"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 latenight 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 fouryear 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.