

## Find Career / Programs / Schools Research Ideas

Try breaking your research selections down into three (3) areas:

Safe Bet	Good Fit	Reach
I can easily do this.	I could swing this with a bit of work.	I will need to work hard to attain this.

### Other Activity Recommendations

- Mind Map
- Scavenger Hunt
- Trivia
- Vision Board

### General Research Ideas

- Programs, Majors/ Minors, Core Courses
- Number of Students on Campus, Class Sizes
- Required Credits, Min/Max Course Load, Prerequisites
- Campus Size, Location (rural/urban), Recommended: Make a Campus Visit, Collect maps and pictures.
- Campus Life, clubs, organizations, activities, sports
- Transfer/Waived Requirements (AP Classes, Running Start, Substitutions)
- Accessibility/Disability Access - accommodations, tutoring, other student services
- Other - School Logo, Mascot, Colors

### Application Process: What Do I Need to Know to Apply?

- Application Form (Mail-in vs. Electronic, Own vs. <https://www.commonapp.org/>)
- Application Fee
- Personal Information - Full Name, Address, Phone, Identity Card ( Social Security Number/Driver's License/Passport/Birth Certificate)
- Essays (Personal Statement, Question/Answer, Word Max/Min Limits)
- Recommendation Letters
- Test Scores: SAT, ACT (Minimum acceptable scores), AP Classes
- School Transcripts, GPA (official vs. unofficial) Prerequisites: High School classes required
- Awards, Achievements, Extracurricular (What is a "Well-rounded student")
- Other - Work Samples, Portfolio (artwork, photos, etc.)
- DEADLINES

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## Budget - What will it cost me? How do I pay for it?

### Types of Education: How much does it cost?

- Public (State) College
- Private College
- Community College
- Vocational
- Other (Arts, Certificate, Training Schools)

### Financial Aid: What Options Are Available to Me?

- FAFSA/WAFSA - Federal Loans, Grants, and Work-Study
- Private, Public Loans (interest rate, payments, qualifying)
- Scholarships (local, state, national)
- Family Contributions (do your parents have a fund set aside, such as a 529?)

### Costs to Budget For:

- Application Fee
- Tuition
- Room and Board (Dorm/Apartment - don't forget electricity, water, and garbage if it is off campus)
- Textbooks and Supplies (some courses may require additional fees, such as lab coats and eye protection).
- Technology (internet, computer, cell phone)
- Transportation (Vehicle, gas, bus, campus parking fees)
- Food (Dining Hall, Groceries, Eating Out)
- Hidden Costs (Other student fees, gym memberships, clothing, late charges)

### Critical Information to Find about Careers

- Education / Training
- Sample Tasks / Duties
- Earning Power / Median Wage
- Percentage Increases / Career Advancement
- High-Growth Occupations
- Number of Job Openings in the Area