Developing your College List: A Self-Audit

This form is for you alone. Think about your answers and you will develop self-understanding that will help you make a good college choice.

1. My idea of a successful person is? Why?

2. Looking back over the past two years, what was in my mind when I was choosing my high school courses?

3. Am I looking forward to a challenging senior year course load?

4. Do I enjoy and am I ready to discipline myself for additional study routine and hard work in college? Four years?

5. What would I like to learn that my high school doesn’t offer?

6. What do I really enjoy doing?

7. What do I do other than go to class?

8. How much time do I now spend on studying in the evenings?

9. Do I study on weekends?

10. Do I read books that are not required for school courses all the time/sometimes/rarely/never?

11. How many hours a week do I watch TV?


13. Given the opportunity, what careers might I consider? (Give three possibilities.) Why would I consider these careers?

14. What careers would I not consider? Why not?

15. In which subject areas do I excel?

16. What subject areas could I improve if I really tried?

17. How easy is it for me to seek help from teachers or friends when needed?

18. Am I competitive? If so, to what extent?
   _____ I want to be first. _____ I want to be better than I was last year. _____ I’m happy the way I am.

19. The qualities I like in my friends are _______?

20. I want to find a college that offers the following: (On a separate page list ten of your top priorities using the items on the reverse side as a guide. Add other items if you wish.)
A. Location
   ___ Close to home so I can commute.
   ___ Live at college but stay in my home state.
   ___ Move into a different part of the country for college. (If this choice, state area of country)

B. Type of institution
   ___ Two-year college   ___ Four-year college   ___ Single sex or co-ed
   ___ Public    ___ Private   ___ Religious orientation

C. Size
   ___ Below 2,000   ___ 2,000   ___ 5,000 - 10,000   ___ Over 10,000
   (Remember, your answer to B. may indicate the size.)

D. Environment
   ___ Major Metropolitan area   ___ Large city   ___ Small city
   ___ Small town   ___ Rural area

E. Athletics: state what sport(s) you seek and whether varsity or intramural:

F. Activities you are interested in pursuing:

G. Areas of study that interest you:
   ___ Architecture   ___ Ethnic Studies
   ___ Art   ___ Foreign Languages
   ___ Biological Sciences   ___ Geology
   ___ Business   ___ Preparation for health & medical professions
   ___ Communication (film, TV, journalism)   ___ History and cultures
   ___ Computer Science   ___ Mathematics
   ___ Economics   ___ Music
   ___ Education   ___ Philosophy and religion
   ___ Elementary   ___ Physical sciences
   ___ Secondary   ___ Psychology
   ___ Spec. Ed./ Learning Disability   ___ Social Sciences
   ___ Engineering   ___ Theatre Arts
   ___ English/literature   ___ Other

21. Assessing what is most important
    (Rank in order of preference, 1 = most important, 2 = next important, etc.)

   ___ Area of study   ___ Environment
   ___ Location   ___ Athletics
   ___ Type of institution   ___ Activities
   ___ Size of institution   ___ Cost

22. How will my family finance my education? What is our budget? What will I contribute?

23. Am I ready to go to college? If not, why, and what should I do before I go?

   Think through all your answers here, and draw conclusions about where you would best fit.
   Now you are ready to talk things over with your parents, school counselor, and teachers.