

MY COLLEGE PRIORITIES



This chart begins the conversation between parents and student on which type of college might be a good fit for the student. Number the importance of each area on a 1-10 scale. 1= not relevant to 10=deal breaker. Then write down what your thoughts are on each section, and why you wrote what you did. Copy this page and have each person do their own. Bring together final answers for comparisons. Be sure to ask questions of each other for clarification and write down final thoughts.

Academics

- _____ Choice of potential majors
- _____ Choice of potential minors
- _____ Academic offerings beyond your academic focus
- _____ Educational opportunities, such as study abroad, honors, internships, and research
- _____ Student-faculty ratio
- _____ Average class size
- _____ Teaching/ class styles
- _____ Graduate or professional school options
- _____ Academic reputation
- _____ Support services, tutoring, office hours, etc.
- _____ Personalized learning and support
- _____ Total Score

Social Life/ Culture

- _____ Extracurricular activities, athletics, Greek life, clubs
- _____ Selectivity of college/ prestige
- _____ Private or public college
- _____ Specialty college (Historically Black, faith based, single-sex, Colleges that Change Lives, etc)
- _____ Nightlife/ entertainment
- _____ Student and campus size
- _____ Diversity
- _____ Friends from home, options to make new friends
- _____ Academic pressure/ focus
- _____ Academic reputation
- _____ Total Score

Location

- _____ Setting (urban, rural, coastal, other)
- _____ School and outside community
- _____ Proximity to home
- _____ Proximity to services and resources, such as medical care or special services
- _____ Safety
- _____ Total Score

Infrastructure/ Services

- _____ Housing options
- _____ Transportation options (in and out of school)
- _____ Campus and community amenities (medical clinics, study centers, libraries, fitness centers, student center)
- _____ Total Score

Finances

- _____ Overall cost
- _____ Travel and additional living expenses
- _____ Availability of financial aid and scholarships
- _____ Employment opportunities
- _____ Application fees and deposit
- _____ Total Score

Rank the 5 Most Important Issues

No. 1 Being Most Important

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____

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Total your scoring can help identify the categories that matter most to you. Use this as a discussion piece between student and parent to see if you agree or disagree.