Beginning Your College Search

Who, What, Where, When, Why & How To Begin?
14.8 million high school students
3.3 million graduate yearly
68% enroll in college
58% women & 42% men
8 million attend 2-year schools (1650)
14 million attend 4-year schools (2500)

Princeton Review
Only 3 out of 10 freshman graduate in 4 years
1 in 3 freshman will transfer to another school
4 of 5 freshman have no path to a major
400,000 freshman drop out each year

Princeton Review
Why do you want to go to college?
Do you think you are ready for college?
How do you learn? Read? Listen? Discuss?
What would you like to learn more about?
How hard do you want to work academically?
Do you know what you would like to do in life?
Do you want to go to a college that is similar or different from your high school?
Do you want to be with students who are like you or different?
“My Personal Fit”

- **Academic Fit**
  - GPA/Test Scores
  - Major

- **Community Fit**
  - Faith Background
  - Cultural Clubs

- **Accessibility Fit**
  - Drive or Fly
  - Access to Profs

- **Social Scene Fit**
  - Greek Life
  - Sports

- **Financial Fit**
  - Tuition & Costs
  - Debt

- **Course of Study Fit**
  - Career Goals
  - Internships
College “Must Haves”

✓ Campus….Access? Housing/Food? BTA?
✓ Location…W-O-C, RM, SW, NE, SE?
✓ Major…Business, Engineering, Comp Sci?
✓ Setting…Urban, Suburban, Rural?
✓ Size…<5000? 5000-20,000? >20,000?
✓ Student Services…Aid, Intern, Abroad?
✓ Type…Public, Private, Honors, LA/STEM?
Ready to Search?

Cappex-----Scholarship
Chegg-----Scholarship
College Board Big Future*-----Search
College Confidential-----Search/Forum
CollegeData*-----Research/Search
College Insight-----Data Research
College Navigator*-----Search
Fastweb-----Scholarship/Internships
Niche-----Search/Rankings
Peterson’s-----Search/Scholarship
Unigo-----Scholarship
Begin to Research

Majors Offered
Student Life
Passions
Student Research
Professional School Placement
Housing options
Cost & Financial Aid
Other Things Important To You
Types of Applications

Early Action
Early Decision
Restrictive Early Action
Regular Admissions
Rolling Admissions
Online or Paper Application?
Common or Coalition or School-Specific?
My Recommendations

College or Collage?
Start at your Counseling Office...get to know them
Do you need an IEC?
Get familiar with Naviance, Big Future, Navigator
Talk with teachers, coaches, advisors
Talk with your parents, parents of friends
Meet with College Reps at school or local fairs
Make a college visit, drive-in or fly-in
Demonstrate your interest

In the end...how many schools do I apply to?
The Good News About College

It is easier now to get in to college than ever before. #of seats has increased by 297%

80 colleges have a 30% selectivity rate
151 colleges have a 40% rate
268 colleges have a 50% rate
1600 colleges accept more than half of pool
126 colleges accept 90% of applicant pool
Need Help?

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