



## ***“MyFit”* Universities - Evaluated Grading and Ranking Definitions**

Your ***“MyFit”* Universities - Evaluated (Tool #2)** shows the grading and ranking in up to 35 categories for each university. Each grading and ranking is defined below:

### **Overall Grading and Ranking (Columns 1 and 2)**

The Best Overall grading and ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the overall experience at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses more than 50 statistics sourced from various government and public data sets, various data sources, and 11,857,508 opinion-based survey responses across 20 topics from 294,497 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Overall Experience generally indicates that:

- Students are very happy with their experience at their college in all aspects of student life—academics, social life, campus resources, peer students, etc.;
- The college is an exceptional academic institution in terms of professors, students, research, and resources for learning;
- The college attracts a diverse set of intelligent, high-achieving students and faculty and fosters a community that is open to all viewpoints, backgrounds, and personal convictions;
- The college is a healthy environment for students, with low crime, manageable stress, and high retention and graduation rates;
- The college is affordable to students of all types with a low percentage of alumni in student loan default.

### **Academics (Column 3)**

The Best Academics ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the quality of the academics at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from various government and public data sets, various data sources, and 814,786 opinion-based survey responses about Academics from 70,648 current students and recent alumni.

A high grading and ranking in Academics generally indicates that:

- Students are very happy with the quality of the education they are receiving;
- The college employs a diverse faculty of intelligent, engaging professors that are leaders in their fields;
- The college attracts a diverse set of intelligent, high-achieving students and retains and graduates a high percentage of them.

#### **Administration (Column 4)**

The Best Administration ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the quality of the administration at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from various government and public data sets, various data sources, and 689,560 opinion-based survey responses about campus administration from 84,401 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Administration generally indicates that:

- Students review the campus administration favorably;
- Students report that the administration is neither too strict nor too lenient, with the highest scoring colleges being more trusting of students but still providing a safe and stable campus environment;
- The college as a whole offers an excellent overall student experience, and students report being very satisfied with their college choice.

#### **Athletics (Column 5)**

The Best Athletics ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the quality of the athletic programs at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from the Department of Education, NCAA Attendance Records, and 204,756 opinion-based survey responses about athletics from 74,957 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Athletics generally indicates that:

- Students report athletics playing a significant, positive role in student life, including varsity sports, intramural sports, and athletic facilities;
- The college competes for National Championships across various sports, and games are well attended;
- The college competes in top conferences, whose members win National Championships across various sports, with high average game attendance.

#### **Campus Dining (Column 6)**

The Best Campus Food ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the quality of the campus dining at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from the Department of Education and 471,506 opinion-based survey responses about campus food from 64,113 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Campus Food generally indicates that:

- Students are very happy with the quality of campus food;

- The meal plan costs are reasonable;
- Dining services offers a variety of healthy, quality food options and accommodates various dietary preferences and allergies;
- Dining services operates during hours convenient for students, including offering late-night food options.

### **Campus Housing (Column 7)**

The Best Dorms ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the quality of campus housing at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from various government and public data sets, various data sources, and 630,153 opinion-based survey responses about campus housing from 61,395 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Dorms generally indicates that:

- Students are very satisfied with campus housing in terms of quality, cleanliness, amenities, and the resident community;
- A large percentage of the student body lives in campus housing, and the process to secure housing is straightforward and painless;
- Campus housing costs are reasonable;
- Campus dorms, suites, and apartments are safe, healthy living environments.

### **Campus Quality (Column 8)**

The Best Campus ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the quality of campus facilities and services at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from various government and public data sets, various data sources, and 794,326 opinion-based survey responses about campus quality from 102,060 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Campus Quality generally indicates that:

- Students love their campus community and have a lot of school pride;
- Students are very happy with the quality of campus resources and facilities;
- Campus dining and housing services are high quality and reasonably priced;
- Campus technology, labs, and classrooms are state-of-the-art.

### **Diversity (Column 9)**

The Most Diverse Campus ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the diversity at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from various government and public data sets, various data sources, and 777,115 opinion-based survey responses about campus diversity from 99,714 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Diversity generally indicates that:

- Students report that the campus is extremely diverse and fosters a community that accepts and promotes a diversity of viewpoints, backgrounds, religious beliefs, sexual orientations, and socioeconomic statuses;
- Enrolled students come from all over the United States and the world, representing various backgrounds and ethnicities;
- The college employs a diverse faculty, both in terms of gender and ethnicity.

### **Drug Safety (Column 10)**

The Most Drug-Free Campus ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the drug and alcohol use at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from various government and public data sets, various data sources, and 297,663 opinion-based survey responses about drug and alcohol safety from 82,253 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Drug Safety generally indicates that:

- Students report that drug and alcohol usage is very low on campus and does not play a role in student life;
- Students report that there is little or no peer pressure to use drugs or alcohol and that underage drinking is not prevalent in the campus community;
- The campus reports a low number of drug and alcohol related arrests and referrals.

### **Greek Life (Column 11)**

The Best Greek Life ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the Greek life at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from various government and public data sets, various data sources, and 206,960 opinion-based survey responses about Greek life from 73,751 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Greek Life generally indicates that:

- A high percentage of the student body participates in Greek Life;
- Students report that Greek life plays a significant, positive role in campus life.

### **Guys/Girls (Column 12)**

The Best Students ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the quality of the students at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States based on 1,275,040 opinion-based survey responses about students on campus from 94,015 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Best Students generally indicates that:

- Students report that their peers on campus are intelligent, fun, creative, attractive, and friendly;
- Students report that there is a vibrant social scene that positively impacts the campus experience.

### **Safety and Security (Column 13)**

The Safest Campus ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the health and safety at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from various government and public data sets, various data sources, and 334,046 opinion-based survey responses about health and safety from 82,798 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Safety generally indicates that:

- There is little or no crime on campus;
- Students report feeling very safe at all times on campus;
- Students are very satisfied with the quality of health services on campus;
- Students are happy and healthy, with a high percentage of students successfully completing their degrees;
- Student drug and alcohol usage is low, and there is little or no peer pressure to consume drugs or alcohol.

### **Local Area (Column 14)**

The Best Location ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the quality of the local areas around traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from various government and public data sets, various data sources, and 888,971 opinion-based survey responses about the local area from 101,060 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking for Location generally indicates that:

- The college is located in a great college town with excellent dining, nightlife, and cultural attractions;
- Most students report that they want to keep living in the area after graduation;
- Students report that the local area has a significant, positive impact on their college experience.

### **Off-Campus Dining (Column 15)**

The Best Off-Campus Dining ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the off-campus restaurants near traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from various government and public data sets, various data sources, and 590,0331

opinion-based survey responses about off-campus dining from 87,925 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Off-Campus Dining generally indicates that:

- Students are very happy with the quality and convenience of food options near campus;
- There is a variety of local restaurants across a range of cuisines, as well as healthy food options that cater to various dietary preferences;
- Many local restaurants offer student discounts or cater to student lifestyles (late-night hours, Wi-Fi, etc.)

### **Off-Campus Housing (Column 16)**

The Best Off-Campus Housing ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the off-campus apartments and houses near traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from various government and public data sets, various data sources, and 674,279 opinion-based survey responses about off-campus housing from 83,825 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Off-Campus Housing generally indicates that:

- Students are very satisfied with off-campus housing options near campus in terms of quality, cost, variety, availability, and convenience;
- Rent prices are reasonable in the local area.

### **Parking (Column 17)**

The Best Parking ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the quality of parking services at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from various government and public data sets, various data sources, and 377,853 opinion-based survey responses about campus parking from 83,059 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Parking generally indicates that:

- Students report that it's easy to find a parking spot on or near campus;
- Parking is conveniently located near classes and dorms;
- Parking costs are reasonable or free.

### **Party Scene (Column 18)**

The Best Party Schools ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the party scene at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from

various government and public data sets, various data sources, and 404,701 opinion-based survey responses about the party scene from 84,764 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Party Scene generally indicates that:

- Students report that the campus has a vibrant party scene with a variety of fun options both on and off campus;
- Students rate their peers as being fun, outgoing, friendly, and into partying;
- There is an abundance of popular nightlife spots that are close to campus and affordable for college students.

### **Technology (Column 19)**

The Best Technology ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the quality of technology at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from various government and public data sets, various data sources, and 673,839 opinion-based survey responses about campus technology from 92,833 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Technology generally indicates that:

- Students are very happy with the quality of campus technology and report that the administration, facilities, and courses incorporate new technologies effectively;
- Students report that science/research labs, computer labs, and classrooms are state-of-the-art;
- Enrolled students are high achievers in STEM fields, scoring very highly on SAT and ACT math tests.

### **Transportation (Column 20)**

The Best Transportation ranking provides a comprehensive assessment the quality of transportation services at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from various government and public data sets, various data sources, and 672,133 opinion-based survey responses about transportation from 102,342 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Transportation generally indicates that:

- Students report that it's very easy to get around campus and the surrounding area;
- There are convenient options for long-distance travel to and from campus;
- Transit options are reasonably priced or free, in some cases subsidized by the college.

### **Weather (Column 21)**

The Best Weather ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the weather at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from various government and public data sets, various data sources, and 17,485 opinion-based survey responses about weather from 17,481 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Weather generally indicates that:

- Students report that the weather has a positive impact on their campus experience;
- The location averages a high number of sunny days per year;
- The local climate has neither extreme cold nor extreme heat throughout the year.

### **Best Students - Girls (Column 22)**

The Best Students - Girls ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the quality of the female students at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States based on 426,590 opinion-based survey responses about female students from 70,549 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Best Students - Girls generally indicates that:

- Both male and female students report that their female peers on campus are intelligent, fun, creative, attractive, and friendly;
- Students report that there is a vibrant social scene that positively impacts the campus experience.

### **Best Students - Guys (Column 23)**

The Best Students - Guys ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the quality of the male students at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States based on 419,212 opinion-based survey responses about male students from 69,229 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Best Students - Guys generally indicates that:

- Both male and female students report that their male peers on campus are intelligent, fun, creative, attractive, and friendly;
- Students report that there is a vibrant social scene that positively impacts the campus experience.

### **Hottest Girls (Column 24)**

The Most Attractive Girls ranking assesses the attractiveness of female students at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States based on 42,269 opinion-based survey responses from 42,151 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Most Attractive Girls generally indicates that both male and female students report that their female peers on campus are very attractive.

### **Hottest Guys (Column 25)**

The Most Attractive Guys ranking assesses the attractiveness of male students at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States based on 41,389 opinion-based survey responses from 41,270 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Most Attractive Guys generally indicates that both male and female students report that their male peers on campus are very attractive.

### **Friendliest Students (Column 26)**

The Friendliest Students ranking assesses the friendliness of students at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States based on 84,115 opinion-based survey responses about students from 55,204 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Friendliest Students generally indicates that students report that their peers on campus are very friendly.

### **Most Politically Diverse Colleges (Column 27)**

The Most Politically Diverse Colleges ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the diversity at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States based on 47,843 opinion-based survey responses about politics from 41,319 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Most Politically Diverse Colleges generally indicates that:

- Students report that campus is very diverse in terms of political leanings.

### **Most Conservative Colleges (Column 28)**

The Most Conservative Colleges ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the diversity at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States based on 73,601 opinion-based survey responses about politics from 49,093 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Most Conservative Colleges generally indicates that:

- A high percentage of students self-identify as being conservative (or leaning conservative);
- Students perceive the campus community as being very conservative politically.

### **Most Liberal Colleges (Column 29)**

The Most Liberal Colleges ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the diversity at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States based on 73,601 opinion-based survey responses about politics from 49,093 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Most Liberal Colleges generally indicates that:

- A high percentage of students self-identify as being liberal (or leaning liberal);
- Students perceive the campus community as being very liberal politically.

### **Hardest To Get In (Column 30)**

The Hardest to Get In ranking assesses the difficulty of admissions at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from the U.S. Department of Education.

A high ranking in Hardest to Get In generally indicates that:

- The college has a very low acceptance rate
- Enrolled students scored very highly on the SAT/ACT tests

### **Size (Column 31)**

The Largest Colleges ranking assesses the size of traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from the U.S. Department of Education.

A high ranking in Largest Colleges indicates that the college enrolls a high number of full-time undergraduate students.

### **Applicants (Column 32)**

The Most Applicants ranking provides and assesses the popularity of traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from the U.S. Department of Education.

A high ranking indicates that the college receives a high volume of applications from prospective students.

### **Expense (Column 33)**

The Most Expensive ranking assesses the average net price at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from the U.S. Department of Education.

A high ranking indicates that students who receive financial aid still pay a high net price to attend the institution.

### **Smartest Students (Column 34)**

The Smartest Students ranking provides and assesses the intelligence of the students at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States. It uses data sourced from various government and public data sets, various data sources, and 83,762 opinion-based survey responses about students from 55,044 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Smartest Students generally indicates that:

- Enrolled students scored very well on SAT/ACT tests;
- Students report that their peers on campus are very intelligent.

### **Greek Housing (Column 35)**

The Best Greek Housing ranking assesses the quality of the Greek houses at traditional four-year colleges and universities in the United States based on 47,039 opinion-based survey responses about Greek housing from 46,860 current students and recent alumni.

A high ranking in Best Greek Housing indicates that both Greek and non-Greek students report that members of fraternities and sororities live in opulent chapter houses.