

Start With the Basics When Choosing a College

Type of College:

- Two year or four year school?
- Large or small?
- What type of housing would you prefer?
- Public University or Private College?

Location:

- In the State of Florida?
- Another area of the US?
- Have you considered the relationship between cost and location?
- Are your goals specifically tied to a particular location?

Admissions Selectivity:

- What are the academic and test score requirements?
- What academic demands can you expect to find?

Costs:

- How much will it cost and is it within your family budget?
- What kind of financial aid is available?
- How do you apply for financial aid and what are the deadlines?

Majors and Study Programs Available:

- Does the school offer the major you want?
- Does the school allow undecided majors?

Applications:

- Most schools use an online application process.
- You may apply as early as July before your senior year.
- Applications should be completed by November 1 of your senior year to maximize scholarship opportunities.
- There is a nonrefundable application fee, so have a credit card ready!
- After you submit your application, print a copy for your records.

Transcripts:

- A transcript is required when you apply and again in June with your final grades.
- Be sure you request the needed transcripts from your guidance office.
- If you have taken Dual Enrollment classes, you will also need a BCC transcript.

College Visits:

- The best way to get the “feel” of a college is to actually see where students live and study.
- You may request a guided tour; some colleges have regularly scheduled tours.
- Ask if you can sit in on a class.
- Be sure to wander around as well to observe the students and activities.