

Best Resources for Researching Colleges

Begin your research NOW to see which colleges do and do not appeal to you — and WHY. Then we can help you focus your list on a reasonable number of colleges. Start with each college’s website and these resources:

Subjective college guide books	<i>Fiske Guide to Colleges</i> , Edward Fiske <i>Colleges that Change Lives</i> , Lauren Pope	
Objective college guide books	<i>The College Handbook</i> (published by the College Board) <i>The College Finder</i> , Steven Antonoff	
Campus tours	www.campusreel.org www.ecampustours.com	www.youniversitytv.com www.youvisit.com
College info	http://www.ucan-network.org/ www.usnews.com/best-colleges http://www.princetonreview.com/colleges-majors.aspx	https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/ https://colleges.niche.com/
Detailed profiles & your chances for admission	www.collegedata.com	
Student reviews & blogs	www.studentsreview.com www.youtube.com/edu	www.collegeconfidential.com www.unigo.com
Official social media sites	Facebook Twitter Admission blogs	
Unofficial social media sites	Instagram Snapchat YouTube	
SAT/ACT: test optional, etc	www.fairtest.org	
Financial aid & scholarships	www.finaid.org www.fastweb.com	www.unigo.com www.cappex.com Local organizations: Rotary, Chamber of Commerce, religious organizations, etc
Estimating college costs & financial aid calculators	https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/college-costs/how-to-get-the-best-estimate-of-your-college-costs https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/paying-your-share/expected-family-contribution-calculator https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/tools-calculators	

Create a spreadsheet to easily compare colleges, focusing on the characteristics that matter most to you, such as:

- Size of undergraduate student body | class sizes
- Professors & their research projects
- Diversity
- Average SAT/ACT scores, % admitted, other measures of admission selectivity
- Location, environment, distance from home
- Tuition & other expenses
- Weather
- Extracurricular activities
- Social life, campus culture, residential life
- Special features that appeal to you
- Majors in which you’re interested

Join the mailing list for every college in which you’re interested!