

Where Should Patrick Go to College?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Use the PACED Decision-making Model to complete this assignment. The purpose is to help Patrick decide which college best fits his criteria. In this assignment, you will use his criteria to determine how well it aligns with each of the four universities. Evaluate each criterion using a scale of 1 to 5. If it is a great fit or aligns well, place a 5 in the box; if it is not a fit or does not align, place a 1 in the box. For example, if Florida is close to home, then give University of Florida a 5 for location and University of Hawaii a 1. The other two schools would be rated somewhere in between 5 and 1. Refer to the listed web sites to help with your evaluations. After completing the evaluations, add up each row – giving each university a total. The university with the highest total best aligns with his criteria and would be his choice. The university with the second highest total would be his opportunity cost. You may want to use The Niche College Ratings <https://www.niche.com/colleges/rankings/> or the individual university web sites to evaluate them.

The PACED Decision-Making Grid

- P** State the **Problem**
- A** List the **Alternatives**
- C** Identify the **Criteria**
- E** **Evaluate** the alternatives based on the criteria
- D** Make a **Decision**

Problem: Where should Patrick go to college? He has a 2.5/4.0 GPA, ACT score of 25, experience managing social media accounts for student organizations, and a positive record consulting regularly with businesses in the community paying \$30 per hour and contracting for a minimum of 9 hours per job.

Alternatives:

- University of Kansas
- University of Missouri
- University of Hawaii
- University of Florida

Criteria:

- Tuition costs, fees, and room and board
- Location and distance from home
- Academic ranking
- “Job” Placement on completion

College: Where am I going to go

Evaluate: Patrick goes to your high school. He has narrowed down his list to four universities and now needs your help to make the final decision. He wants to find the most affordable option and hopefully be close to home or at least able to travel home during the semester. Because of his GPA, he is concerned if he will be eligible for any academic scholarships to help pay for his education – so the cost of tuition, room and board are really a big priority. He knows he can continue his contracting business while in school, but he is extremely concerned about having a degree from a university that is well respected and finding a job upon graduation.

Decision: What do you recommend to Patrick? Why?

Criteria → ↓ Alternatives	Cost	Location	Ranking/Quality	Job Placement	Total
University of Kansas					
University of Missouri					
University of Hawaii					
University of Florida					