GUIDE TO SELECTIVE COLLEGES

THE COLLEGE SEARCH: FINDING THE RIGHT FIT

Just like students, all colleges are different. As you're getting to know schools, you'll want to explore how each one fits your personality. Here are a few questions we think are important to consider as you begin your college search. Use them to build your own list of the most important things you're looking for in a college.

Size & Location: How many undergraduates study at this school? Are undergraduate and graduate students in class together? Is the setting urban, suburban, or rural? Close to a big city?

Type of School: Public university or private school? Major research university? Religiously affiliated? Liberal arts college?

Academic Programs: Does this school offer a major that I'm interested in? How much flexibility will I have to explore and change majors?

Faculty: What percent of classes are taught by professors vs. teaching assistants? Are professors available outside of class? What is the student-to-faculty ratio?

Class Sizes & Formats: What is the average class size? Are most classes conducted in a lecture format? Seminar format?

Research: What opportunities are there to participate in research? How many students conduct research? Do professors work with undergraduate students? How does the school help students find research opportunities?

Student Life: Can I continue to be active in extracurriculars that I enjoyed in high school? Are there new activities that interest me?

Housing & Dining: How are the dining halls? Is housing guaranteed for four years? Are students required to live in residence halls? What types of living arrangements are available in the dorms?

Athletics: What is the athletic culture like? How are the athletic facilities? What levels of involvement are available?

Arts/Music/Drama: What extracurricular opportunities are available in the arts? What facilities are available? Will there be opportunities to perform or showcase my work?

Career Advising: How does this school prepare me to achieve my professional goals? Does the school have an internship program? Do employers recruit on campus?

Other Notes: