

COLLEGE SEARCH RESOURCES

COLLEGE GUIDEBOOKS

There are many college guidebooks available to help you navigate the college search and admissions process. These guidebooks can be found in major bookstores and online at amazon.com and other sites. This list is just a sampling of some of the hundreds of publications available.

Guidebooks can be divided into several major categories: comprehensive, subjective, subject-specific and books about the college admissions process.

Comprehensive Guidebooks

Completely objective and consist mainly of the facts and statistics about colleges; tend to be enormous (sometimes 3–5 inches thick, or more!); little in these books to give you the “feel” of a college, but can offer reasonably accurate information. WE DO NOT ENCOURAGE YOU TO PURCHASE THESE BOOKS—most are available in the College Counseling Office.

- *Peterson’s Guide to American Colleges*
- *Barron’s Profiles of American Colleges*
- *College Board College Handbook*
- *Lovejoy’s College Guide*
- *Princeton Review Big Book of Colleges*
- *College Board Book of Majors*
- *College Admissions Index of Majors and Sports*

Subjective Guidebooks

Written to give a “feel” for the colleges; offer opinions about what is good and not-so-good about individual colleges, and rate quality of academic and social opportunities, and quality of life; these opinions can be helpful and interesting, but they are opinions of the writers and not fact. WE DO ENCOURAGE YOU TO PURCHASE A COUPLE OF THESE GUIDEBOOKS to use at home and as you visit colleges.

- *The Fiske Guide to Colleges*
- *Insider’s Guide to the Colleges*
- *Princeton Review’s The Best 361 Colleges*
- *Rugg’s Recommendations on the Colleges*
- *Colleges That Change Lives*
- *The College Finder*

Subject-Specific Guidebooks

These guidebooks are written for students with specific backgrounds, interests or concerns; they offer factual and subjective information from an ethnic, multicultural or academic-specific perspective; some guidebooks include all colleges that fall into a specific category, while others require colleges to pay to be included and are not as comprehensive.

- *AFI Guide to College Courses in Film and Television*
- *Performing Arts Student’s Guide to Colleges*
- *Guide to Programs in Visual and Performing Arts*
- *Guide to American Art Schools*
- *The Engineering Career Guide*
- *Architecture Schools Guidebook*
- *Consider a Christian College*
- *Student’s Guide to Catholic Colleges and Universities*
- *The Jewish Student’s Guide to American Colleges*
- *Guide to Jewish Life on Campus*
- *America’s Black and Tribal Colleges*
- *The Black Student’s Guide to Colleges*
- *Historically Black Colleges and Universities Fact Book*
- *Multicultural Student’s Guide to Colleges*
- *Complete Guide to Canadian Universities*
- *Making a Difference College Guide*
- *Campus Opportunities for Students with Learning Disabilities*
- *College Guide for Students with Learning Disabilities*
- *The FCLD Learning Disabilities Resource Guide*
- *Lovejoy’s College Guide for the Learning Disabled*
- *Peterson’s Guide to Colleges with Programs for Learning Disabled Students*
- *The K & W Guide to Colleges for the Learning Disabled*
- *Sports Scholarships and College Athletic Programs*
- *The Winning Edge: The Student-Athlete’s Guide to College Sports*
- *Callahan’s Guide to Athletics and Academics in America*
- *Going The Distance (formerly The Athlete’s Game Plan)*
- *The Directory of Athletic Scholarships*

Books about the College Process

“How to get into college” advice, rather than specific information about colleges; useful as you navigate the process, with tips on college visits, interviewing, preparing applications, writing essays, etc.

- *Looking Beyond the Ivy League*, Loren Pope
- *Playing the Selective College Admissions Game*, Richard Moll
- *The Fiske Guide to Getting Into the Right College*, Edward B. Fiske
- *Colleges That Change Lives*, Loren Pope
- *50 College Admissions Directors Speak to Parents*, MacGowan and McGinty

WEB RESOURCES

The internet provides a wealth of information which will aid you in the college search and admissions process. The following are just a few of the sites that provide information on individual colleges, financial aid, college entrance testing and test prep, athletics, career interest inventories and summer programs. You are encouraged to browse a variety of web sites! The internet is a wonderful resource to use to complement written materials available from colleges and in guide books.

College Search and Information Sites

Every college has its own web site; you can access the site by typing in the name of the college.edu (e.g. www.davidson.edu). These sites will offer information about admissions policies, curriculum, visitation policies, tour times, athletic schedules and coaches' email addresses, etc.

www.petersons.com

www.review.com (Princeton Review site and Counselor-o-Matic!)

www.usnews.com

www.collegeboard.org (online SAT registration information)

www.act.org (online ACT registration information)

www.kaplan.com

www.commonapp.org (Common Application on-line)

www.edonline.com/cq/hbcu (Historically Black Colleges)

www.nacac.com (National Association of College Admissions Counseling)

www.cfnc.org (GREAT site for North Carolina residents!)

Military

www.sss.gov/ (Selective Service Registration, must be an 18 year-old male)

www.usma.edu (United States Military Academy at West Point)

www.usafa.edu (United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs)

www.nadn.navy.mil/ (United States Naval Academy in Annapolis)

www.cga.edu (United States Coast Guard Academy)

www.armyrotc.com (Army ROTC)

www.nrotc.navy.mil/ (Navy ROTC)

www.afrotc.com (Air Force ROTC)

College Athletics

www.ncaa.org (for college-bound athletes)

www.ncaaclearinghouse.net (Clearinghouse Registration)

www.naia.org (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics)

Scholarship and Financial Aid

www.fafsa.ed.gov/ (FAFSA online)

www.finaid.org (good info on financial aid, scholarships and scams!)

www.fastweb.com (GREAT scholarship search site!)

www.fastaid.com (scholarship search service)

www.cfnc.org (GREAT site for North Carolina residents!)

* Scholarship applications are kept on file in the College Counseling Office

Career Information

careerpathsonline.com (Career Paths Online)

career.missouri.edu (Career Interest Game)

www.careerkey.org (Career Key)

www.careermag.com (Career Magazine)

www.kaptest.com (Kaplan Careers)

www.keirsey.com (Keirsey Temperament Sorter – matches your temperament to a career)

www.umsl.edu (Occupational Outlook Handbook)

Other Interesting Sites--Summer, Study Abroad, Gap Year

www.interimprograms.com (Advice about the interim or “gap” year)

www.outwardbound.org (Outward Bound)

www.earthwatch.org

www.afs.org (AFS – American Field Service)

www.habitat.org (Habitat for Humanity)

www.peacecorps.org (Peace Corps)

www.nols.edu (NOLS – National Outdoor Leadership School)

www.studyabroad.com (Study Abroad!)

www.thesca.org (The Student Conservation Association)

www.petersons.com (Click on summer program information)

* Many great brochures and applications are also available in the College Counseling Office