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Discover the Perfect Miami College by [Amy Russell](#)

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The international flavor of Miami's neighborhoods provides a good fit for any personality type. If you are moving to southern Florida to attend a Miami college, you will discover many unique communities you can call home.

Miami is home to many acclaimed universities and colleges. From large universities boasting popular college sports teams to small schools focused on a specific career path, there is a Miami college to help you meet your goals.

If you are determined to complete your education and qualify for a rewarding career in the shortest time possible, enrolling in a community college could be the right choice for you. A quality school located in a smaller community setting allows you the convenience of living, working and attending college in the same familiar area.

In addition to the convenient location, graduating from a community college extends several other advantages compared to a traditional four-year university plan.

One of the biggest reasons for choosing the community college option is all about showing you the money. According to The College Board, the cost of tuition for the 2010-2011 school year at four-year universities was nearly three times the cost of tuition at a community college. That translates into thousands of dollars in savings.

As an example of the potential savings, if tuition costs amounted to \$3000 at a community college, then a four-year public university in the same geographic area would cost around \$9000.

Another plus, many community colleges provide a stream-lined path to a degree. Training for a specialized career eliminates the need for general education classes enabling most students to earn a two-year Associate Degree. You can earn a degree as a medical assistant, a graphic designer, or qualify for another high demand job in half the time of a university program without sacrificing on the quality of education.

If you think you might need extra help or special services, most Miami college programs in a community setting focus on individual needs. Tutoring, one-on-one time with instructors, mentoring and other personalized benefits create an excellent support system.

Considering the ease of access to the Internet and the high number of scams found on line, it's important to validate your college choice.

Whatever Miami college you choose, check to make sure it is certified by the Department of Education and licensed by the Commission for Independent Education. The school should also be accredited by the Council for Independent Colleges & Schools.

After you look at all the options, you should choose the school best suited to your individual needs. If you can match a community college to a neighborhood suited to your lifestyle, it's a double bonus.

You can use some of the money you save to enjoy the Miami lifestyle. Take in a professional ball game, visit Miami Seaquarium or the MetroZoo. Instead of spending money on commuting to school each day, invest in a tour of the Everglades or take in the sites at South Beach.

Selecting a Miami college can seem overwhelming. If you make a list of your personal priorities and find the best possible match, you could accomplish your goals in two years. Your hard work could result in the reward of a degree, a good job and a fulfilling social life in the tropical setting of Miami.

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[Amy Russell](#) - About Author:

Amy Russell is an independent college counselor who enjoys helping others achieve their education goals. Many students looking for 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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