

College Search Worksheet

As you begin to think about college, collect information, look at college literature, visit campuses, and research financial aid. Use this worksheet to guide and record your college search.

1. List 3 subjects that interest you.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

2. Do you want a 2- or 4-year degree?

3. What do you want to study? Match your answers from Questions 1 and 2. Using the list of Associate and Bachelor's degree programs on pages 31 to 60 in this guide or online at www.nycolleges.org/find-your-major, list 8 of the colleges and universities that offer the programs that interest you.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

4. Gather information on your college choices. Look at the Campus Profiles on pages 14-30, then "tour" the colleges' websites and send for viewbooks and catalogues. Email an admission counselor at the college indicating your interest in the college. For more college contact information, see the Campus Locator Map on pages 4-7, or visit www.nycolleges.org.

5. Now, decide what's important to you.

- Distance from home?
 - A short drive
 - A day's drive
 - More than a day's drive
- Campus size?
 - Small (fewer than 2,000 students)
 - Medium (up to 5,000 students)
 - Large (more than 5,000)
- Campus location?
 - Urban Suburban Rural

• Type of college?

- Coed
- Single-sex college
- Specific religious affiliation
- Not important

• Sports? Activities?

- Important (which ones?) _____
- Not important

Keep track of what you've learned by filling in the table below with the colleges you listed in Question 3.

6. Visit as many colleges and universities as you can to get a sense of the campus atmosphere. Does it feel right? Talk with students who are attending the colleges now or who recently graduated. Begin to shorten your list.

7. Collect admission and financial aid applications. Many colleges and universities make their applications available for download

from their websites. Admission and financial aid applications for many institutions are also accessible for online completion. Keep your school guidance counselor informed of the colleges that interest you.

8. It's a good idea to apply to a mix of colleges based on your choices here, your personal profile, and the colleges' admission criteria. (Remember: Every college is different – with different admission requirements and admission and financial aid application deadlines.)

9. Apply. Watch the deadlines!

Table for Question 5

Colleges/Universities	Distance	Size	Location	Type	Sports/Activities
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					

Information to keep on hand.

- Make a file for each college that interests you. Include brochures plus important names, contact information and deadlines for admission and financial aid forms.
- Many colleges require one or more letters of recommendation from teachers or other key adults. Make a list of people you could ask to write references for you.

Give them direction and enough time to write the letters. Remember to thank them.

- To make answering application questions easier, keep a record of your awards or achievements, standardized test information and scores. Keep track of your work history and extracurricular and/or community activities with dates and locations, too.

