

## 7 Critical Questions to Find a College Where You'll Thrive



We tend to fixate on one question – **Will I Get In?** – when we plan for college. But focusing on just that question decreases your chance for academic and professional success. And it blocks you from asking yourself the most important college search question – **How Do I Find A College Where I Will Thrive?**

Many of the of questions you should ask yourself to find a college where you'll thrive are highly personal. They relate to class environment, academic offerings, climate, costs, proximity to your family and more. And all of these should overtake the “will I get in” question.

So, how do you get started? This list of 9 Critical Questions will help you focus on **THRIVING**. Ask yourself these questions to increase the likelihood that you'll graduate from your chosen college.

A rich college experience improves the course of your life. College graduates earn more money, have more opportunities for leisure and are better positioned to successfully adapt as the world changes. To focus on finding your right college, a place where you'll thrive, remember to ask yourself careful, highly-personal questions.

1. Can we, as a family, sustain these out-of-pocket expenses for four years?
2. Does this scholarship require maintaining a college GPA that seems reasonable?
3. If my academic or athletic interests or opportunities change, will I still enjoy being enrolled at this college?
4. Is my interest in this college dependent on friendships or other relationships that may change?
5. Will I feel safe in this community at a time of increased personal or national need?
6. Does the campus culture fit with my personal values while also encouraging me to explore new ideas and interact with a wide range of people?
7. Am I ready to make a personal commitment to challenge myself and make the most of my opportunities at this college?

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