

# What to Look for in a School



Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

As you begin your search for schools, consider the things that are important to you. Are there any “must-haves” that you refuse to compromise on? **Use this checklist to identify everything you are looking for in a school. Print a copy and keep it on hand as you research schools.**

## TYPE OF SCHOOL

**What type of school best provides the education you are seeking?**

Technical/trades school

2-Year college

4-Year college

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you care if you go to public (state) or private school?**

Public

Private

No preference

**Would you be more comfortable at a school of a specific size?**

Yes (Preferred number of students: \_\_\_\_\_ )

No

## LOCATION

**What type of setting do you prefer?**

Urban

Suburban

Rural

No preference

**Do you want to go to school in state or out of state?**

In state

Out of state (State: \_\_\_\_\_ )

No preference

**Do you care if the school is located close to home?**

Yes (Hours: \_\_\_\_\_ )

No

## ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

**Do any of the following admissions requirements matter to you?**

Percentage of applicants accepted:

Yes (Percentage: \_\_\_\_\_ )

No

Average class rank of applicants accepted:

Yes (Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ )

No

Average GPA of applicants accepted:

Yes (GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ )

No

Average SAT<sup>1</sup> scores of applicants accepted:

Yes (Score: \_\_\_\_\_ )

No

## FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

**Will cost (tuition and fees) be a factor when you search for schools?**

Yes (Maximum cost: \_\_\_\_\_ )

No

**Must the school offer any of the following types of aid?**

Grants/scholarships (academic, athletic, or other)

In-state residency discounts

Work-study employment

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

No

## ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

**Are you seeking a specific major that a school must offer?**

Yes (Major: \_\_\_\_\_ )

No

**What type of learning method do you prefer?**

Hands-on practical learning

Lecture-based

Research-based

Distance learning

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

No preference

**Would you learn better if classes were limited in size?**

Yes (Preferred number of students: \_\_\_\_\_ )

No

**Are you looking for any special academic programs?**

Independent study

Study abroad programs (Country: \_\_\_\_\_ )

Honor societies

Advanced Placement<sup>1</sup> (AP<sup>1</sup>) credits

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

No

## ATHLETIC PROGRAMS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

**Must the school offer Division I, II, or III sports?**

Yes (Sport: \_\_\_\_\_ )

No

**Must the school offer intramural sports?**

Yes (Sport: \_\_\_\_\_ )

No

**Is it important to you that the school have sororities and fraternities?**

Yes

No

Are there specific clubs or organizations that you want to participate in?

Yes ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

No

## HOUSING

Where do you plan to live?

Dormitory

Off-campus housing

Home

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

If living on campus, do you have any specific housing needs?

Co-ed dormitory

Single-sex dormitory

Housing for students with disabilities

Housing for international students

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

No preferences

## OTHER

What other “must-haves” will factor into your school search?

Make up of the student body:

All male

All female

Co-ed

No preference

Religious affiliation:

Yes (Religion: \_\_\_\_\_ )

No preference

Ethnic/minority representation:

Yes (Specify: \_\_\_\_\_ )

No preference

<sup>1</sup> SAT, Advanced Placement, and AP are registered trademarks of the College Board, which was not involved in the production of, and does not endorse, this product.