



Making Postsecondary Plans

College Access Grid

Based on the UChicago Consortium's 2008 report, *Potholes on the Road to College*, the College Access Grid has become a ubiquitous tool in the Chicago postsecondary landscape. The Grid shows a student's college match level based on their Unweighted GPA and ACT score.

College Access Grid

Find your unweighted GPA and your ACT score, then circle the box where they meet. This is your College Match Level. Students should spend most of their time applying to match colleges and universities because:

1. It increases the chance of being accepted
2. It increases the chance of graduating

TABLE 1

Categories for access to college types based on CPS graduates' GPAs and ACT scores and patterns of college enrollment

		Unweighted GPA in Core Courses				
		<2.0	2.0–2.4	2.5–2.9	3.0–3.4	3.5–4.0
Composite ACT Score	Missing ACT	Two-Year Colleges	Nonselective Four-Year Colleges	Somewhat Selective Colleges	Selective Colleges	Selective Colleges
	<18	Two-Year Colleges	Nonselective Four-Year Colleges	Somewhat Selective Colleges	Somewhat Selective Colleges	Selective Colleges
	18-20	Nonselective Four-Year Colleges	Somewhat Selective Colleges	Somewhat Selective Colleges	Selective Colleges	Selective/Very Selective Colleges
	21-23	Somewhat Selective Colleges	Somewhat Selective Colleges	Selective Colleges	Selective/Very Selective Colleges	Selective/Very Selective Colleges
	24+	Somewhat Selective Colleges	Selective/Very Selective Colleges	Selective/Very Selective Colleges	Very Selective Colleges	Very Selective Colleges

Note: Students in the Selective category who are either in an IB program or have taken at least two AP and at least six honors courses are moved up to the Very Selective category.