

COLLEGE SEARCH WORKSHEET

My career interests are...

My academic strengths and interests are...

Majors to consider are...

Developing my college profile: Things to think about in my college search...

- **School and location:** Public or private? Four-year or two-year? Liberal Arts? Research? Technical/trade? Pre-professional programs? Size? Distance from home? In-state or out-of-state? Urban, small city, suburban, or rural? Co-ed or single gender? Student demographics? Affiliations?
- **Academics:** Policy for accepting AP/IB credit? Majors and minors that interest me? Reputation in my major? National ranking? Student-to-faculty ratio? Percentage of classes with fewer than 20 students? Percentage of large lectures (50+ students)? Percentage of students graduating on time? Percentage of classes taught by professors? Opportunities for internships, special programs of study? Study abroad? Percentage of graduates in jobs or graduate school within six months?
- **Cost and financial aid:** Tuition and fees? Room and board? Average financial aid package? Percentage of freshmen receiving aid? Participant in federal student aid program? Which aid applications are required/accepted? Deadlines?
- **Scholastic strength of admitted students and application/admissions process:** Average high school GPA? Average SAT/ACT scores? Average class rank (top 10%, top 25%, etc.)? Entrance requirements (credits, etc.)? What's required for application (type of application, transcript, essay, recommendations)? Cost for application? Common Application or school application? Online application option? Early action/early decision policy and deadlines? Deadlines for regular admission? Acceptance rate? Notification date?
- **Housing and other issues:** Housing options? Guaranteed freshman housing? Safety and security? Athletics (NCAA to intramurals) and other extracurriculars? Services for students with disabilities? Greek system?

After considering the questions above and developing a profile of what's important to you in a college, start assembling a list of schools to consider. Talk to your counselor, your advisor, and your parents to decide which schools offer you a good shot at admissions, are a good fit academically, and are possible with your family finances/financial aid options. Narrow your list to a handful of schools you could definitely get into, schools that you'd probably get into, and schools you would like to get into. Decide how many schools from each category you'll apply to and develop a plan, noting deadlines, required materials, and application costs. *Good luck!*

Colleges/universities where I could definitely get in (Safety Schools). *I'm at the high end academically for admitted students at...* _____

Colleges/universities where I probably would be admitted (Reach Schools). *I'm in the middle academically so I feel pretty good about my chances at...* _____

Colleges/universities where I would like to be admitted (Dream Schools). *These schools would be an academic stretch for me, but I'd like to try to go to...* _____
