

What Matters Most to *Me* in a College?

Academics & Learning

- What subjects am I most excited to study?
 - Do I want a very structured program or flexibility to explore?
 - Do I learn better in small classes or large lectures?
 - How important are research, internships, or hands-on experiences?
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Location & Environment

- Do I want to stay close to home or go far away?
 - Do I prefer a city, suburb, or small college town?
 - How important is weather, scenery, or access to nature?
 - Do I want a campus where most students live on campus?
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Community & Social Life

- Do I want a big school with lots of options or a smaller, tight-knit campus?
 - How important is diversity and meeting people from different backgrounds?
 - Do I want strong school spirit, sports culture, or Greek life?
 - What kinds of clubs or activities do I want access to?
 - Do I want a competitive atmosphere or collaborative one?
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Cost & Financial Reality

- What price range feels realistic for me/my family?
 - How important are scholarships or merit aid?
 - Would I consider a school that requires loans?
 - Do I want to minimize debt for future plans?
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Future Goals

- How important are job placement rates or career connections?
 - Do I want strong internship pipelines?
 - Am I considering graduate school or professional programs?
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Personal Comfort & Growth

- Where do I think I would feel supported and confident?
 - Do I want a place that feels familiar or somewhere new and challenging?
 - What kind of environment helps me do my best academically and socially?
 - What values or mission of a school matter to me?
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Final Reflection Questions

- What are my **top 3 priorities** in a college?
- What am I willing to compromise on?
- Where can I truly see myself growing and being happy?