



# The College Application Process

Inside	Page
Choosing The Right College For You	1
Questions To Ask A College Representative	2
College Comparison Worksheet	3
How To File A College Application	4

# CHOOSING THE RIGHT COLLEGE FOR YOU

## Why College?

Think about your reasons for going to college. Discuss them with your parents, counselors, friends, and anyone else who can help you with your goals. The picture you have of yourself – your abilities, interests, attitudes, and goals – plays an important part in choosing a college.

## What Kind Of College?

In addition to picking a college that meets your educational goals, for personal reasons, there may be other things you wish to consider.

On a blank piece of paper, list the following college characteristics and add any others that are important to you:

- Location
- Type of college (2yr, 4yr)
- Majors of course offerings
- Religious affiliation
- Size of college
- Campus environment
- Cost, scholarships, financial aid
- On-campus housing
- Athletics
- Student activities

Check off those things that are most important to you. To the right of each, write in your specific requirements. For example, if you will be living at home when you go to college, write down the town or area in which you live. Or if you want to go to a school where you can play football, write that down next to “athletics”. This will help you to narrow down the choices of possible schools.

The next step is to complete a college search on the Internet. We recommend the following, [www.collegenet.com](http://www.collegenet.com). The web is a great resource to look up any college or university across the United States. Also, students can go to [www.careercruising.com](http://www.careercruising.com) to complete career/college searches, update their Educational Development Plan (EDP) and enter their volunteer hours.

Once you have your list of possible schools, check the university’s web page. You can locate any university through [www.collegenet.com](http://www.collegenet.com) or [www.careercruising.com](http://www.careercruising.com). If you don’t have access to the Internet, then contact the admissions office and request a course catalog, application and information on financial aid. You can also, come to the Career Room and use one of our computers, to complete your Internet search.

**THE MORE INFORMATION YOU CAN COLLECT ABOUT THE COLLEGES THAT INTEREST YOU, THE BETTER YOUR CHANCE OF MAKING A GOOD DECISION.**

## **QUESTIONS SENIORS MIGHT ASK THE COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE**

1. I am interested in a major in \_\_\_\_\_, what does your college offer in this area?
2. Does your institution accept the SAT or the ACT scores?
3. What are the minimum acceptable scores?
4. Approximate cost per year (tuition, room and board, books miscellaneous fees)?
5. How can parent and students make arrangement to visit the campus?
6. My accumulative grade point average is approximately \_\_\_\_\_, how do I compare with other students who apply to your school?
7. What financial aid is available for me?
8. What living accommodations are available (on campus/off)?
9. Will your college accept transfer-credits from other schools?
10. How are the dormitory room assignments made? May I select my roommate?

# COLLEGE COMPARISON WORKSHEET

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**College Name**

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**Location**

Distance from home

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**Size**

Enrollment

Physical size of campus

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**Environment**

Type of school (2yr/4yr)

School setting (urban, rural)

Location & size of nearest city

Religious affiliations

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**Admission Requirements**

Deadline

Tests required

Average test scores, GPA, rank

Special requirements

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**Academics**

Major offered

Student-faculty ratio

Application fee, deposit

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**College Expenses**

Tuition, room & board

Estimated total budget

Application fee, deposit

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**Financial Aid**

Deadline

Required forms

% Receiving aid

Scholarships

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**Housing**

Residence hall requirement

Availability

Types and sizes

Food plan

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**Campus Visit**

Date

---

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**Activities**

Clubs, organizations

Athletics

Other

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**Other**

# HOW TO FILE A COLLEGE APPLICATION

Students may seek assistance in selecting colleges by signing up to see their Counselor by signing up in the Career Center.

Once you have reached a decision as to the college or colleges you are interested in, you should file a college application as soon as possible. The procedures to follow are:

1. **Obtain a college application** online or directly from the college if it isn't available at Anchor Bay. Note: Most Universities request that students apply on-line.
2. **Fill out ALL the student sections on the application.** Either type or print in black ink.
3. **Secure ALL Attachments** including application fee, essay if required, and teacher references. Do this prior to submitting application.
4. **If the college requires an application fee**, submit payment on-line with credit card. If completing hard copy application make sure check or money order is made out to the University for the exact amount. Attache check/money order to hard copy of application.
5. **Between classes take the completed application and all needed materials to the counseling office.** If student applied on-line print Counselor Page/High School Page and bring to the counseling office. Applications must be turned in NO LESS THAN 5 Working Days before the application deadline. Note: We will enter the student's rank, GPA, graduation date, High School profile and any other information being requested.
6. **Your Counselor will go over your application** and write a recommendation if one is requested. We will then mail your application to the college. Note: If you want/need your counselor to write a recommendation, get a resume of your school activities, community service, etc... to your counselor.
7. **If you have questions contact the counseling office.**

## What will colleges look for on Your Application?

1. Class Rank
2. Test Scores (SAT or ACT)
3. Principal/Counselor Recommendation
4. Caliber of High School Programs
5. Grades
6. Leadership/High School Activities
7. Community Service