



CHOOSING A COLLEGE – START HERE *Worksheet*

Check all the items that are important to you. Also, add notes and comments.

Goals

Why do you want to go to college? What do you want to get out of college?

- I see college as a journey of self-discovery to grow, learn, change, hear and understand differing opinions, and gain a broader perspective on the world.
- I see college as a chance to discover some particular passions and pursue them.
- I see college as a time to develop important skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, communication, and goal setting for life, career, and independence.
- I see college as a time for preparing for a specific career/job.
- I see college as a time for a **liberal arts education** that may prepare me for a variety of career choices.

Notes and Comments

Academics

What do you think you might want to study in college? What are some possible college majors?

I'm not sure...

No one is asking you to choose an exact major, in fact, most students change their minds two to three times before they settle on a major. However, you probably know some subject areas and majors that you definitely want your college to have so that when you *do* decide on a major, you'll most likely have that option. So take a moment to list a few areas that are of interest to you or simply list a few of your favorite classes in high school. Would you like to know what majors are available in college? Do the exercise below.

Find majors that interest you.

Try **Finding Majors - A Quick Exercise**

I'm pretty sure I know...

List a few possible majors or areas of study that you would like your college to offer.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Notes and Comments

What academic programs and opportunities do you want the college to have?

- 2 year vs. 4 year program
- Honors programs
- Research opportunities for undergraduates
- Internships
- **Co-op programs**
- Study abroad programs
- Core curriculum
- Create your own majors/interdisciplinary studies
- Credit awarded for IB and AP scores and the ability to graduate with a degree in less than four years.
- A program that allows dual degrees or bachelor's and master's degree in four years.

Notes and Comments

Academic environment and learning needs – What do you need to be a successful learner?

- Small classes, easier access to professors, more discussion oriented, classes taught by professors rather than TAs
- Large lecture hall classes are acceptable
- Academic theme dorms with smaller classes at large universities
- Tutoring and study skills support services
- Resources for students with learning disabilities (IEP, ILP, 504)

Notes and Comments