

School Research Project

Use the following sources listed below to find the answers the following questions. This information you find will help you to make the best decisions about the school you are considering pursuing and whether or not it is a good fit for you and your educational needs.

Sources:

- www.CaliforniaColleges.edu
- The School’s official catalog (*can be found in the Transfer Center – or a PDF version is often available on the school’s website*)
- The school’s official website
 - Student recruitment pages (often listed as “Future Students”)
 - Admissions page – including admissions requirements
 - “About” page/ “Mission” “Values”, etc. pages
 - Academic department offices’ official website
 - Schedule of Classes
 - Course Rotation Schedule - issued by academic department (*indicates how frequently the classes are offered*)
- www.Assist.org
- Call the office directly and ask.

School: _____	
Is this school: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a California public university <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CSU ○ UC • a private school • an out of state, public school 	
What is the “Mission Statement” of the school? <i>(Likely found on the “About page”)</i>	
List at least three things you found about its Mission, Values and/or Vision. What do you think of this information? Good/bad or?	
What city is this school located in?	
Is the college located in an urban, suburban or rural setting?	
How far away from my home is the campus? How much time does it take to get there from my home by car, by public transportation? Would I need to relocate or can I commute?	
Will I need a car to get around? Does public transportation (bus) provide easy access to the campus and community?	

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Does the school offer housing programs to its students? If so, what kind (dormitories, apartments, fraternity/sorority housing, etc.)	
Some schools require students to live on campus. Will I be expected to live on campus?	
Are you interested in campus housing options? If yes, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the costs? • Per year, month, semester, or other? • What are the eligibility requirements? • How many people per room/apartment? • Do you need to move out every term? 	
Is the school on the semester or quarter system? How many weeks per term?	
What are the admission requirements for transfer students? (<i>Minimum and maximum number of transferrable units, minimum GPA, number of G.E. classes need to be completed, specific classes that must be completed, etc.</i>) Are there any other special requirements? Are admissions requirements based on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Objective standards such as test scores, GPA, class standing only 2. Subjective standards such as admissions essay, life/work experience, community service, personal character and “whole picture of the person”? 	
How many terms per year does this school accept admissions applications? (<i>i.e. “Only in the Fall”, “Fall and Spring”, “Every term”, etc.</i>)	
At what times of day are most campus classes offered (<i>mornings only, afternoons, evenings only, weekends, all times of day and nights</i>)	
How many students are enrolled in this school?	
What is the average class size? (15 students vs. 500 students?)	
What is their primary teaching style (Lecture = auditory; Hands-on = Kinesthetic, etc.)	
What General Education plan(s) is/are accepted by this school for transfer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSU • IGETC • Community College A.A. degree • Other? 	

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<p>What are the major undergraduate programs this school offers? What (if any) are the major graduate programs? What is the school known for? <i>(You can tell by how big [how many departments within a college/ division] and/or what percentage of the student population are in each program.)</i></p>	
<p>What are the costs of attending this school? <i>(Include tuition or registration fees, books and supplies, housing, parking, etc.)</i> Are these costs listed based on a per-year or per semester/quarter basis?</p>	
<p>Are tuition fees charged by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Per unit cost • Full-time/Part-Time status • Per year • Other 	
<p>What kinds of financial assistance programs are available? <i>(i.e. Loans, Grants, Work Study, Scholarships, etc.)</i> Will it cover my entire need? NOTE: FAFSA is NOT a financial aid program – is an <u>application</u> for financial aid. <i>(So don't list FAFSA as an option)</i></p>	
<p>Is there a special admission program for students from certain ethnic minority and other underrepresented groups? How can I qualify? What kinds of special help will be available to me after I enroll? Does this apply to you?</p>	
<p>What kinds of social, cultural and recreational activities are available on the campus and in the community? Are any of these of interest to you?</p>	
<p>Does the school have an honors program for students who enter with high grades? What are the requirements for participation? Does this apply to you?</p>	
<p>Are you concerned about getting a job near campus? If so, is it easy to get a part-time job on campus or in the community?</p>	
<p>How late are student support offices <i>(Admissions/ Records, Financial Aid, Counseling, etc.)</i> typically open during the day? Will this create a scheduling conflict for you? Will you need to take time off work to take care of business?</p>	
<p>How late are campus support offices <i>(bookstore, food places, security/police, etc.)</i> typically open during the day? Will this create a scheduling conflict for you?</p>	

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My Major: _____	
Does the school offer my major? What is the name of that major?	
Is my degree program accredited? By what agency and at what level? (Undergraduate and/or graduate, etc.)? <i>(Does this school possess regional accreditation? If this school is in the Western US, then it should at least be accredited by WASC (or one of its chapters). You want to avoid schools NOT regionally-accredited.)</i>	
Does my major have additional admissions requirements that are “over and above” the general admissions requirements for the school? <i>(I.e. higher GPA, additional math classes, entrance exams, etc.)</i>	
How many students does my major typically have?	
What lower division classes are required to prepare for admission to my major? List the courses and use articulation agreements available in the Transfer Center to find equivalent courses. <i>(Go to Assist.org to find this out – CSU or UC schools only.)</i>	
What classes will you need to take once you get there?	
Will you be expected to carry a minimum or maximum number of units?	
What time of day are classes typically offered in my academic major <i>(mornings, afternoons, evenings, all times of day, etc.)</i> Will this create a scheduling conflict for me?	
How frequently are your major classes offered? <i>(Several sections per term, once a term, once every 2 years, etc.)</i>	
Will you be part of a cohort group? <i>(The same students taking the same classes together throughout their time in the program.)</i> If yes, how do I feel about this?	
Do you have the option of taking any or all classes online? If yes, how do you feel about this?	
Can you choose what classes you take each term, or will this be decided for you?	

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Is the major overcrowded (<i>impacted – more applicants than they have room for</i>)? If so, what special or additional requirements do I need in order to be admitted?	
Is there work experience required? – 1) As an admissions requirement? 2) As part of the curriculum? If yes, how much? What types of experiences are required? Will they help you get a job, or do you need to get it on your own?	
What other similar programs does the school offer which may support my goals/major choice?	
<u>This following section is ONLY for students who are considering religiously-affiliated schools.</u>	<i>If this section does not apply to you, then mark “N/A” in this column.</i>
What is the religious affiliation of this school? Are there any denominational (sub-group) affiliations with this school?	
Is this school sponsored/backed by any particular denomination or organization?	
Read their “Statement of Faith”. Is there anything that stands out as being either appealing or cause for concern for you?	
As a student, are you required to hold their religious beliefs?	
If they don’t require you to hold their religious beliefs to be a student there, will they require you to hold their religious beliefs to get a job on campus? If you wanted to get a job on campus, will this be a problem for you?	
What kind of (if any) religious classes will you be required to take? (<i>i.e. 30 units in bible</i>)	
What kind of religious activities are students expected to participate in? (<i>i.e. attend chapel 3 times a week</i>)	
Are there any behavior/character restrictions expected of their students? (<i>i.e. No drinking and smoking, dancing, etc.</i>)	
Look at their financial aid programs? Do they have any special programs that you could qualify for?	
What is your general response to the information you found.	

Reflection:

Why were you originally interested this school? _____

What new information about this school did you discover from this research? _____

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What did you like the most about this school? _____

What did you like the least about this school? _____

After researching this institution, does it still sound appealing? Why or Why not? _____

Which criterion was most important in your choice? Why? _____

Test your understanding:

What is the main point of this assignment?

Why were you expected to do this exercise?

What type of person would need to do this exercise?

How well do you fit the profile of the person for whom this assignment was created?

Reflection: *(Write down your response after completing this assignment.)*
