

MAINE WORD ABOUT COLLEGE

The Maine Word About College

Questions about college from young Maine students, answered by old Maine students.

Today's writers

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Offered by Maine College Circle and the Mitchell Institute to great young students throughout Maine.

Q. What would it be like to go to college if you want a job in computer technology?

A. What a lot of people don't realize about working in the tech industry is that it is important to have knowledge in areas outside of technology. Most people who want a job in tech study something like Computer Science or Software Engineering in college. Those things are definitely important for many tech jobs, but studying something else like English or Economics can also be really useful since companies can use technology to solve problems in lots of different areas, like finance or medicine. Some people don't even study computers or programming at all before working at a tech company! College is a great place to learn if you want a job in tech because there are so many different things you can study. My advice: definitely take Computer Science classes, but don't be afraid to take classes in other subjects, as well. Those classes will make you even more valuable as a worker in the tech industry!

—Mingo





Q. Do you have to pay for lunch?

A. Most schools require that you buy a meal plan as a part of your tuition. You pay for the school to provide you a certain number of meals, and then the school loads all of that money onto your school ID, so you just swipe your ID to pay for your food. So, yes you pay for your food, but you pay for it all at the beginning of the semester and then use your ID instead of cash on a day-to-day basis.

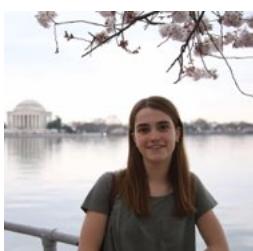
Q. Do you have to clean your own room in college?

A. Yes I do have to clean my own room. I brought cleaning supplies and a vacuum with me when I came to college. I try to clean once a

week. My room has its own bathroom rather than a bathroom in the hallway that everyone

on the floor uses, so in addition to cleaning my own room I also have to clean my bathroom. Some dorms, however, have communal bathrooms that a cleaning service cleans.

— Kate



Q. Is it harder to go to college in another country?

A. Yes, it might be a little harder to find out how to go to college in another country, but usually counselors or online programs can help you find a way to figure out school wherever you want to go! The application process for international schools tends to be a little different. For example, international schools may require different admissions tests. But it is still very feasible to apply to schools in other countries. For example, I have a friend who goes to college in England. Also, if you stay in the U.S. for college, most colleges have ways you can study abroad in another country for one semester, or even an entire year. I want to study in Chile for a couple months!

Q. Are there cooking classes in college?

A. Some colleges have actual classes for cooking—it depends on where you go to school. There are also some schools, called culinary schools, that are just for cooking so you can learn how to be a professional chef! You will be able to do some form of cooking at almost any school. At

Bowdoin, we have cooking clubs where students teach each other how to cook different things. Or if your college doesn't have the classes you want, you could look for cooking institutes in the city where you live.

— Anna

