

# **Identify Important Factors in Choosing a College**

In choosing a college, the first things you'll probably consider will be the *type of academic program* and the *availability of the major—or majors—you are most interested in.*

Here are some other things to think about as you compare colleges.

## **Location**

- *distance from home*

## **Environment**

- *type of school (2-year or 4-year)*
- *school setting (urban, rural)*
- *location & size of nearest city*
- *co-ed, male, female*
- *religious affiliation*

## **Size**

- *enrollment*
- *physical size of campus*

## **Admission requirements**

- *deadline(s)*
- *tests required*
- *average test scores, GPA, rank*
- *special requirements*

## **Academics**

- *majors offered*
- *special requirements*
- *accreditation—recognized by regional or national accrediting bodies as meeting its objectives*
- *student-faculty ratio*
- *typical class size*

## **College expenses**

- *tuition, room & board*
- *estimated total budget*
- *application fee, deposits*

## **Financial aid**

- *deadline(s)*
- *required forms*
- *% of student population receiving aid*
- *scholarships*
- *part-time employment opportunities*

## **Housing**

- *residence hall requirements*
- *availability*
- *types and sizes*
- *food plans*

## **Facilities**

- *academic*
- *recreational*
- *other*

## **Activities**

- *clubs, organizations*
- *sororities/fraternities*
- *athletics, intramurals*
- *other*

## **Campus visits**

- *when to visit*
- *special opportunities*