

Online degree programs vary widely in their methods of instruction, expectations of students, scheduling, and cost

Are tuition and required fees for online courses the same as for face-to-face courses? What may impact my total cost i.e. how long I take to complete the degree, or the number of courses I take in a term or year?

Degree quality

It's important the online degree you're considering has the same learning objectives and outcomes that it claims for its traditional, on-ground degree. Although the learning modality might differ, you want to know you can acquire an equivalent body of knowledge during your online experience.

Is the college and its instructors experienced in delivering online education? This information should be available **on the college's website and is often indicated in individual faculty profiles**. **If you can't find this on the school's website**, be sure to ask who will be your instructors.

Online student support services vary greatly from school to school too. Does the school provide online advising, tutoring, library access, career services, and other support services? And are all the resources that are available to on-campus students also offered to online students, for example as an online student will you be eligible for student health insurance if offered by the college?

Colleges seek a variety of accreditations for their institution overall and then possibly for individual divisions and programs within the institution. Inquire whether these accreditations apply to the online programs.

Choosing an online degree outside your home state

If your home state is different than that of your transfer school, confirm with the transfer school that it accepts online students from your state.