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WHICH COLLEGE SHOULD YOU COMMIT TO

20 Questions to Ask Yourself

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If you've got multiple acceptance letters and emails rolling into your inbox, congratulations! You're into some of your top schools. Now that the pressure of the anxiety of wondering whether you're going to college is out of the way, it's time for a big decision. How do you pick where you're going to go?

This isn't a decision that is to be taken lightly. You're deciding your path for the next four years, and possibly your career trajectory after graduation. There are multiple factors to consider - from location to course offerings to what daily life in the college is like. So, it's time to revisit the college website, read your supplemental essays, and talk to as many people as you can. To keep track of all the things you have to do, ask yourself the questions below to make sure you cover all your bases as you pick the right school for you.

1. Have you visited campuses in person or online? Which ones did you like the most?

2. Have you talked to current professors about academic life?

3. Have you reached out to current students about their experiences?

4. What kind of dorms would you like to live in?

5. Are there colleges that offer more specific majors to your interests than others?

6. Which courses appeal to you the most?

7. If you have a particular interest such as studying business or engineering during your undergraduate years, do any of the colleges that have offered you a place specialize in the field?

8. If you're a STEM student, what are the lab facilities and research opportunities at the different schools like?

9. Look up the temperature at the different locations—which weather suits you best?

10. If you wish to stay close to your family, are there any of the schools that are close to your hometown?

11. Do you prefer a liberal arts college or a national university?

12. Which of your colleges has the closest average class size to your ideal classroom setting?

13. What are the extracurricular activities at the different colleges like? Do they have clubs that appeal to you?

14. Have you looked through colleges' Instagram for photos and YouTube channels for videos?

15. Is Greek life important to you?

16. Does athletic presence and culture matter to you?

17. How do your financial aid and scholarship packages at the different schools compare to each other?

18. What is daily life like at the various schools?

19. Have you talked to alumni to discuss how attending the college has helped them get where they are?

20. What is the employment rate like post-graduation for the different schools?

If you're considering more than one college that you're excited about, make sure you don't submit a deposit on a whim. Weigh the various options and see which school can help you best reach your aspirations. Consider other important factors such as which climate helps your productivity the most, which student organizations call out to you, and how alumni perceive their experiences at these institutions. It's not an easy decision, but the end result can definitely be fulfilling if you make the right call. Good luck!