

# College Planning Calendar

## College Selection & Application Process

|                  | Grade 12   |
|------------------|--|
| <b>August</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to refine your list of potential colleges and universities.</li> <li>Begin preparing for the actual application process: collect writing samples; and assemble portfolios or audition tapes.</li> <li><b>Complete the Recommendation Information Form and return it to your counselor.</b></li> </ul>  |
| <b>September</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Check on application and financial aid deadlines for the schools to which you plan to apply. They will vary and it is essential to meet all deadlines!</b></li> <li>Make sure you have all admissions applications and institutional financial aid applications. Write, phone, or use the Internet to request applications.</li> <li>Meet with your guidance counselor to be sure your list includes colleges appropriate to your academic and personal record. Review your transcript and extracurricular records with your school counselor to ensure their accuracy.</li> <li>If the colleges require recommendations. Ask the appropriate people to write on your behalf, at <b>least two weeks</b> before the due date. Provide recommendation forms, any special instructions and stamped, addressed business envelope to the people writing your recommendation. Be thoughtful! Write thank-you notes to those who write recommendations and keep them informed of your decisions. (slide)</li> <li><b>Plan visits to colleges and set up interviews</b>, if needed (if you didn't get to them in last year or during the summer or if you want to return to a campus for a second time).</li> <li><b>Apply to very selective colleges/programs.</b></li> </ul> |
| <b>October</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Keep and monitor one e-mail address for college applications. Avoid using cute or rude addresses. (slide)</b></li> <li><b>Mail applications in time to reach the colleges by the deadlines.</b> Carefully review all printed and on-line applications before submitting them. Make/print copies of all applications before submitting.</li> <li><b>Either turn applications in to your counselor to send with your transcript or notify her when you submit an electronic application.</b></li> <li>If applying for early decision or early action, send in your application now. Also prepare applications for back-ups schools. Remember, if you are accepted under the early decision option, you are expected to enroll at that college and to withdraw all other applications. Submit financial aid information if requested from early decision/action candidates.</li> <li>If you have not already done so, have <b>official test scores sent</b> by the testing agency to colleges on your list.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>November</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue completing applications to colleges.</li> <li>Do not take rolling admission applications for granted. (Some colleges do not have application deadlines; they admit students on a continuous basis.) These schools may reach their maximum class size quickly. The earlier you apply, the more availability there may be.</li> <li><b>Keep all records, test score reports, and copies of applications for admission and financial aid.</b> Do not throw anything away until at least the end of your first year in college. Having detailed records will save you time and effort should anything be lost or should you decide to apply in the future to other colleges and scholarship programs.</li> <li>Carefully read all mailings from colleges to which you have applied.</li> <li>Put down housing deposits as recommended by the college.</li> <li><b>Try to have all admissions applications sent by Thanksgiving.</b></li> </ul>   |
| <b>December</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have official test scores sent to colleges on your list if you have not done so.</li> <li><b>Review your final list of colleges.</b> Be sure you have all bases covered. It is a good idea to make copies of everything before you drop those envelopes in the mail. If for some reason your application gets lost, you will have a back-up copy.</li> </ul>  |



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|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>December</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you applied for early decision, you should have an answer by now. If you are accepted, follow the instructions for admitted students. If the decision is deferred until spring or you are denied, submit applications now to other colleges.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>January</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remember to monitor your applications to be sure that any additional materials requested are sent and received on time and that they are complete. Stay on top of things and don't procrastinate.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>February</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to monitor your admission status. Don't be afraid to call or email a college, if you haven't heard from them.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>March</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to monitor your admission status.</li> <li>If your first-choice college places you on their waiting list, do not lose all hope. Some students are admitted off the waiting list. Contact the college to let them know you are still very interested. Keep the college updated on your activities.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>April</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Review your college acceptances and financial aid awards.</b> Be sure to compare financial aid packages as part of your decision-making process. If you are positive you will not enroll at one or more of the colleges that accepted you, notify them that you have selected another college. Keeping colleges abreast of your plans might enable those colleges to admit someone else. <b>This is also the deadline to get a 100% refund of any deposits you have paid.</b> If you know which college you will attend, send your tuition deposit and follow all other instructions for admitted students. <b>You must decide which offer of admission and financial aid to accept by May 1 (postmark date).</b></li> </ul> |
| <b>May</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By May 1, decide on the one college that you will attend. By May 1, send in your tuition deposit to the college you will attend. Notify the others colleges that accepted you that you have selected another college.</li> <li><b>Complete all required paperwork for your final choice.</b></li> </ul>   |
| <b>June</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Request that your counselor send your final transcript to the college you will attend. Notify the college of any private scholarships or grants you will be receiving.</b></li> <li>Look for information in the mail from the college about housing, roommate assignments, orientation, course selection, etc. Respond promptly to all requests from the college.</li> </ul>   |

# THE COLLEGE ADMISSIONS PROCESS

## GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSIONS

(Schools may require ALL or SOME of the following list. It is important to check the entrance requirements for each particular school.)

1. Entrance Exams (SAT I or ACT, SAT II)
2. Grade Point Average (GPA)
3. Specific college preparatory courses
4. Letters of recommendation
5. Personal Interview
6. Samples of previous work
7. Essay(s)
8. Personal Statement

## TYPES OF ADMISSION

### Standard Admission (or Regular Decision):

Application and supporting documents must be submitted by a set date in the senior year. The dates vary from November 30 through March 15. The college then takes action on all the applications and notifies all students of its decision at the same time. Notification dates are in the spring of the senior year. If accepted, the student must notify the college by May 1 of his or her intent to accept the offer of admission.

### Early Action:

This program is similar to Early Decision, but the student is not committed to attend if accepted, and may continue to apply to other schools. Also, the college can deny admission as well as accepted or defer. Many of the Ivy League schools use this system.

### Rolling Admissions:

The many state universities and some private schools that use this program act on an application as soon as the file is complete. The deadline for this type of admission is usually not until May 1, and these colleges usually continue to accept students until they reach capacity enrollment.

### Open Admissions:

Some colleges do not practice selective admissions and offer admission to all students who apply. The community colleges are an example of this type of admission.

## CHOOSING A COLLEGE

1. Study all available information regarding colleges.
2. Talk to alumni of the colleges, preferably in your proposed major, keeping in mind that atmosphere and requirements change with time.
3. Talk to faculty members, the college advisor, and the guidance counselors who may be familiar with the programs at the colleges or universities you are considering.
4. Request catalogs and additional information from the colleges.
5. Visit each of the schools being considered. Note the following:
  - Physical facilities; libraries, dorms, classrooms
  - Current students; talk to a few and ask them questions about school
  - Make an appointment with an undergraduate counselor in your planned department
  - Make an appointment with the admission staff to discuss the school and your chances of acceptance
  - Take a guide tour, if available
  - See the separate pamphlet for more detailed suggestions
6. Consider college characteristics:
  - Major educational programs, type of school, degrees offered



Admissions policy  
Location, size, climate  
Cost and financial aid  
College affiliation and accreditation  
Campus activities  
Academic reputation

7. Utilize all available information to narrow your choices before filing applications, since application fees are non-refundable.

## **APPLYING FOR COLLEGE**

1. The selection process should begin in the junior year in high school, although it is never too early gathering information about colleges.
2. Actual application should be made during the first semester of the senior year. Most colleges have application deadlines between November and February for admission in September of the following year.
3. Plan to take any required test prior to the end of the first semester of the senior year.
4. Obtain an unofficial transcript copy from the office. This information will be needed to complete many of the applications.
5. Send a letter or postcard requesting information regarding admission, financial aid, and an application. The letter should include the following information about you:
  1. Name and address
  2. Expected date of high school graduation
  3. Social security number
6. Read all information about the college to determine if the programs meet your needs.
7. Note application deadlines for each institution so that test scores and transcripts can be secured and sent before deadlines.
8. Complete the admission application neatly, carefully, and thoroughly. Typing is preferable.
9. Write necessary essay(s) and have them checked by parents, friends, and teachers for errors.
10. Make copies of all paperwork sent to any college including applications, financial aid forms, and correspondence. Send everything with a proof of mailing from the post office. DO NOT send your application by Certified Mail.
11. File admissions applications early, especially if applying to an impacted major.
12. Contact teachers and the Guidance Counselors well in advance to ensure that letters of recommendation will be submitted before deadlines.
13. File early for financial aid.
14. Follow up on all documents requested for the application or financial aid.

## **OBTAINING LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION AND COUNSELOR REPORT**

Some colleges do not require letters of recommendation. Other colleges require that specific numbers of letters of recommendation be submitted before the application will be evaluated.

1. Writers should be teachers unless otherwise specified on the application. The more recent the teacher, the better. Do not choose teachers from before 11<sup>th</sup> grade unless there is a compelling reason.
2. Carefully select writers who are familiar with your work. Each one should be able to discuss your intellectual ability and motivation.
3. Provide each writer with the following:
  - Personal data and brag sheets including high school activities, community activities, honors, awards. List of colleges where the letters are to be sent including the deadlines.
  - Stamped, addressed envelope for each college where letters are to be sent.
4. Follow up to be sure letters have been sent.
5. Students applying to schools requiring a Counselor Report and/or Secondary School Report should turn these in as soon as they know it is needed.



## EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Many students and parents ask whether involvement in extracurricular activities is an important factor to colleges in the admission process. The answer is sometimes yes and sometimes no. Extra-curricular activities including athletics, student government, clubs, work, community service, volunteer work, etc., are considered by colleges and universities in certain circumstances. For all colleges, public and private, large and small, the most important factor in a student's application is his/her high school courses of study and the grades earned in those courses. After that come SAT and ACT test scores.

Public universities may consider extra-curricular involvement for students whose academic record does distinguish them.

Private colleges often look at what else an applicant does besides attending classes. They are concerned with creating a well-rounded freshman class and look for students to fulfill that goal. If the orchestra needs a violinist, an applicant that plays the violin will have an edge over one that doesn't. If, on the other hand, the orchestra has enough violinists, that applicant would have no advantage. When choosing what to do or join it is better for a student to be more committed to a few activities than to have superficial involvement in many. The student should select activities that she or he truly enjoys rather than trying to 'look good' on an application. Colleges look for a depth and length of commitment to one or a few areas of involvement rather than a laundry list of clubs and activities.

Scholarships for both colleges and organizations weigh extracurricular heavily in their decisions. They generally look for a well-rounded student with strong academics.

## SUMMER SCHOOL AND SUMMER PROGRAMS

A well-planned summer can provide students with a variety of excellent education and enrichment experiences. Students should review with their parents the following checklist in planning their summer. Programs are posted on announcements as information is received. Investigating via the internet will reveal other opportunities.

- If you receive a "D" or "F" in any subject, you may repeat the class in summer school program. Check with your guidance counselor concerning procedures for the enrolling in summer school and possible options for "making up" a grade(s).
- Enroll in summer school to "move ahead" in a subject area or "open up" a spot to take a particular class in the fall semester.
- Take enrichment courses in visual or performing arts at a community college.
- Apply for a residential summer program for high school students offered by a college or a university. This is an excellent opportunity, not only to take interesting and challenging college courses, but also it gives the student the opportunity to "get a feel" for a particular college and what they offer.
- Community service can be important in developing students' awareness, maturity, and judgment. The summer offers students an opportunity to participate in a variety of community service programs. These programs can be found through your local church or synagogue, government agencies, hospitals, and local youth groups.
- The summer can also be a time for paid employment or an internship.
- Participate in a summer sports program.

## EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES RECORDS

Colleges and universities are very interested in what you do in addition to going to school. They want to know what you do with your "free" time, both after school and weekends, during the school year, and during summer months and vacations. Use the worksheet to keep a record of your activities and awards. The colleges are interested in the length of time and quality of the experience, not quantity. List and describe your activities, experiences, and accomplishments. Next, rate them in order of their importance to you (\*).

[illegible]



## DEFINING YOUR WANTS AND NEEDS

To be able to "make the best match" possible between you and your college, you need to determine what it is that you want and need in order for college to be a successful and enjoyable life experience. Work through the following questions carefully. Your answers have much to do with determining your future, so don't take them lightly!

### PHYSICAL FACTORS

Which areas of the country will you include? Ohio only: \_\_\_\_\_ Tri-state: \_\_\_\_\_  
Midwest: \_\_\_\_\_ Southeast: \_\_\_\_\_ Southwest: \_\_\_\_\_ Rocky Mountains: \_\_\_\_\_  
Northeast: \_\_\_\_\_ South: \_\_\_\_\_ Northwest: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you make these choices? weather: \_\_\_\_\_ distance from home: \_\_\_\_\_ culture: \_\_\_\_\_  
family decision: \_\_\_\_\_

How many times a year do you plan to come home? \_\_\_\_\_

Which types of environments will you consider? Think carefully about advantages and disadvantages of each.  
Check all that apply.

Big city: \_\_\_\_\_ suburban: \_\_\_\_\_ college town: \_\_\_\_\_ rural: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you care what the campus looks like? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ Sort of: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_  
If "yes" or "sort of," what do you want? \_\_\_\_\_

Campus size (undergraduate population) affects many things: your sense of community, class size, ease of getting courses, your ability to have a personal relationship with teachers, course offering.

Check the factors, which are important to you. Sense of community: \_\_\_\_\_ class size: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ease of getting courses: \_\_\_\_\_ faculty relationships: \_\_\_\_\_ course offerings: \_\_\_\_\_

Given your priorities, what campus size(s) are you interested in?

Very large (over 10,000) \_\_\_\_\_ Large (3,000-10,000) \_\_\_\_\_ Medium (1,000-3,000) \_\_\_\_\_  
Small (under 2,000) \_\_\_\_\_ don't know: \_\_\_\_\_ don't care: \_\_\_\_\_

Housing. Is it important that housing is guaranteed? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_

Which type of dorm would you prefer?

Single sex: \_\_\_\_\_ coed by floor: \_\_\_\_\_ totally coed: \_\_\_\_\_ special interest: \_\_\_\_\_

Auto. Do you plan to take a car to school? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_ will you eliminate a college  
which does not allow freshmen to have cars? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_

### FINANCIAL ISSUES

Is cost a consideration? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_ Briefly explain:

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### ACADEMIC FACTORS

What degree of academic rigor (difficulty) is best for you?

High: \_\_\_\_\_ medium: \_\_\_\_\_ modest: \_\_\_\_\_ don't know: \_\_\_\_\_ doesn't matter: \_\_\_\_\_

How important to you is the level of intellectual stimulation in classes?

Very important: \_\_\_\_\_ somewhat important: \_\_\_\_\_ not important: \_\_\_\_\_

ACADEMIC FACTORS (CONTINUED)

How much academic structure is important for you (core curriculum)? Remember, less structure  
There is, the more self-directed you must be.  
A lot: \_\_\_\_\_ medium: \_\_\_\_\_ as little as possible: \_\_\_\_\_

How important to you is having access to your professors?  
Very important: \_\_\_\_\_ somewhat important: \_\_\_\_\_ not important: \_\_\_\_\_

Is prestige of the college important?  
Definitely: \_\_\_\_\_ somewhat: \_\_\_\_\_ not at all: \_\_\_\_\_

Are there subject areas (i.e., math, language) you particularly hate or are impossible for you?  
If so, what are they? \_\_\_\_\_

Are there academic areas in which you have an interest and know you want to explore in college  
(even if they are not your major)? If so, what are they? \_\_\_\_\_

SOCIAL ISSUES

Would you consider an all women's or all men's college? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ maybe \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like your college to have a religious affiliation? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, what  
Religious affiliation? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want your college to have sororities and fraternities?  
Definitely: \_\_\_\_\_ prefer, but not mandatory: \_\_\_\_\_ definitely don't want them: \_\_\_\_\_  
Don't care: \_\_\_\_\_

What degree of traditional activism (football, rah-rah) do you want your college to have?  
Lots: \_\_\_\_\_ some would be nice: \_\_\_\_\_ don't care: \_\_\_\_\_

What degree of political activism (active involvement in issues) do you want your college to have?  
Lots: \_\_\_\_\_ some would be nice: \_\_\_\_\_ don't care: \_\_\_\_\_ definitely don't want it: \_\_\_\_\_

Is a good "cultural fit" (socioeconomic level, race, etc.) important to you?  
Very: \_\_\_\_\_ somewhat: \_\_\_\_\_ not particularly: \_\_\_\_\_  
To what degree (that is, what percentage of the student body )? \_\_\_\_\_

What types of activities should be available as the fun part of campus life? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Does the degree of alcohol/drug use on campus concern you? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_  
If "yes, in what respect? \_\_\_\_\_



## College application checklist

Use this checklist to help you stay on top of your application tasks, paperwork, and deadlines.

|   | College 1 | College 2 | College 3 |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Application Checklist</b>            |           |           |           |
| <b>Applications</b>                     |           |           |           |
| Request info/application forms          |           |           |           |
| Regular application deadline            |           |           |           |
| Early application deadline              |           |           |           |
| <b>Grades</b>                           |           |           |           |
| Request high school transcript sent     |           |           |           |
| Request midyear grade reports sent      |           |           |           |
| <b>Test Scores</b>                      |           |           |           |
| Send SAT® scores                        |           |           |           |
| Send SAT Subject Test scores            |           |           |           |
| Send ACT scores                         |           |           |           |
| Send AP® scores                         |           |           |           |
| <b>Letters of Recommendation</b>        |           |           |           |
| Request recommendations                 |           |           |           |
| Send thank-you notes                    |           |           |           |
| <b>Essays</b>                           |           |           |           |
| Write essay(s)                          |           |           |           |
| Proof essay(s) for spelling and grammar |           |           |           |
| Have two people read essay(s)           |           |           |           |
| <b>Interviews</b>                       |           |           |           |
| Interview at college                    |           |           |           |
| Alumni interview                        |           |           |           |

## College application checklist (page 2)

|  | College 1 | College 2 | College 3 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Application Checklist</b>                 |           |           |           |
| Send thank-you note(s) to interviewer(s)     |           |           |           |
| <b>Send and Track Your Application</b>       |           |           |           |
| Make copies of all application materials     |           |           |           |
| Apply online                                 |           |           |           |
| Include application fee                      |           |           |           |
| Sign application                             |           |           |           |
| Confirm receipt of application materials     |           |           |           |
| Send supplemental material, if needed        |           |           |           |
| <b>Financial Aid Forms</b>                   |           |           |           |
| Priority financial aid deadline              |           |           |           |
| Regular financial aid deadline               |           |           |           |
| Mail FAFSA                                   |           |           |           |
| Submit CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE®, if needed |           |           |           |
| Mail institutional aid form, if needed       |           |           |           |
| Mail state aid form, if needed               |           |           |           |
| <b>After You Send Your Application</b>       |           |           |           |
| Receive admission letter                     |           |           |           |
| Receive financial aid award letter           |           |           |           |
| Send deposit                                 |           |           |           |
| Send final transcript                        |           |           |           |

**Source:** The College Board



# Applying to College

Colleges and universities take the application process very seriously, which means you should too! The process should be exciting but can be stressful. Assuming that you have properly conducted your college search (in other words, your short list isn't the same as you girlfriend's or boyfriend's), visited your top choices, and narrowed the field down...here are a few tips for you to consider before you seal the envelope (or click "Submit").

## The Application

**Make it count!** — You have to be confident and highlight your strengths, activities, diversity of experiences, honors, leadership, etc. This is your one shot to tell us who you are...make it count!

**Write neatly or type** — Many colleges evaluate applications on a very individual basis, so it is critical to put forth a great first impression by submitting a *clean, neat* application.

**Complete your application** — Take time to thoroughly complete AND PROOFREAD your application. Incomplete applications demonstrate laziness...not a characteristic admission officers are seeking! Use N/A for not applicable, rather than leave blanks.

**Timing** — Submit an application for admission in a timely manner in order to put yourself in the best possible position for acceptance. Colleges and universities vary in regards to application processing - some have deadlines, others have a rolling-admission policy (accepting a qualified student on a first-come, first-served basis). Either way, do not wait too long!

**A note about on-line applications** — Most colleges prefer on-line applications. Some waive the application fee of on-line applicants. However, make sure you treat the on-line version with the same level of care that you would a paper application. On-line applicants often submit incomplete applications with numerous typos and grammatical errors.

## Essays

**Be Yourself** — Most colleges hope to find students who are a good fit. Be honest and avoid textbook answers. Use the essay to give a college a glimpse of who you are.

**Answer the question** — You wouldn't believe how many students don't answer the question posed in the application! Make sure you thoroughly understand what is being asked of you...then simply answer the question.

**Be organized** — This may be a bit basic, but one of the biggest frustrations of colleges and university admission officers is a poorly organized essay. Write down the three to five points you want to communicate, create an outline of those points, add sub-points, then write the essay.

**Discuss the past, present, and future** — Don't spend too much ink talking about your past. Make sure you discuss what you are currently involved with and how you see yourself contributing to the college of your choice.

**Optional Essay Aren't** — This is your chance to strengthen your application. What message do you send by not completing the "optional essay".

**PROOFREAD, PROOFREAD, PROOFREAD!** — Enough said.

Don't forget to follow-up on your application. Make sure that your transcripts have been sent by your high school and that your letters of recommendation have been submitted in a timely manner.





# COLLEGE COMPARISON WORKSHEET

| ADMISSIONS CRITERIA                              | College A | College B | College C | College D | College E | College F |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Application deadlines                            |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Special admissions plans                         |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| - rolling admissions                             |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| - early admission, early action, early decision  |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| - early notification                             |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| % of applicants accepted                         |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Tests required                                   |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| IB/AP credit policy                              |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| PEOPLE   |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Total enrollment                                 |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Undergraduate enrollment                         |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Freshman enrollment                              |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| % of entering students who graduate              |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Geographical distribution                        |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Male-Female ratio                                |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Quality and accessibility of faculty             |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Social life; Fraternities/Sororities             |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Diversity of student body                        |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Intellectual level of students                   |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Accessibility of administration                  |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Students primarily residential?                  |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Recreational opportunities                       |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| ACADEMIC PROGRAM                                 |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Availability of intended major; dual majors?     |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Reputation for academic quality                  |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Laboratory resources                             |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Library resources in degree field                |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Average size of freshman classes                 |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Availability of off-campus programs              |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Quality of facilities to support intended majors |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Internships                                      |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| CAMPUS / LOCATION                                |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Appearance of campus and dorms                   |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Quality of facilities and activities             |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Access to cultural and social opportunities      |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Availability of housing                          |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Distance from home                               |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Sports program                                   |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Availability of good places to study             |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Availability of nearby shopping                  |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Convenience of transportation                    |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| COST   |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Total cost, including tuition and all fees       |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Cost of transportation between campus and home   |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Availability of financial aid                    |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Guaranteed aid for all four years?               |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Aid available for foreign students               |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Availability of employment opportunities         |           |           |           |           |           |           |

# COLLEGE COMPARISON WORKSHEET

|  | College A | College B | College C | College D | College E | College F |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>ADMISSIONS CRITERIA</b>                       |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Application deadlines                            |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Special admissions plans                         |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| - rolling admissions                             |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| - early admission, early action, early decision  |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| - early notification                             |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| % of applicants accepted                         |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Tests required                                   |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| IB/AP credit policy                              |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| <b>PEOPLE</b>                                    |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Total enrollment                                 |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Undergraduate enrollment                         |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Freshman enrollment                              |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| % of entering students who graduate              |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Geographical distribution                        |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Male-Female ratio                                |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Quality and accessibility of faculty             |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Social life; Fraternities/Sororities             |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Diversity of student body                        |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Intellectual level of students                   |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Accessibility of administration                  |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Students primarily residential?                  |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Recreational opportunities                       |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| <b>ACADEMIC PROGRAM</b>                          |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Availability of intended major; dual majors?     |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Reputation for academic quality                  |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Laboratory resources                             |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Library resources in degree field                |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Average size of freshman classes                 |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Availability of off-campus programs              |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Quality of facilities to support intended majors |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Internships                                      |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| <b>CAMPUS / LOCATION</b>                         |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Appearance of campus and dorms                   |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Quality of facilities and activities             |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Access to cultural and social opportunities      |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Availability of housing                          |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Distance from home                               |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Sports program                                   |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Availability of good places to study             |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Availability of nearby shopping                  |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Convenience of transportation                    |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| <b>COST</b>                                      |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Total cost, including tuition and all fees       |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Cost of transportation between campus and home   |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Availability of financial aid                    |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Guaranteed aid for all four years?               |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Aid available for foreign students               |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Availability of employment opportunities         |           |           |           |           |           |           |



# College Entrance Requirements Worksheet

(link to [www.OfftoCollege.com](http://www.OfftoCollege.com) for college search)

## College Application Requirements

| Institution Name | Entrance Exams / Scores |         |         |       | College Application Requirements |             |              |                      |
|------------------|-------------------------|---------|---------|-------|----------------------------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------|
|                  | Min.GPA                 | Min.SAT | Min.ACT | Other | Filing Deadline                  | # of Essays | # of Recomm. | Special Requirements |
| 1:               |                         |         |         |       |                                  |             |              |                      |
| 2:               |                         |         |         |       |                                  |             |              |                      |
| 3:               |                         |         |         |       |                                  |             |              |                      |
| 4:               |                         |         |         |       |                                  |             |              |                      |

## College Comparison Worksheet

(link to [www.OfftoCollege.com](http://www.OfftoCollege.com) for college search)

| 1.                                   | 2. | 3. | 4. |
|--------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| <b>School and Location</b>           |    |    |    |
| Public or Private (2- or 4-year)     |    |    |    |
| Size (student enrollment)            |    |    |    |
| City / State (distance from home)    |    |    |    |
| Setting: Urban or Rural - Co-Ed      |    |    |    |
| <b>Academics</b>                     |    |    |    |
| Student-to-faculty ratio %           |    |    |    |
| % Classes under 20 students          |    |    |    |
| % Classes with 50+ students          |    |    |    |
| % Graduation                         |    |    |    |
| <b>Cost</b>                          |    |    |    |
| Private Tuition and Fees             |    |    |    |
| Public In-State Tuition and Fees     |    |    |    |
| Public Out-of-State Tuition and Fees |    |    |    |
| Room / Board                         |    |    |    |
| <b>Financial Aid</b>                 |    |    |    |
| Type Financial Aid Package           |    |    |    |
| \$ Average Financial Aid Package     |    |    |    |
| \$ Scholarship Package               |    |    |    |
| \$ Work Study Package                |    |    |    |
| \$ Other Financial Aid Package       |    |    |    |
| <b>Scholastic Strength</b>           |    |    |    |
| Average High School GPA              |    |    |    |
| Average Entrance Test Scores         |    |    |    |
| National Ranking                     |    |    |    |