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## COLLEGE SEARCH TIPS

### 1. Know your strengths.

Think about what classes and activities you excel in, and how your friends describe you.

### 2. Visit colleges you are interested in when possible.

There's no substitute for experiencing a campus firsthand.

### 3. Map out a plan for narrowing down which colleges you'll apply to.

Look at the majors offered, net price, student body and how far from home you want to be.

### 4. Decide who you'll ask for recommendations.

Some colleges will ask for recommendations from a teacher or mentor who knows you well, and it's best to request them as early as possible.

### 5. Be smart about your scholarship search.

Start by researching scholarships in your community—those typically have the best odds!

### 6. Fill out the FAFSA early.

You can complete it starting on January 1st, and the earlier you complete it the better your chance of receiving financial aid from the colleges to which you apply.

### 7. Don't be discouraged by a college's "sticker price."

Use a college's Net Price Calculator to get a more accurate idea of what you would actually end up paying.

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