



PATHWAY TO COLLEGE RESOURCES

Choosing the Right College

There are over 7,000 colleges in the United States. There are 59 colleges in New Jersey alone, 33 public and 26 private, offering a wide range of programs and majors. How do you start the process of finding which college is right for you? There are many people that will be able to support you through this process, including your parents, teachers, coaches, counselors, and others who have your best interest at heart, but ultimately the choice is yours! There are many factors and things to consider when choosing a college.

5 MAJOR FACTORS TO CONSIDER:

1. Academics:

- A. College Standards? Grade Point Average? SATs/ACTs?
- B. What Majors and types of degrees does the college offer?
- C. Academic difficulty?
- D. Prestige and Type of College? Liberal Arts?
- E. Job Placement and Alumni Support?

2. Finances:

- A. Cost of College? In state? Out of state? Tuition/fees? Room/Board? Books?
- B. Academic Scholarships?
- C. Athletic Scholarships?
- D. Other Scholarships and funding opportunities?

3. Location:

- A. Distance?
- B. Suburban or City?
- C. Campus environment?
- D. Weather and temperature?
- E. Travel Costs to and from home?
- F. Local airports and or public transportation?
- G. Family and Friends in the area?
- H. Distance to Church, Temple, etc.?

4. Soccer:

- A. How important compared to academics? Personal Goals and Expectations?
- B. Level of Program? What impact is most important to you – Starter, etc.?



- C. Style of Play? Positions Needed? Formation?
- D. NCAA (DI, DII, DIII) – NAIA – NJCAA? Conference?
- E. Scholarships Available?
- F. Roster size? International?
- G. Coaching Staff? Full-time/Part-time? Coaching Style?
- H. Team Travel? Distance to Games? International Trips?

5. Size & Type:

- A. Number of Students? Undergraduate/Graduate? On-campus/off-campus?
- B. Class Size?
- C. Faculty to Student ratio?
- D. Male to Female Ratio?
- E. Diversity? Races, Ethnic, Cultures, Economic, etc.?
- F. Religious Affiliation?
- G. Sororities/Fraternities?
- H. Football/Basketball?

The above factors are some of the things to consider in making the best college choice for YOU. Remember, taking advice from people you trust is great, but ultimately you will be the one that this decision must work for. By doing an honest self-evaluation of yourself and evaluating the things that you know will make YOU happy will help provide you with the best opportunity to create a fun and successful college experience off and on the field — in and out of the classroom.

“Believe in yourself! Have faith in your abilities! Without a humble but reasonable confidence in your own powers you cannot be successful or happy.”

—Norman Vincent Peale