
PROJECT PLAN: IMPROVED EASE-OF-USE AND PERCEIVED UTILITY OF THE COLLEGE VIABILITY, LLC, COLLEGE VIABILITY APP.

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ABSTRACT

Private colleges are closing and public colleges are cutting faculty and staff. College Viability, LLC has developed data visualizations to aid students, parents, faculty, staff, community leaders, and college leaders to enable comparisons and trends of individual colleges financial health and viability.

1 INTRODUCTION

The College Viability App compiles and visualizes raw data from the National Center for Education Statistics IPEDS data base. This data is developed into an end-user product using the Microsoft Power BI software. To date, there is no know comparative product that provides the same college-by-college comparisons of financial, enrollment, academic, and outcomes. The master version of the app includes all functionality. Subset versions of the app include fewer IPEDS reports and limited functionality. The final goal is to provide each end user group with the data they need to make college, career or business decisions. College Viability, LLC has created a proprietary list of single-college IPEDS unit ID numbers to enable college by college comparisons.

2 BASELINE OR INITIAL ANALYSIS

The 2021, 2022, and 2023 versions of the College Viability app provided data comparison reports across as many as 30 IPEDS fields. The IPEDS data is submitted by the colleges themselves. The CV App uses the GASB (for public) and FASB (for private colleges) accounting standards and their associated fields.

3 FINAL ANALYSIS

The basic CV App will be used as the template for the 2024 version of the app. Improved functionality and the associated utility will be used to grow revenue from the sale of the app. Research and Power BI skill sets are needed to provide appropriate predictive data points and/or trends from the IPEDS data. In addition, the 2024 app needs improved data-to-charts functionality and improved main menu navigation.

4 FINAL GOALS & EVALUATION

College Viability, LLC will provide the basic 2024 version of the app to the Kansas Data Consortium. I will also provide the raw data in a set of .xlsx files. In consultation with College Viability, LLC, the Kansas Data Consortium will identify students and projects to:

- a. Create dashboards for students/families, faculty/staff, community stakeholders, college and board leaders.*
- b. Recommend and implement additional data slicers in the Power BI app to enhance the usefulness and utility of the CV App.*
- c. Improve the in-page data visualizations for each IPEDS report in the CV App through toggles and buttons.*
- d. Research and develop a method to easily and effectively capture at least 10 years of IPEDS data across most or all IPEDS fields for use in additional research and analysis.*
- e. Develop Power BI functionality to print College Viability app reports for end users.*

5 RELATED WORK

Please cite research papers, reports, blog posts, projects, and other works you have consulted or plan to consult later. Please provide a sentence or two description that conveys the sources relevance to your project. You should have at least 5 sources.

[College Viability web site](#)

[College Viability YouTube channel](#)

[College Viability podcast channel](#)

[Executive Analysis College Viability App](#) (Note: Sharing this link is not permitted.)

6 DATA & TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Skills and experience with Microsoft's Power BI and the National Center for Education Statistics IPEDS database are preferred. All IPEDS data for use in the 2024 College Viability app will be provided by College Viability, LLC.