

College vs. High School (IRCC vs. MCHS)

Josh Liller

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Many people continue to go to college after finishing high school. Although both are education, the two are not quite the same. The best ways to compare the two are the work involved, the time involved, and the effect on the other parts of your life.

High school homework is for the most part easier than college. However, there is a lot of homework in high school. Homework also has a big impact on your grade since it is daily for most classes and collected by nearly all teachers. Tests where a weekly event in nearly every class. There was also an exam in each class every nine weeks.

When I attended Martin County High School, a full schedule meant 4 classes for seven and a half hours a day, 5 days a week. That is a total of 75 hours in class every two weeks.

High school takes up most of one's time. I had to wake up at 6 AM and did not get home from school until 3:30 PM. As soon as I got home, I had to go to work for at least two hours. I worked 16 hours per week and most teenagers work more than that. In high school, you do get to see a lot more of your friends before school, at lunch, and between classes.

There is less homework at IRCC than in high school. In most classes, it isn't checked and doesn't affect your grade. In most classes there aren't more than three major tests and one final exam.

At IRCC, I have 4 classes for less than three and a half hours a day, two or three days a week plus a once a week two hour night class. That is a total of 21 and a half hours spent in class every two weeks. However, IRCC does require more time spent studying.

College takes up less time than school. Monday, Wednesday, and every other Friday I wake up at 8 AM. I'm back home before 1 PM. I work weekday afternoons but have a few hours of time between college and work. I also have a two-hour night class on Monday. Tuesday and Thursday I do not have any classes. I work 18 to 20 hours per week that is still slightly less than most of my peers. If one has to pay for one's college rather than having the money saved over the years or given in a scholarship, work usually takes up nearly all time not spent in the classroom. Time spent with friends is greatly decreased from high school. Many of one's friends have joined the military, gone away to another college or work full-time. I rarely see my friends except for when we get together on Friday and Saturday nights.

Overall, high school and college are similar enough not to be a huge leap into the unknown, but different enough to be a fresh and new experience. Personally, I find college less difficult and stressful than high school.