

Why Students Chose to Attend Parkland College



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Why Athletes Choose Parkland

Excellence in athletics

Almost all of the athletic teams at Parkland have success on the national level

Excellence in academics

They preferred the small class sizes and one on one help from professors

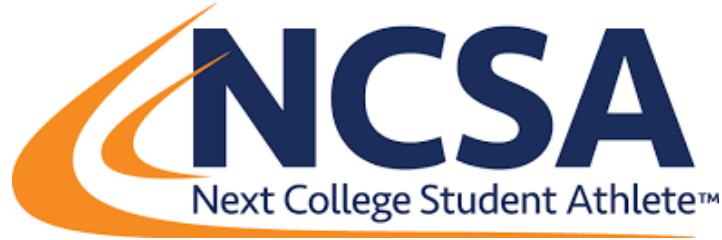
Cost of attendance

The cost of tuition coupled with athletic scholarships made Parkland the best choice financially





Continued



Many athletes come to Parkland to improve in their sport

They hope to transfer and play at a school better than they could have out of high school

Many athletes grew up knowing about Parkland

Others were contacted by coaches to find out about it

International athletes either found it through recruiting services, or

They already knew people attending Parkland





Their Expectations of Parkland

A few of the athletes believed that classes would be easy, as Parkland is a junior college

They found that they were not correct very quickly

Many believed it would be mostly commuter students enrolled at Parkland

They were surprised by the amount of international students

Also the amount of Pathways students from out of the area was surprising to them

Expectations Continued

One international student said that the amount of time spent in class was greater in his home country

They have around 30 hours every week compared to our 15 hours

The extra time allows for less homework which created a dramatic transition for him





Feedback from Parkland Student

Another Parkland student that is a student athlete said her experience coming to Parkland was easy with a smooth transition.

She is a in-district resident who said coming to Parkland was convenient for her because it was close to her house.

Parkland has good reputation in sports and that was major factor for her decision to come to Parkland and play basketball.

So What About International Students?

“Parkland is a gateway to the U of I”



Transfer to
U of I, Parkland
gives experience in
academics

ESL student from
Guangdong, China



Gives opportunity to start smaller = Better off

How does an out of
continent student
hear about
parkland of all
places?

“Parkland would be
your safest option”



Conclusions

Parkland College is a 2 year community college that offers many opportunities

Many people come from different backgrounds (International, Local)

Students attend planning to achieve the same goals: either to graduate with an Associates from Parkland or transfer immediately after their 1st or 2nd year of attending Parkland to go to a 4 year institution

Student Athletes in addition have a mindset hoping that after 2 years of playing on the Parkland sports team they will continue being a student athlete at the next level

