

# College Decision Checklist

Deciding which colleges to apply to, much less which to attend, is a significant life choice which will affect you for years. You can use this list as a guide as you visit schools and complete the rest of the application process.

## Location

- How far away from home would you like to go to school?

## Size of College

- Would you prefer to attend a school with a large enrollment (say, 30,000 students) or a small one (1,500), or something in the middle?
- How large would you like the physical size of the campus to be?

## Environment

- Would you rather attend a community college or other 2-year institution, or a 4-year university?
- Do you prefer an urban school or a rural one?
- Is the location and size of the nearest city important to you?
- Do you prefer a co-ed or single-sex school?
- Does the school's religious affiliation make a difference to you?

## Admissions Requirements

- At what schools do you have a high enough GPA, class ranking, and/or test scores to be admitted?

## Academics

- Which schools offer the major(s) you are considering?
- What kind of student-faculty ratio and typical class size are you looking for, and which schools offer them?

## College Expenses

- How expensive a school can you afford to attend? (Consider tuition, room and board, and other expenses including the application fee and other deposits.)

## Financial Aid

- How readily available is financial aid through the schools you are considering? (Note: Although this is an important factor, don't rule out any school based only on the financial aid situation. You may qualify for scholarships, loans, and/or grants that will help make the institution affordable.)

## Housing

- Would you rather live on campus in a dorm or commute to school from home?

## Facilities

- What type of academic and recreational facilities should your college have?

## Activities

- What kinds of clubs and organizations do you want your college to offer?
- What types of athletic activities (including intramural teams) should be offered by the school you choose to attend?