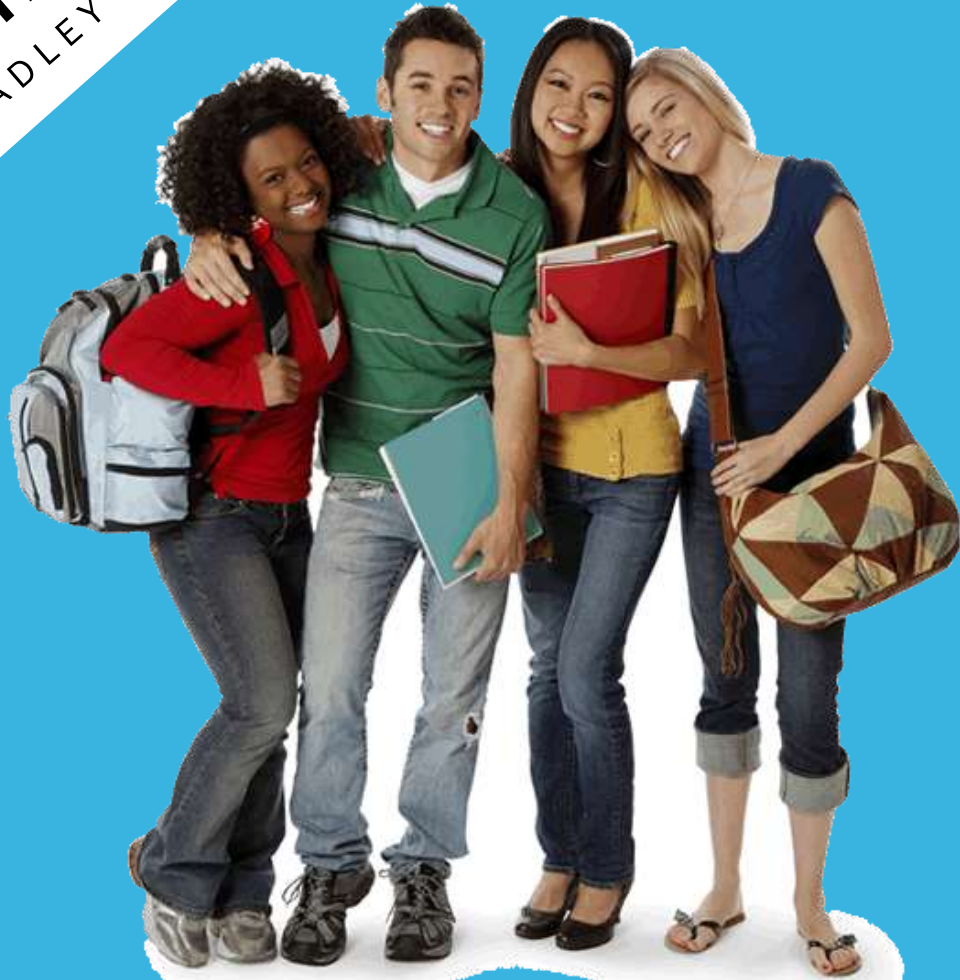




CHOOSING THE RIGHT SCHOOL

PRESENTED BY CHELSIE HEADLEY




OVERVIEW OF THE PRESENTATION

- What schools look at when evaluating college applications
- Where do you fit in?
- School Research
- Additional Resources



EVALUATING COLLEGE APPS

AN APPLICATION IS COMPRISED OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Application Form
 - Transcript
 - Standardized Test Scores (SAT/ACT)
 - Personal Statement/College Essay
 - Letters of Recommendation
 - School Profile
 - List of Extracurricular Activities or School Resume
 - Other – interview, portfolio, audition, etc.
- 

Match

Current grades
used as predictor
of academic
success

Transcript, Test
Score, School
Profile

Yes or No

VS

FIT

Not a Simple Yes
or No

Application,
Essay, Activities,
Letters of Rec,
Other

Personal

UNIVERSITIES USE MATCH AND FIT DIFFERENTLY

HIGHLY SELECTIVE OR
SMALL

Highly selective-
Academic match is expected, they put emphasis on fit

Small- You are a part of a tiny community where school culture is very important. Who you are matters

LESS SELECTIVE OR BIG

Less selective- More emphasis on academic match

Big – Have more seats to fill and represent a variety of different kinds of people



WHERE DO YOU FIT IN?




SELF ASSESSMENT

- What do you need to grow?
- What environment offers what you need to grow?
- What schools offer what you need to grow?

Need to determine your Strengths & Weaknesses www.schoolbuff.com




FIT FACTORS – WHAT DO YOU WANT AT A SCHOOL

- Location- Close to home? Far?
 - Cost- Expensive? Cheap?
 - Financial Aid – Merit-based? Need-based? EOP?
 - Size – Big? Small? Student-to-faculty ratio? Class size?
 - Reputation – Famous for your major? Party school?
 - Selectivity- Highly selective, less selective
 - Academics- Challenging? Easy?
 - Majors
 - Setting- Urban? Rural? Suburban?
 - Diversity - %black? % latino? % asian? %women/men?
 - Clubs or Sports
 - Campus Style
 - Job Placement- % of graduates who get jobs after graduation?
 - Values- religious school? Single sex? Dry campus?
 - Supports- Tutoring? Writing Center? Support for students with disabilities?
 - School spirit – Big Fans? Less important than academics?
- 

The background consists of several overlapping triangles. A large orange triangle occupies the right and bottom-right portions of the frame. On the left side, there are two overlapping triangles: a lighter blue one on top and a darker blue one on the bottom. The word "RESEARCH" is printed in black, bold, uppercase letters, rotated approximately 45 degrees counter-clockwise, and positioned in the white space between the blue and orange triangles.

RESEARCH

CREATE A COLLEGE LIST

- Utilize a college search website such as collegeboard.org or princetonreview.com
 - Find as many schools that offer your fit factors then narrow them down based off of what's realistic
 - Make sure the list has important info such as the admission requirements, graduation rate, retention rate, financial aid and deadlines
 - Make sure the information will help you later on
 - Use multiple sites to compare the schools
 - Once you have schools, you narrow it down by looking at the specific school website
 - You can narrow your choices down even further by visiting the school, attending a college fair, or contacting an admissions officer with any questions
- 

FINAL BALANCED LIST

- Once you have narrowed down your list to schools that you think might fit you, you want to create a final list of, at most, 10-15 schools.
- This list should be broken into the following categories:
 - Reach- You do not meet the GPA or SAT requirements
 - 2-3 schools
 - Target- You meet the GPA or SAT requirements
 - 6-8 schools
 - Safety- You are above the GPA or SAT requirements
 - 2-4 schools

This is not an exact formula but you want to have more target schools than any other category

BATMAN WANTS TO GO TO COLLEGE



He has a 3.5 GPA (90)

On the SAT he scored
a 450 in Math and
600 in Reading

He has taken 2 AP
Classes which he
has scored 90's in

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org
 - www.Collegeview.com
 - www.nyccollegeline.org
 - www.Princetonreview.com
 - www.bls.gov/oco
 - www.khanacademy.org
 - www.collegefactual.com
 - Peterson's Complete Guide to Colleges
 - The Fiske Guide to Colleges
 - Colleges that Change Lives (Loren Pope)
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