

TRANSFER SERVICES

WORKSHOP 2: Researching and Selecting Your Top 5

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WHAT I WILL LEARN

Today's workshop will assist you in the following ways as you plan for your next steps:

- Learn about online resources to help you research colleges and universities
- Learn methods of researching colleges and universities (non-online)
- Understand the term “best fit college”
- How to narrow down your choices





SO MANY CHOICES...

There are a lot of colleges and Universities out there...

How Will You Know Which Is Best For You?

If you have yet to decide on a career and your major, follow the steps in this series to help you make a decision with confidence.

STEP 1: WHAT DO I WANT FROM MY COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY?

Respond to the following questions:

- How far from home am I willing to go?
- Am I willing to commute/live on campus?
- Do I prefer a small (less than 2000 students) or large (more than 15,000 students) college/university?
- What type of extracurricular activities do I enjoy?
- How do I see myself contributing to my college campus?
- What tuition can I afford based on my expected salary after graduation?

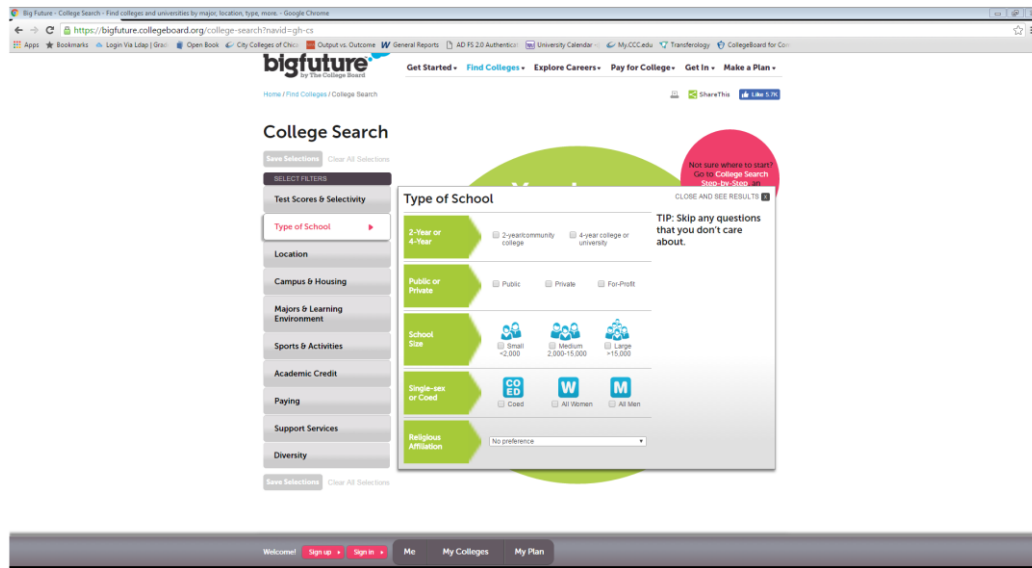
Write down what you discovered in a journal or share with a trusted friend, family member or your College Advisor



Now That You Know
What You Want Out of
Your College Experience...
LET'S RESEARCH!



STEP 2: USE ONLINE RESOURCES



Use resources like www.collegeboard.org to research colleges or universities of interest:
Filter your choices based on your responses from step 1

RESEARCHING - USING COLLEGE BOARD



- College Board results are alphabetical. View them while considering the following:
 - View at least 2-3 colleges/universities that are away from home (out of state)
 - View at least 2-3 colleges/universities where you know you can get acceptances
 - View at least 2-3 colleges/universities where you have a good chance of getting accepted
 - View at least 2-3 colleges/universities that are a “high reach”/harder to get acceptances

Compare your findings using the College Comparison Form. Click [HERE](#) to download now!



RESEARCHING: RESULTS EXAMPLE

- In the example on the next slide, the results are from a very specific search criteria (see the next slide)
 - Public/private institution
 - In Illinois, Indiana or Georgia
 - That has application fee waivers and tuition no higher than \$45,000
 - At least 60% of financial needs met for students
 - That offers a major in Political Science
 - Offers dance, choral and Greek life for extracurricular activities
 - Offers a study abroad program and Work Study
 - Accepts transfer credit and GED in lieu of the High School diploma
 - At least 20% of the school population are minority students

RESEARCHING: RESULTS EXAMPLE

- Such a specific query pulls very few institutions into the results.
- Consider the most important areas to you and search using that criteria. Changing some of the “Must Haves” to “Wants” changed the results from just 15 colleges to 40!

The screenshot shows a web application interface for college search. On the left is a 'SELECT FILTERS' sidebar with various categories and sliders. On the right is a grid of college cards, each featuring a logo, name, location, and a note about fee waivers. The top navigation bar includes 'Outcome', 'General Reports', 'AD FS 2.0 Authenticat...', 'University Calendar', and 'My.CC'. The bottom navigation bar shows 'Welcome!', 'Sign up', 'Sign in', 'Me', and 'My Colleges'.

SELECT FILTERS

- Test Scores & Selectivity**
 - Type of School: 4-year school (Slider: Don't care to Must have)
 - Public or private (Slider: Don't care to Must have)
 - Medium-sized (Slider: Don't care to Must have)
 - Coed (Slider: Don't care to Must have)
- Location**
- Campus & Housing**
- Majors & Learning Environment**
 - Arts and Humanities (Slider: Don't care to Must have)
 - Political Science/Government (Slider: Don't care to Must have)
 - Study abroad (Slider: Don't care to Must have)
- Sports & Activities**
 - Activities (Slider: Don't care to Must have)
 - Greek life preference (Slider: Don't care to Must have)
- Academic Credit**
 - Accepts GED (Slider: Don't care to Must have)
 - 2-year credits transfer (Slider: Don't care to Must have)
- Paying**
 - At least 60% avg. need met (Slider: Don't care to Must have)
 - \$45,000/yr max tuition & fees (Slider: Don't care to Must have)

College Results Grid:

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY Eastern Illinois University Charleston, IL * College Application Fee Waiver Available	Indiana State University Indiana State University Terre Haute, IN * College Application Fee Waiver Available	INDIANA UNIVERSITY SOUTH BEND Indiana University South Bend South Bend, IN * College Application Fee Waiver Available
LEWIS UNIVERSITY Lewis University Romeoville, IL * College Application Fee Waiver Available	LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO Loyola University Chicago Chicago, IL * College Application Fee Waiver Available	McKendree University McKendree University Lebanon, IL * College Application Fee Waiver Available
MERCER UNIVERSITY Mercer University Macon, GA * College Application Fee Waiver Available	MILLIKIN UNIVERSITY Millikin University Decatur, IL * College Application Fee Waiver Available	NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY DECATUR Northern Illinois University DeKalb, IL * College Application Fee Waiver Available
ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY Roosevelt University Chicago, IL * College Application Fee Waiver Available	SIU Southern Illinois University CARBONDALE Southern Illinois University Carbondale, IL * College Application Fee Waiver Available	SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, IL * College Application Fee Waiver Available
UIS University of Illinois: Springfield	VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY Valdosta State University	WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY Western Illinois University

University of Illinois at Chicago

Chicago, IL

At a Glance

Deadlines

Majors & Learning Environment

Campus Life

Applying

Paying

For Transfer Students

For International Students



A large, 4-year, public university. This coed college is located in a very large city in an urban setting and is primarily a commuter campus. It offers bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees.

www.uic.edu

Quick Facts

January 15

Regular application deadline
[See all deadlines](#)

Large

20,765 total undergrads
4,141 degree-seeking freshmen
[See more about student body and campus life](#)

59% graduate within six years

[See info about majors and learning environment](#)

\$14,438 average financial aid package

59% of financial need met (average)
Tuition and fees: \$13,874 in-state, \$27,566 out-of-state

[See more cost and aid info](#) or [Calculate Your Net Price](#)

Type of School

Accreditation: North Central Association of Colleges and Schools

RESEARCHING: RESULTS EXAMPLE

- When You Click on the College logo, it takes you to an information page about the institution.
- Note the following:
 - Graduation rate (the higher the better)
 - Accreditation (it should always be identified as regionally accredited)
 - % of financial need met

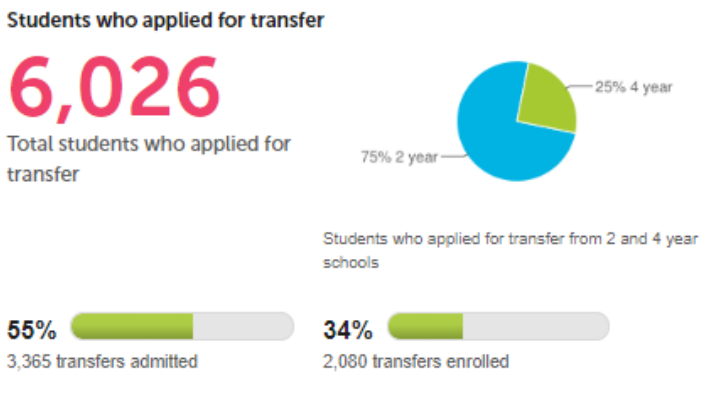
- At a Glance
- Deadlines
- Majors & Learning Environment
- Campus Life
- Applying
- Paying
- For Transfer Students**
- For International Students

24 Minimum number of credits	2.5 Minimum college GPA (on a 4.0 scale)	2 Lowest grade earned for course that may be transferred for credit (on a 4.0 scale)
60 Maximum credits/courses from a 2-year institution	-- Maximum credits/courses from a 4-year institution	30 Minimum credits transfers must complete to earn bachelor's degree

Admissions Requirements

Recommended

- College Transcript(s)



- Terms in which transfer students may enroll**
- Fall
 - Spring
- Transfers Accepted As**

RESEARCHING: RESULTS EXAMPLE

- Click on the area for Transfer Students and ask the following:
- What is the minimum & maximum credit hours accepted?
- What is the acceptance rate of transfer students to the institution?
- For which semesters do they accept applications?
- What special services are offered to transfer students?
- What is required of a transfer student application?

Campus Life

Applying

Paying

For Transfer Students

For International Students

MORE TO EXPLORE

Students who viewed this college also viewed these:
[See similar colleges](#)

Admissions [Back to top](#)

aid?
William M. Schilling, Universit
Director of Student Financial,
University of Pennsylvania

SEP 1	Rolling notifications begin	MAR 1	Priority Application due
--	No Regular Application Deadline School Application	--	College will notify student of admission
AUG 15	Housing deposit due	--	Student must reply to acceptance

Tests [Back to top](#)

AUG 15	SAT Reasoning/ACT Score report due Send SAT Scores	AUG 15	SAT subject score report due
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Financial Aid [Back to top](#)

MAR 10	Financial Aid Application due	--	Financial Aid Priority Application due
--	College will notify student	--	Student must reply

International Students [Back to top](#)

MAY 1	Fall Application Deadline
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Transfer [Back to top](#)

--	Transfer Application closing date	--	Transfer priority financial aid deadline
--	College will notify student of transfer decision by	--	College will notify student of financial aid decisions on or about
--	Transfer priority application date	--	Student must reply to financial aid decision by
--	Transfer deadline for filing financial aid forms	--	Transfer student must reply

RESEARCHING - RESULTS EXAMPLE

- Look at the important deadlines for the application period.
 - By when do you need to apply?
 - By when do you need to complete your financial aid information?
 - By when will you receive an acceptance?
 - By when should you inform the institution of your decision?
- Click here to
- Download your personal college comparison sheet

STEP 3: OTHER RESEARCH METHODS

- **College Visits** - Visiting your college/university of interest is a great way to be confident that the culture is a good fit for you. CCC Transfer Directors take students on college tours each semester. You can also schedule an individual tour for yourself at the colleges website or use <https://www.campusreel.org/> for a virtual tour if you can't be there in person.
- **Talk to CCC Alumni** – Talking to the students who are currently at your dream school is a great way to gain an understanding of the institution from the student perspective. You can also schedule time to speak to representatives from Student Government or heads of clubs at the campus, if there are no alumni present.
- **Speak Regularly to College Reps** – Staying in touch with the College Representative from your dream school helps you to get a good idea of how the institution serves its students (and it's a big help when applying to the institution)
- **Learn About the Professors** – Using your own discretion, you can find out how students feel about their professors at <https://www.ratemyprofessors.com/>



STEP 4: DETERMINING THE “BEST FIT”

A best fit college your university will take you on the path to achieving your career goals. But first you need to graduate! Be sure to consider the following areas of services at the institution:

- Graduation rate – An institution with a strong graduation rate tends to invest strongly in their students to assist them in completion of the degree
- Career Services – Do students studying your major at this institution get employed in their career upon graduation?
- Alumni Services – How strong is the alumni network for the institution? What work is done to support alumni towards continued success?
- Tutoring Services – what services are available to students who need further academic support?

MAKING THE CUT



Now that you've done your research it's time to decide which of the institutions is the best fit for you:



Talk to a trusted friend/colleague



Talk to your College Advisor



Talk to your Transfer Director



But most importantly...**TRUST YOURSELF!!!**

#wearetransfer



NEXT IN THE SERIES

The next workshop will discuss the CCC partnerships that help you to succeed as you progress towards graduation and create a smooth transition to your dream school.