

# Melbourne High Media Center

## CHOOSE YOUR COLLEGE

### Things to consider when looking for colleges:

- Academic requirements (check each school's Common Data Set to find this information). This includes a GPA range, test score range, course requirements, and if the school requires test scores which tests they will accept. You also need to know their admissions rate.
- Location: Do you want to stay in Florida? Are you looking for schools in the southeast? Do you want to be in a big city or a college town? Do you want to stay close to home?
- Public/Private
- Do they accept Bright Futures or have a similar program?
- Bright Futures pays for Tuition & Books. How will you cover the room & board? How much is it at each school?
- Price: what's the total cost of attendance (COA) AFTER scholarships, grants, etc. \*Keep in mind school websites often include things in their price estimation that you may or may not factor into your cost personally such as food, travel, etc.
- How many of my AP, IB, or Dual-Enrollment courses will they give me credit for?
- Do they offer the program you are interested in?
- What classes would you be taking if you went to school there? Check the course descriptions.
- Size: do you want a big school, medium school, small school? University? College? Community College? Small liberal arts school (SLAC)?
- Activities offered: are you looking for schools with strong sports programs and lots of events, clubs, and activities that you can be involved in? Is Greek life a factor for you?
- Housing: are students required to live on campus freshman year? Is housing hard to find? Is there transportation for off-campus housing?
- Travel: how will you get there? Is it driveable? Will you need to fly? Is there an airport nearby? Do they allow freshmen to have cars on campus? What's the parking fee?
- Fit--can you see yourself living and learning there? Will you have great opportunities? Can you accomplish your goals at that school? Does the vibe feel right? Is it missing anything that's really important to you?

Make a copy and build your spreadsheet here:

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Ynchpf\\_5wi7sfu-sohxiSSadYiCISGk4dF5f81WEXbc/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Ynchpf_5wi7sfu-sohxiSSadYiCISGk4dF5f81WEXbc/edit?usp=sharing)

How to choose a college step-by-step from College Essay Guy:

<https://www.collegeessayguy.com/blog/how-to-choose-a-college>

Surveys, Self-Assessments, and Worksheets from Steven Antonoff's book *The College Match*:

<https://schoolbuff.com/resources-and-books/worksheets/>

### Researching Colleges:

- [How to Research without Visiting from College Essay Guy](#)
- [The College Tour](#) website and Amazon Prime show
- [College Board's How to Decide What College to Attend](#)
- US News & World Report: [10 Steps to Choosing the Right College](#)
- College Vine: [The Ultimate Guide to Making a Balanced College List](#)

**Taking a tour?** Use [this resource](#) Mrs. Friday made for you! It has everything you'd ever need to know.

