

How do I decide which school will be best for me?

Questions to ask YOURSELF...

Type of School

- Do I prefer a small or large campus? *Hint: if you're not sure GO VISIT both!*
- How important is faculty/student ratio to me (class size)? Do I perform better in small classes, or am I independent enough to thrive in a large classroom (100+ students)?
- Do I prefer a private, public or religious school? *Hint: if you're not sure GO VISIT!*
- How important is the school's reputation/ranking to me?

Geography and housing:

- Do I need to live at home and commute or can I move out and live near school?
- Do I want to be by the ocean, mountains, city, etc.? Weather?
- Do I want the option to live in a residence hall on campus?

Costs

- How much can my family afford to pay out of pocket for my education?
- How much will I need in scholarships and financial aid?
- What types of scholarships might I be eligible for? (Merit, need-based, area of study, legacy, military, first in family, talent, personal characteristics, community service, hobbies, etc.)

Student experience

- Are there particular sports or activities I want to participate in?
- Am I interested in fraternity/sorority life?
- How much assistance will I need outside of class (tutoring, disability support services, etc?)

Which of these are deal-breakers and which are negotiable? When you know what's important to you, you'll know what to prioritize in your search for the right school.