

## Checklist for Researching and Choosing a School

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GENERAL CAMPUS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Campus location           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Where is it located?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> What is the topography?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> What geological features are nearby?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> What benefits does this location offer?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> What restrictions does this location have?</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Campus physical size           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Is it a compact school? What are its benefits or difficulties?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Is it a spacious school? What are its benefits or difficulties?</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Campus type           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Rural</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Suburban</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Urban</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Facilities           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Do their dorms look welcoming?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Do their sports facilities support your interests?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Do their arts facilities support your interests?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Are facilities being rebuilt, added, or renewed?</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Endowment           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> What is the school's endowment?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> How does the school use its endowed funds?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>STUDENT BODY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Number of students           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Is the school too big?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Is the school too small?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> What is the diversity of the student body?</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Percentage of boarding and day students           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Is there a large boarding-student population?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Is there a large day-student population?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Why does this matter to you?</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> School type           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Does it have a religious component?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Is it a single gender school?</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Community           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Are the students able to have a work/social balance?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Was your tour guide friendly?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ADMISSIONS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Admissions events           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Did you enjoy your Open House or Class Visit Day?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Did you have a fun, informative interview?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Did you connect with your tour guide?</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Acceptance rate           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> How many students apply and get accepted?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Does it vary by grade?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> How many were accepted from your area or demographic?</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Testing           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Is it required?</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Admission deadline           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Is there a priority deadline?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>STUDENT LIFE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> How does their advising system work?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dress code           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Is there a school uniform?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> What is the dress code?</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dorms           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Are dorms split by grade?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Is there a dorm that you can see yourself living in?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> What is the bathroom like?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Do you get to choose your roommate?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> How big will your dorm be?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FINANCIAL AID</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Can you afford the tuition at this school?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Is there significant financial support for students if needed?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Do they offer financial aid for non-tuition expenses? (Money for travel programs or a snack bar?)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> What is the percentage of students receiving financial aid?</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CULTURE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> What is the school's mission?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Does the school seem to live its mission?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> What are the apparent values of the school?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Do the students seem happy? Engaged?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Is there access to affinity/identity groups?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> What traditions bring the school together?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Is there any connection between students in different grades, or do they function fairly independently?</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ACADEMICS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> What does the daily schedule look like?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> How many courses do they offer?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Do they have high level courses in subjects that you're interested in?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> What is the average number of years teachers have been teaching?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Did you meet a faculty member whom you're excited to work with?</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Do they offer activities that you're interested in continuing?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Do they offer a sports program at a level you can participate in?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Do they have a visual arts program at a level you can participate in?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Do they have a performing arts program at a level you can participate in?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Do they have new options for you to try?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Are there groups that you are excited about joining?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Can you start your own group?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Are there clubs that could support you? (affinity groups, social clubs, etc.)</li> </ul>