

COLLEGE

LIST

WORKSHEET

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EMPOWERMENT FOR COLLEGE | SCHOLARSHIP | CAREER

COLLEGE LIST WORKSHEET

BEFORE YOU START:

If you haven't already, a very first step to preparing for college is to start a college list.

Why is this the first step?

Because your college list sets the stage for your path during high school and into college.

Just think about how different the path will be for:

- **a solid student planning to attend a state school**
- **a high achiever aiming for an ivy league**
- **a student athlete seeking a D2 scholarship**

Before we can get into the nitty gritty of creating impressive applications, we need to know which path you are on, while also keeping in mind that there is not a right or wrong path to choose.

One way to figure this out is to start your college list. This worksheet will walk you through a series of simple steps that you can follow to start this process.

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ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS:

The first step is to create a list of everything that you want in a school. Think about what's important to you when you think about your future college experience. I have made this simple by providing you with a list of questions to consider. Make sure you answer these questions honestly.

1. Do you want to stay close to home or go a little farther away?
2. Do you want to be within driving distance from home? Or would you be okay knowing that you have to fly home?
3. Do you want to be in a particular city, state, or general location?
4. What type of climate do you want? Does the weather matter?

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ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS:

5. What kind of geography, scenery, or landscape do you want?

6. What size school do you want to attend?

Small: less than 5000 students

Medium: between 5000 to 15000 students

Large: over 15000 students

7. Are you wanting to play a sport? If so, are you looking at D1, D2, D3, intramural, club, or something else?

8. Do you want a school with a lot of school pride and sporting events?

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ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS:

9. Do you want to be able to join certain clubs or have get involved in specific activities at your school?

10. Are you interested in a particular academic program, such as a certain major/minor or even a program at a specific school?

11. Is the name brand of a school important to you?

12. Are you looking for a high level of academic rigor at your school?

13. Do you want to be able to enroll in an honors program?

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ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS:

14. What kind of housing options are you looking for?

15. Do you want to get involved in Greek Life?

16. Do you want your school to have certain priorities, such as diversity, sustainability, community service, or something else?

17. What kind of social life do you want to have?

18. What else is important when you think about your future college?

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MAKE YOUR LIST:

The second step is to create your rough draft college list. I want you to write down a list of 5 to 15 schools you might possibly be interested in attending. Don't hold back on this step - just in case you're wondering, MIT was on this list for me, but I didn't even end up applying there. This exercise is important to the process, so shoot for the moon!

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

13.

14.

15.

COLLEGE LIST WORKSHEET

BONUS ACTIVITY: RATE YOUR TOP 3

For those of you who already have your college list created, I have included a BONUS exercise! In the space below, I want you to write in your answers to the questions in PART 1 of this worksheet and then rate your top 3 colleges on those factors. Place an X next to each factor that the college satisfies.

QUESTION #	COLLEGE 1	COLLEGE 2	COLLEGE 3
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			

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BONUS ACTIVITY: RATE YOUR TOP 3

QUESTION #	COLLEGE 1	COLLEGE 2	COLLEGE 3
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
13.			

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BONUS ACTIVITY: RATE YOUR TOP 3

QUESTION #	COLLEGE 1	COLLEGE 2	COLLEGE 3
14.			
15.			
16.			
17.			
18.			

How closely do your top 3 schools lines up with what you said you wanted in your future college?

Do any of them fall short?

Is there a clear winner?