

What Are Colleges Looking For?

A college admissions office wants to see more than just high test scores and grades. How can you separate yourself from the crowd?

On Your Application?

Grades and standardized test scores: It's obvious, but these marks are one of the first things colleges look at.

Extracurricular activities: Quantity doesn't mean quality. Have you taken a leadership role in your chosen activities? What have you accomplished?

Rigorous course schedule: Schools want to see challenging courses that will help you grow academically. Don't take classes just to pad your GPA.

Follow the rules: If an application asks you to choose one essay, don't answer them all. Read the application directions completely before answering any questions.

Include everything: Verify all forms have been signed and that you've included all essays and recommendations. Doublecheck that you haven't left out anything important.

On-time arrival: Note when the application deadline is and send it in with plenty of time to spare. You may want to send your application via certified mail for added assurance that it arrived on time.

On Your Application Essay?

Show, don't tell: Don't just list your attributes; get specific. For example, saying that you're helpful is not as dynamic as relating your experiences with helping younger students learn how to read.

Creativity counts: Avoid cliches or standard essay topics. Try to come up with something an admissions office hasn't seen a million times before.

No spelling errors: First, spellcheck your essay. Then, read it again for usage mistakes. Have a parent or teacher look it over for spelling and grammar errors.

Personality: The application essay is your opportunity to show your prospective college what makes you *you*. Ask yourself whether what you've written is memorable, engaging and in your own voice.

In Your Interview?

Arrive early and dress the part: Know where the interview will be held ahead of time so you won't arrive late. Dress on the conservative and understated side. If you have questions about the dress code, call the college and ask.

Identity: Admissions offices want to know you as a person. If you're discussing your accomplishments, highlight why they were meaningful for you, or what you got out of them.

Spontaneity, positivity, confidence: Sounding like you're reading off of a cue card won't leave them with a fond memory. It's a good idea to rehearse, but remember that the interview should be a conversation. Be natural, sure of yourself and optimistic about your future college career.

Interest in the college: Come prepared with questions or impressions you have about the college to demonstrate your interest level. Place less emphasis on your plans after graduation and more on what you want to learn and accomplish while a college student. Follow up with a thank-you note.

FastTip: Remember that college selection is all about matching. Each school has their own idea regarding the students they want. There is no need to pretend to be something you're not.

**Search over
600,000 scholarships
and over
4,000 colleges
www.fastweb.com**

College Choice Guide

Making the final decision? Or just starting your college search? Here are some questions and tips to consider!

College Research Tips

Go to your local library. You can find college books and college guides that offer detailed school profiles, programs offered, tuition costs, campus culture and more.

Visit the universities' Web sites. This will allow you to learn more about the school's location, size, admission and financial aid information.

Call the school's alumni association. Schedule an interview with an alumnus of the school who can offer advice and share his/her collegiate experience, including activities in which you may be interested in participating.

Consult your counselor. Your school's guidance office can assist you with information on college preparation, career options and making your final school decision.

Surf the Internet. Internet sites such as www.fastweb.com provide a free college search. You can also find college blogs online to give you an inside look at campus life and activities.

Campus Visit Tips

Pick a regular day to visit. Have multiple dates and times. Avoid major events or holidays and ask for a guided tour. Arrange to speak to other students, faculty members, financial aid, admissions and career offices. Send a thank-you notes!

Pack smart. Pack more casual clothes for when you walk around campus and something more formal for an interview with the admissions office.

Stay in a dorm overnight. Sit in on a class to see how an it is conducted. Speak with current students and professors about what life on campus is like.

View other campus buildings. Check out residence hall rooms, cafeterias, computer labs, health and recreational facilities, the library, etc.

Record your experience. After your campus visits, make a list of the good and bad points about each school. Use the questions below to guide you in your college choice.

Free search of 1.3 million scholarships worth \$3 billion!
www.fastweb.com

College Choice Questions to Consider

Academics and Career Planning

Does the college offer the academic major that interests me? What's the reputation of the program you desire? Is the timeline for your program of study four years or more?

What is the average class size? What is the student-to-faculty ratio? Are most classes taught by professors or by a teaching assistant?

What kind of career planning services are available? How many graduates find jobs in their field of study? Does the school offer internships and research opportunities in your field of interest?

How easy is it to switch academic majors? Will it mean spending more time in school?

Finances

What is my actual cost? Other expenses beyond just the "sticker price" for tuition can include:

- + application and doc fees
- + add/drop a course fees
- + food and clothing expenses
- + student activity fees
- + transportation expenses (insurance, parking fees)

What is the average increase in tuition and other costs from year to year? View at least three years worth of data to chart past increases.

Student Life

Is the campus diverse? Will interaction with different people be the norm?

What student organizations are on campus? Does the school offer a variety of recreational activities, varsity and intramural sports? Are they ones you would want to join?

What's the social scene like? What is the campus like on the weekends? Do many students leave campus? What kinds of student activities are planned? When are they planned?

Do you need a car? Are jobs are close to campus? Do you need to drive to any classes? Is public transit accessible?

Housing and Campus Resources

What is the status on student housing? What is the cost? Is off-campus housing available? Is campus housing available for all four years? Are the dorms well kept or in poor condition?

Is the campus safe? What services does campus security provide? What is the surrounding neighborhood like?

What is the quality of campus resources? Are facilities up to date? Is wireless access available?

What meal options are available? What is served in the cafeteria? Are there after-hours options? Does the meal plan extend off campus? What about money/meals that go unused?

Educate Yourself: College Admissions

Admissions: Key Terms Defined

Award Letter: A letter telling you what financial aid (if any) your college is offering to you (includes types and amounts of aid offered, specific program information, etc.). You may choose to accept some or all of what is offered.

Credit (or Credit Hour): A unit of measurement institutions give for fulfilling course requirements. Most colleges require that you complete a certain number in order to graduate.

Cost of Attendance: Includes any cost associated with attending college: tuition and associated fees, room and board, books and supplies, etc.

Early Action: If you apply early action and are accepted, you may compare admissions and financial aid offers and wait to commit to the college until later in the year.

Early Decision: If you apply early decision, you must attend the college or university if you are accepted and must withdraw any applications sent to other schools. You won't be able to compare financial aid offers.

Enrollment Status: Indication of whether you attend full or part time. In general, you must attend at least half time (or in some cases full time) to qualify for financial aid.

Expected Family Contribution: Amount students and their family are expected to contribute toward cost of attendance.

FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Students must fill out the FAFSA to find out how much federal aid they are eligible to receive. Visit www.fafsa.ed.gov for more info.

Open Admissions: Students are admitted regardless of academic qualifications.

Out-of-State Student: Generally applies to students attending a public university outside of their home state. Out-of-state students must pay a higher tuition rate unless they establish legal residency for that state.

Rolling Admissions: There is no set admissions deadline date; qualified students are accepted until classes are filled.

Undergraduate Student: A student who has not completed a baccalaureate or first professional degree.

Pick Your College: More Questions to Consider

Financial Aid Questions

What type of financial aid packages does the school offer? Are there a variety of options?

What tuition increases are planned in the next few years, if any? What has been the average tuition increase in years past?

What kind of work opportunities are available?

Are there refunds available if you need to leave school for any reason?

Academics/Career Questions

How does the school help graduates find jobs?

What percentage of graduates from the school find jobs in their field of study?

What is the retention rate (how many students come back after their freshman year)?

What is the classroom environment like? Is there much interaction between teacher and students? Are you able to visit the campus and sit in on a class?

How many computers/computer labs are there? Are they up-to-date and accessible to all students?

Room/Board/Lifestyle Questions

How diverse is the campus? How does the school promote diversity?

What is the crime rate on campus and in the surrounding neighborhood?

What student organizations are on campus?

What are the hours of the student health clinic? What about 24-hour emergency care?

What is the Common Application?

The Common Application has been developed by a group of colleges and universities that belong to the Common Application group. They accept this application in place of their own without any penalty. You fill it out once (on the computer is the easiest way) and then mail copies of the same application to any school that participates. Some of the participating colleges accept the application online and some have a supplement that must be submitted in addition. The Common Application and all information pertaining to it is available at www.commonapp.org. This is a great time saver – but remember to do a good job and proofread no matter what application format you use.

Glossary of Terms for College-Bound Students and Parents



ACT

Accreditation: Recognition of a college or university by any of the regional or national accrediting bodies, indicating that the institution as a whole has been judged to be meeting its objectives.

ACT Assessment® ("ACT Test"): A group of tests administered by ACT and required or recommended by most colleges as part of the admission process. The tests measure educational development in English, mathematics, reading, science and writing and are given at specified test centers throughout the year. ACT scores range from 1-36.

ACTivE Prep®: The official ACT CD-ROM test preparation software developed by ACT. ACTivE Prep helps students become familiar with ACT Assessment content and format, provides students with the opportunity to take ACT practice tests, and helps students identify academic areas where they need to improve.

Advanced placement: Granting of credit and/or assignment to an advanced course on the basis of evidence that the student has mastered the equivalent of an introductory course.

Aid package: A combination of aid (possibly including a scholarship, grant, loan, and work) determined by a college financial aid office.

ASSET®: A group of tests developed by ACT and required at many two-year colleges as part of the course placement and advising process.

Candidates Reply Date: A policy among subscribing institutions that permits students to wait until May 1 to choose, without penalty, among offers of admission/financial aid.

College calendar: Common systems of instruction time—

Traditional semester—two approximately equal semesters

Early semester—two semesters, the first ending before Christmas

Quarter—three equal terms of about 12 weeks each

Trimester—calendar year divided into three equal semesters, the third semester replaces summer school

4-1-4—two equal terms of about 16 weeks each, with a 4-week interim term

COMPASS®/ESL: A comprehensive computer-adaptive testing system from ACT that helps place students into appropriate college courses and maximizes information needed to ensure student success.

Credit hour: A unit of academic credit that often represents one hour of class time per week for a period of study (semester, quarter, etc.).

Deferred admission: The practice of some colleges of allowing an accepted student to postpone enrollment for one year.

Early Action: The application process in which students make application to an institution of preference and receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular response date. Students who are admitted under Early Action are not obligated to accept the institution's offer of admission or to submit a deposit until the regular reply date (not prior to May 1).

Early admission: Admitting students of superior ability into college courses and programs before they have completed the standard high school program.

Early Decision: The application process in which students make a commitment to a first-choice institution where, if admitted, they definitely will enroll. Should a student who applies for financial aid not be offered an award that makes attendance possible, the student may decline the offer of admission and be released from the Early Decision commitment.

EXPLORE®: An eighth-grade assessment program from ACT designed to stimulate career exploration and help students develop plans for their high school years and beyond.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA): The application required for students to be considered for federal student financial aid. Obtain a FAFSA form or electronic filing information from a high school or college for the appropriate year (usually available in November). The FAFSA is processed free of charge, and it is used by most state agencies and colleges.

Grade point average: An indicator of the student's overall scholastic performance. The GPA is computed by multiplying the number of grade points earned in each course (generally, A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0) times the number of course hours/credit hours, then dividing the sum by the total number of course hours/credit hours carried.

Grants: Awards based on financial need that do not require repayment. Grants are available through the federal government, state agencies, and educational institutions.

Honors program: Any program offering opportunity for superior students to enrich their educational experience through independent, advanced, or accelerated study.

Major: The subject of study in which the student chooses to specialize; a series of related courses, taken primarily in the junior and senior years.

Open admissions: The policy of some colleges of admitting virtually all high school graduates, regardless of academic qualifications such as high school grades and admission test scores.

PLAN®: A tenth-grade "pre-ACT" assessment program designed to help students improve their postsecondary planning and preparation. PLAN contains academic tests, an interest inventory, and student information section, and it is complementary in content and format to the ACT Assessment. PLAN scores range from 1-32.

Regular Decision: The application process in which a student submits an application to an institution by a specified date and receives a decision within a reasonable and clearly stated period of time, but not later than April 15.

Rolling Admission: The application process in which an institution reviews applications as they are completed and renders admission decisions to students throughout the admission cycle.

SAT I: A test of verbal and mathematical abilities given by the College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) at specified test centers throughout the year and required or recommended by many colleges as part of the admission process.

Scholarships: Nonrepayable awards to students based on merit or merit plus need.

Student Aid Report (SAR): The information you will receive approximately 2-4 weeks after your FAFSA has been processed. It will report the information from your application and, if there are no questions or problems with your application, your SAR will report your Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

Transcript: The official record of high school or college courses and grades, generally required as part of the college application.

Wait List: An admission decision option utilized by institutions to protect against shortfalls in enrollment. Wait lists are sometimes made necessary because of the uncertainty of the admission process, as students submit applications for admission to multiple institutions and may receive several offers of admission. By placing a student on the wait list, an institution does not initially offer or deny admission, but extends to a candidate the possibility of admission in the future, before the institution's admission cycle is concluded.

Work Keys®: A national system designed to improve workplace skills and to help individuals equate learning with earning. Work Keys measures workplace skills, relates those skills to specific jobs, and helps individuals acquire the levels of skills needed for the jobs they want.

SOME BASICS

OF

FINANCIAL AID

Financial Aid Application Summary

- ◆ Know which forms to use
- ◆ Apply for financial aid, no matter what
- ◆ Apply as early as possible—the early bird gets the worm
- ◆ Be as accurate as possible
- ◆ Be ready to explain your answers. About 30% of all applications are subject to verification
- ◆ Make copies of your aid application and your signed tax return
- ◆ Register for the draft



Expected Family Contribution

is the sum of four separate calculations:

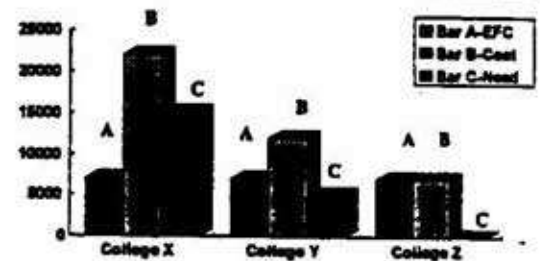
- ◆ Contribution from Parental Income
(Parental Income - Taxes - Income Protection and Employment Expense Allowances - child support paid - education tax credits) x 22% to 47%
- ◆ Contribution from Parental Assets
(Parental Assets - Asset Protection) x 5.6%
- ◆ Contribution from Student Income
(Student Income - Taxes - Income Protection Allowances) x 50%
- ◆ Contribution from Student Assets



Financial Aid

Application Summary

The Definition of Financial Need



Bar "A" represents expected family contribution. Bar "B" represents the cost of college. If Bar "B" is larger than Bar "A," you have "need" (Bar "C"), and you qualify for financial aid.

The Nuts and Bolts of Financial Aid



Short Definitions

- Grants and scholarships do not have to be repaid.
- Loans count as financial aid when they have favorable repayment terms and low interest rates.
- Work-study is money the student works for in a school-sponsored job.
- Dependent students are dependent on parents for support. Both the parents' and the student's income and assets are evaluated when determining EFC.
- Independent students are not dependent on parents for support. In general, single undergraduates must be at least 24 years of age to qualify as independent.

Private Scholarships

The family's EFC is \$7000. The student finds a \$5000 scholarship.

- ◆ At College X, which costs \$22,000, the EFC remains \$7000 and the family's need goes from \$15,000 to \$10,000.
- ◆ At College Y, which costs \$12,000, the EFC remains \$7000 and the family's \$5000 need is wiped out.
- ◆ At College Z, which costs \$7000, the family has no need, so the EFC is reduced from \$7000 to \$2000.



WEBSITES FOR COLLEGE AND FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

Resources for Parents, Students, and Counselors

| | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| www.clas.ufl.edu/CLAS/american-universities.html | American Colleges and Universities |
| www.finaid.org/otheraid/fao.phtml | College Financial Aid Offices |
| www.petersons.com | Peterson's Education Center |
| www.collegeboard.com | The College Board Online |
| www.act.org | ACT Assessment |

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|---|---|
| www.nasfaa.org | National Assoc. of Student Aid Administrators |
| www.msfaa.org | Michigan Student Financial Aid Association |
| www.fastweb.com | Personalized Scholarship Matching |
| www.finaid.org | Financial Aid Information Page |
| www.finaid.org/finaid/calculators/estimate.html | Financial Aid Eligibility Estimator |
| www.finaid.org/finaid/scams.html | Scholarship Scam Information |
| www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid | MI-Search Scholarship Search Services |
| www.mapping-your-future.org | Middle School through College Information |
| www.collegeanswer.com (formerly www.wiredscholar.com) | Personalized Scholarship Matching |

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| www.michigan.gov/meritaward | Michigan Merit Award Program |
| www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid | State of Michigan Financial Aid Programs |
| www.michigan.gov/mde | Michigan Department of Education |
| http://studentaid.ed.gov | U.S. Department of Education Aid Programs |
| www.fafsa.ed.gov | FAFSA on the Web |
| http://www.irs.gov/publications/p970/index.html | Tuition Tax Credits and Deductions (Pub. 970) |
| http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cool/ | College Program and Degree Information |

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| www.partnershipforlearning.org | Equipping Families and Communities for Learning |
| www.collegeispossible.org | College is Possible |
| www.ed.gov/gearup/ | Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) |
| www.ifap.ed.gov/chandbooks/attachments/0102hscouns.pdf | High School Counselor Handbook |
| www.jumpstartcoalition.org/ | Jump Start Coalition |
| www.collegezone.com | College Zone |
| www.nasfaa.org/publications/2002/awbrainsave042602.html | Save for College (A good link for parents.) |
| www.lunch-money.com | Scholarship Searches, College Planning, Career Searches, and Cost Calculators |



2007-2008 Quick Reference Guide for High School Students

www.fastweb.com

Here are some important Web sites and dates to help you prepare for your academic year.

2007-2008 FastWeb

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| FastWeb's College Gold..... | www.collegegold.org |
| Federal Student Aid for Students..... | studentaid.ed.gov |
| FinAid..... | www.finaid.org |
| Mapping Your Future..... | www.mapping-your-future.org |
| Project Scholarship Scam..... | www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams |
| Taxes for Students..... | www.irs.gov/individuals/students |

Sources of Aid

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Scholarship Search..... | www.fastweb.com |
| *AmeriCorps..... | www.americorps.org |
| *City Year..... | www.cityyear.org |
| CSS/PROFILE..... | profileonline.collegeboard.com |
| Direct Loans..... | www.ed.gov/directloan |
| FAFSA (Free App. for Federal Student Aid)..... | www.fafsa.ed.gov |
| FAFSA PIN..... | www.pin.ed.gov |
| Resources by State..... | www.finaid.org/otheraid/state.phtml |

*Award upon successful program completion

General Information

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Social Security Administration..... | www.ssa.gov |
| Selective Service..... | www.sss.gov |
| Student Gateway to U.S. Government..... | www.students.gov |
| Study Abroad..... | www.studyabroad.com |
| U.S. Department of Education..... | www.ed.gov |

College Admissions and Testing

| | |
|-----------|--|
| ACT..... | www.actstudent.org |
| AP..... | www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/about.html |
| SAT..... | www.sat.org |
| PSAT..... | www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/about.html |

Choosing a Major and Career

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Career Planning..... | www.fastweb.com |
| Monster (Job Search)..... | www.monster.com |
| America's Career Infonet..... | www.acinet.org |
| Bureau of Labor Statistics..... | stats.bls.gov |
| Occupational Outlook Handbook..... | www.bls.gov/oco |

2007-2008 Test Calendar

September

| | |
|-------|----------------------------------|
| 9/10: | SAT reg. deadline for 10/6 test |
| 9/15: | ACT test day (selected states) |
| 9/21: | ACT reg. deadline for 10/27 test |

October

| | |
|--------|---------------------------------|
| 10/2: | SAT reg. deadline for 11/3 test |
| 10/6: | SAT and Subject Tests test day |
| 10/17: | PSAT test day |
| 10/20: | PSAT test day |
| 10/27: | ACT test day |
| 10/30: | SAT reg. deadline for 12/1 test |

November

| | |
|-------|---------------------------------|
| 11/2: | ACT reg. deadline for 12/8 test |
| 11/3: | SAT and Subject Tests test day |

December

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|--------|---------------------------------|
| 12/1: | SAT and Subject Tests test day |
| 12/8: | ACT test day |
| 12/26: | SAT reg. deadline for 1/26 test |

January

| | |
|-------|---|
| 1/1: | First day to submit FAFSA (submit early to maximize aid) |
| 1/4: | ACT reg. deadline for 2/9 test |
| 1/26: | SAT and Subject Tests test day |
| 1/29: | SAT reg. deadline for 3/1 test |

February

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|------|-----------------------|
| 2/9: | ACT test day (Not NY) |
|------|-----------------------|

March

| | |
|------|---------------------------------|
| 3/1: | SAT test day (SAT I, only) |
| 3/7: | ACT reg. deadline for 4/12 test |

April

| | |
|-------|---|
| 4/1: | SAT reg. deadline for 5/3 test |
| 4/12: | ACT test day |
| 4/15: | Deadline to file your 2007 federal income tax return |

May

| | |
|-------|---------------------------------|
| 5/3: | SAT and Subject Tests test day |
| 5/5- | |
| 5/9: | AP Testing Week 1 |
| 5/6: | SAT reg. deadline for 6/7 test |
| 5/9: | ACT reg. deadline for 6/14 test |
| 5/14- | |
| 5/18: | AP Testing Week 2 |

June

| | |
|-------|-------------------------------|
| 6/7: | SAT and Subject Test test day |
| 6/14: | ACT test day |

Free Scholarship Search
Over 1.3 million awards
worth \$3 billion!
www.fastweb.com

Many students have difficulty deciding which teachers they should ask for recommendations and become confused by the *teacher evaluation forms* provided by the colleges. Most of these forms ask for general information that teachers usually include in the body of the letters they write. Don't burden your teachers by insisting that they fill out these forms completely. Secure a commitment early from the teachers you wish to have support your candidacy and suggest that the letter be written on UNIS stationery. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO REMIND TEACHERS OF DEADLINES.** The college advisors work closely with your teachers in providing guidance about their role in writing letters of recommendation. Check with the college office if you have any questions and encourage your teachers to do so as well.

REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE ASKING TEACHERS TO WRITE ABOUT YOU AS A STUDENT IN THEIR CLASS; THEY ARE NOT WRITING TO A SPECIFIC COLLEGE.

The teachers you select should write a **general reference** that will be sent to each college to which you are applying. If the college provides a *teacher evaluation form*, give it to the teacher to use as a **supplement** to the general reference. Be sure you have written your name, address, and other information requested at the top of the form before giving it to your teacher.

As mentioned above, give your teachers the **option** of mailing their recommendations themselves or submitting them to the college office in a timely fashion.

GUIDELINES FOR DECIDING WHICH TEACHERS TO ASK FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Ask teachers of subjects which may relate to your future area of study.** For example, students planning on studying Engineering should ask a math teacher or physical science teacher for a reference; a student interested in Communications would be wise in getting a reference from a teacher of English.
- **Check if any of the colleges to which you will be applying requires a recommendation from a teacher of a specific subject.** In this case, count the teacher of this subject as one of your teacher references. Please don't "pick and choose" teachers for each college. Your teachers are very busy and a commitment to write on your behalf is great in terms of time and effort. Discuss your teacher choices with a college advisor.
- **Choose teachers from different subject areas.**
- **If English is not your first language, and if you have been in ESL at any time during your years at UNIS, ask a teacher of English for a recommendation.** The amount of reading and writing at college is substantial and admissions officers are interested in what your teachers have to say about the quality of your writing and your reading proficiency.
- **Choose teachers who can comment upon your growth and willingness to work to improve.** Colleges are more interested in learning how a student strives to improve than about the student who earns an "easy" 7.
- **Choose teachers who can offer different impressions of your academic performance.** For example, one teacher may be able to comment upon how you work on independent projects; others could cite your contributions to class discussions or willingness to help classmates who are having difficulty with the subject.
- **Approach the teachers you have identified early**, at least two months in advance of the college deadline. In college admission, the old maxim that the "early bird catches the worm" applies. Many Tut 4 teachers are flooded with requests for recommendations. Students who procrastinate in asking for references may find themselves in a predicament as teachers may refuse or be unable to meet the college application deadlines. As writing recommendations is time consuming, many teachers limit the number of letters they will write.
- **Be courteous with your teachers and make an appointment to discuss your college choices with the teachers you ask.** It will not serve you well to approach a teacher on the run in between classes.

Although some colleges do not require teacher recommendations, if these letters have been written on your behalf and are included with your other credentials, the letters will be read by admissions officers. **Protect yourself by thinking that two teachers' letters are required for your college file.**

NCAA INFORMATION

Please check with coaches and the athletic department for more information.

Welcome to the NCAA Clearinghouse website. This site will provide you with information about initial-eligibility at NCAA Division I and II member colleges and universities.

If you have questions regarding your amateurism certification or resetting your PIN, please call the NCAA eligibility center at 877-622-2321. The preliminary evaluation period for 2008 graduates will not begin until November 2007. The answers to most frequently asked questions can be found on this website by selecting the appropriate category of user from the list below.

ATTENTION: All prospective student-athletes intending to enroll in an NCAA Division I or II institution for the first time on or after August 1, 2007 must complete the NCAA Amateurism Certification questionnaire. **(If you enrolled full time in a Division I or II institution prior to the Fall of 2007, you do not need to complete the amateurism questions.)**

Attention 2007 high school graduates! The NCAA has adopted new legislation that will require prospects who intend to enroll at NCAA Division I and Division II institutions to supply ACT or SAT scores to the Clearinghouse directly from the testing agencies. **Test scores on an official high school transcript will no longer be usable for NCAA purposes.** Read more on this under "News and Views" behind the "General Information" heading of this website.





The Clearinghouse serves three main constituent groups: prospective student-athletes, high school administrators, and NCAA member institutions. Some of the pages accessed from this site require pre-registration or PIN-protected information. Browse the General Information section, or if you would like more specific information regarding one of our constituent groups, click the appropriate area below:

- **Prospective Student-Athletes**
- **High School Administration**
- **Member Institutions**
- **General Information (including eligibility rules)**

NCAA
Membership Services
P.O. Box 6222
Indianapolis, IN 46206-6222
317/917-6222 (phone)
317/917-6622 (fax)
800/638-3731 (NCAA Hotline)
www.ncaa.org

School User Name: pioneer

School Password: aaps

| REQUIRED | | EDP Elements | Where to find in Career Cruising/EDP |
|----------|---|--|--|
| ✓ | | Career Matchmaker <i>Save results and review answers</i> | Hit the Matchmaker button on the top of the screen  Answer questions in Matchmaker and then view results SAVE TO MY EDP –Gray Button |
| ✓ | Open YOUR EDP | Fill in Your EDP Username _____ | Fill in Your EDP Password _____ |
| ✓ | | Michigan Career Pathways <i>Choose two career pathways</i> | In your EDP  Open Career Preparation Button Click on Career Pathways Button Choose 2 Pathways and HIT SAVE BUTTON |
| ✓ | | Career and Life Goals <i>Edit short term and long term goals to reflect current goals</i> | In YOUR Student EDP Open Career Preparation Blue Button Open sub topicCareer and Life Goals Update your Short Term & Long Term Goals SAVE YOUR WORK |
| | Would be Very good To have <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Careers that Interest Me <i>Save 2 or more careers that interest you in your EDP</i> | Explore Careers & save 2 or more careers MAKE SURE TO HIT SAVE Button, add comments.  |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Educational Plan <i>Enter your classes you have taken and plan to take</i> |  In Your Student EDP, Open Educational Plan Fill in your Education Plan SAVE YOUR WORK |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Activities & Abilities Must Fill in: 1) Extra-curricular Activities 2) Awards & Certificates 3) Volunteer Experience | Open Blue Activities & Abilities Button Select Extra-curricular Activities & fill in info- SAVE Fill in Awards & Certificates- SAVE Fill in Volunteer Experience- SAVE |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Work Experiences <i>Add your work info</i> | In Your Student EDP ADD Work Experiences - SAVE YOUR WORK CREATE A RESUME AT HOME |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Skills and Abilities <i>Add you attributes & computer skills</i> | In Your Student EDP Open Activities & Abilities Blue Button Sub-topic ... Skills and Abilities- Enter Your Info & HIT SAVE BUTTON |

If you want to view/print your EDP, click this button located on the lower left side

