2019



# Affordability

The sticker price of college can be anxiety inducing. For most people, paying for college is one of the biggest hurdles in their education. However, it is a worthwhile investment. On average, employees with a bachelor's degree earn 84 percent more than the average employee with only a high school diploma.



## Questions to ask:

Cost of Attendance vs. Avg cost per year?



The cost of attendance (COA) is the estimated total cost for attending college for one year. It includes tuition and fees, room, board, books and supplies, personal expenses and travel expenses. At Hood, the total cost of attendance for a resident student in 2020 was \$59,898 per year. However, the estimated cost per year for a resident student at Hood is \$21,809. This difference is because Hood awards an average of \$39 million in aid per year to 100 percent of incoming students.

Do you offer merit-based scholarships?



At Hood College, our merit scholarship program recognizes the achievement, talent and potential of students. Awards are based upon achievement in the classroom, ability to think analytically, talent and creativity within the student's areas of interest and the potential for success they bring Hood College. All students applying for admission to Hood College will be considered for these scholarships. No special application is required. Students will be informed of their eligibility through the admission application process.





**MORE THAN**

**\$39 Million**

AWARDED ANNUALLY IN  
FINANCIAL AID TO

**100%**

of undergraduate students

Do you offer need-based grants?



Need-based aid at Hood is determined by the completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). In addition to Pell and federal funds, we are often able to award students additional Hood Grant funds based upon need as determined by the FAFSA. Students are not required to file the FAFSA, however, even those who believe they will not qualify for federal funds are encouraged to file in order to qualify for Hood's need-based aid.

Do I need to file the FAFSA?



We understand that without financial support, a college degree would be out of reach for many talented students. That's why Hood has a long history of providing financial support to students of all economic backgrounds. Our financial aid staff is ready to work with you and your family to make sure you know what options are available to you as you invest in your future.

**MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS**

awarded at time of admission

**50% • 33% • 25%**

OF TUITION

**CHAIR OF THE BOARD  
SCHOLARSHIP**

**\$721,270**

GIVEN TO HIGH-ACHIEVING,  
FIRST YEAR STUDENTS



What are the graduation rates?

What is the percentage of job placement?

What are the pass rates for licensure exams?

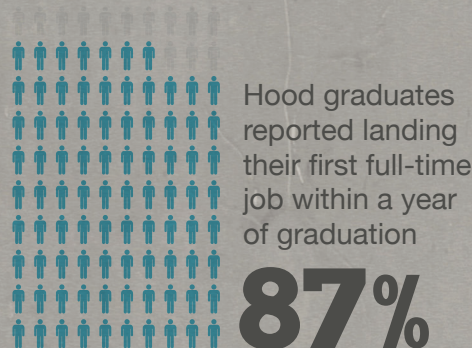
Is it cheaper to combine bachelor's and master's degrees?



# Outcomes of a College Education

College is a critical time as students gain an education, learn independence and begin to mature, but just as important as the four years they spend, is what they are able to do after graduation. Success is not just about jobs and graduate school placements – though those are important. It's about relationships, connections, experiences and networking.

Employers are looking to hire those with the capacity to think critically – to examine problems and tasks and to be open to new evidence and ideas even when they challenge long-held convictions. They want workers who can communicate effectively through oral, written or



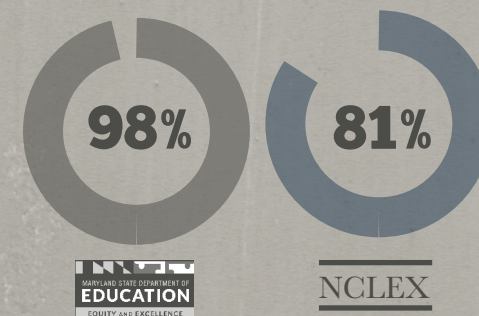
visual means. And employers want to hire someone who works well and effectively with others.

At Hood, these three skills – critical thinking, communication and the ability to work collaboratively – are

the foundation of the education we offer. We are preparing students for their first job and for their careers.

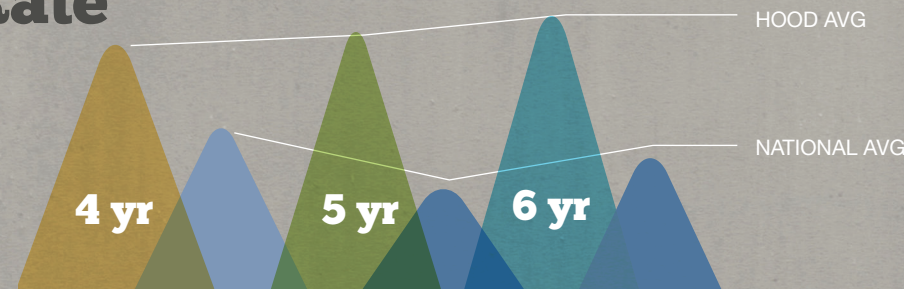
Hood's **4PLUS program** will save the cost and study time of graduate admission tests, application fees and extra courses. By working with an adviser, your student can start taking courses toward a master's in their junior or senior year and earn dual-course credit for both their undergraduate and master's degrees in several majors.

**Licensure exam pass rates** can be a great measure of a program's success. At Hood, our pass rate for Maryland Department of Education licensure is **98 percent**. Our nursing students have an **81.25 percent** pass rate for the NCLEX (National Council Licensure Examination).



## Graduation Rate

Hood's four-, five- and six-year graduation rates are well above the national average.







Will my student get enough food?

What do you do for students with food allergies?

What is the average class size?



What is the student/faculty ratio?

What medical services are available?

# Other Common Parent Questions Answered

## What is the student-faculty ratio?

11:1

## What is the average class size?

15

## Will my student get enough food?

Incoming first-year students have our all-access meal plan, allowing them to eat in the dining hall as many times a week as they would like. Our dining hall is “all-you-can-eat” style, allowing students to try any of the wide variety of meal options offered.

Our rotating menu means there are always options for students to enjoy. Check [hood.campusdish.com](http://hood.campusdish.com) to see our meal options!

## My student has allergies, what can you do?

Coblentz Dining Hall offers a number of options for students with allergies or other dining preferences, including vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free meals. For any other allergies, each meal in the dining hall lists all ingredients – if your student needs specific meals made, our dining services staff is more than happy to make accommodations and provide boxed meals if necessary.

## What medical services are available?

Hood’s partnership with Frederick Health Hospital (*which is located right next door to campus*) provides students with access to primary care, urgent care, women’s/men’s health services and mental health services.

Most services through our health center are free of charge to students. Additionally, for any emergencies, close proximity to the hospital allows for our students to be well taken care of!

# Start the process today!

Go to [hood.edu/admission](http://hood.edu/admission)





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Non-Profit  
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**PAID**  
Hood College

Best college on earth?



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