Beginning the College Process...
Where should I start?
Which College is Right for Me?

- The colleges you apply to should reflect your goals, skills, interests and personality. In other words, they should reflect who you are and what you want to be.

- Think about the question “Who am I?” and consider the kind of academic and social environments where you feel most comfortable.
WHO AM I? WHAT DO I LIKE?

“Finding yourself before finding a college...How can you find a college where you’ll thrive? Start by taking a careful look at yourself—your interests, abilities, and attitudes. Do you learn best in classes with lots of discussion, like those found at small liberal arts colleges? Would you be happier as part of a larger college community with bigger classes?”

adapted from College Match: A Blueprint for Choosing the Best School for You! by Steven R. Antonoff, Ph.D., and Marie A. Friedemann, Ph.D. (Octameron Associates, 1999).”
MIX IT UP: CREATING YOUR COLLEGE APPLICATION LIST

- Your college application list should include a combination of public and private colleges.
- Step ONE is to make a “Wish” list of all the colleges you think may be right for you. This list can be as long as you like.
- Step TWO is to research each of the schools and then begin to narrow the list to the colleges that best match your interests and qualifications.
- Step THREE is to continue step two until you have honed your list to six to eight schools including:
  - “Dream” or “Reach” colleges (1-2) These are colleges whose admission requirements you may not exactly satisfy but your special talent or ability in a particular subject or area may make you eligible. Most students have at least one private college as a “dream/reach” choice.
  - “Safety” colleges (2-3) These are colleges whose admission requirements you satisfy and you know you are likely to be accepted. In this way, you are assured at least one acceptance to a college on your list.
  - “Middles” or “Probables” (2-3) These are colleges whose admission requirements you mostly satisfy and there is a good chance you will be accepted.
## Types of Schools
### Public vs. Private

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public Colleges/Universities</th>
<th>Private Institutions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Sponsored – Primarily funded by state and government agencies</td>
<td>Funded by endowments, tuition and donations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broader Curriculum with more areas of study</td>
<td>Either Independent or religiously affiliated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Usually Governed by Board of Regents</td>
<td>Usually Governed by Board of Trustees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuition usually lower</td>
<td>Tuition usually costs more, but financial aid also available</td>
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<tr>
<td>Usually larger enrollment</td>
<td>Usually smaller class size</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ex: University of Texas (49,000+)</td>
<td>Ex: Rice University (5,000)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Texas A&amp;M University-Corpus Christi (8,600)</td>
<td>Texas Lutheran University (1,400)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Examples: Texas A&amp;M University, University of Texas, Texas A&amp;M University-Corpus Christi,</td>
<td>Examples: Harvard, Yale, Stanford, Rice</td>
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</table>
EVERY COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY establishes general admission requirements—the basic requirements for admission to the college or university—that reflect its academic standards, its structure and the type/s of programs offered. Depending on the college or university, general admission requirements can include:
• An official high school transcript.
This is a record of a your high school experience. Colleges use this information to determine if a student satisfies admission requirements and is eligible for acceptance. The transcript is also used to determine if a student completed high school academic requirements and was awarded a high school diploma. Students and parents receive this information at the end of each semester. An official transcript has the school’s official seal. An unofficial transcript does not have the school’s seal imprinted on it.

• An essay or other writing samples

• Letter of Recommendations from your teachers, advisors and/or employees
• The SAT/ACTS and/or other standardized tests

• Admission testing
Some college programs have additional admission requirements that you must satisfy as well. For example, a college may require students applying for admission to its Computer Science program to have completed higher level math (Calculus and Trigonometry) in high school. Students applying for admission to Performing Arts programs must audition before college admission committees.
Common Applications VS. Individual Applications

- Most colleges and universities have their own applications for admission. However, some colleges and universities have collectively designed a common application they all accept.

- Many Texas Public Institutions accept the Apply Texas Application available online or at your institution of choice – visit applytexas.org to apply online
Schools Accepting the Texas Common Application for Admissions

- Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi
- Texas A&M University - College Station
- The University of Texas at Austin
- Texas State University
- Baylor University
- The University of Texas at San Antonio
- University of North Texas
- and many more
Each college is different and requires research before beginning the admissions process

Hints:

- Start Early
- Visit your serious choices
- Keep to deadlines
- Learn as much as you can
- Don’t stop getting ready until you are on the campus, life can change at any moment
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

- **Admissions Process**
  - Submit the admission application, completed and signed.
  - Attach the $25 application fee ($50 for international students).
  - Have the testing agency send your SAT or ACT score directly to Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. SAT code: 0366. ACT code: 4045.
  - Have your high school send a current, official transcript.
  - Meet high school unit requirements.
  - Satisfy class rank/test score requirements.
  - Have all previous colleges send an official college transcript. Your cumulative grade point average (GPA) must be 2.0 on a scale of 4.0. You must be a student in good standing and eligible to return to the last college or university attended.