Moving Beyond Google: Learning to Use College Search Engines

Presented by:
Angela Castonguay
The NHHEAF Network Organizations’ Center for College Planning
Tips for the Basic College Search

- Location, location, location!
- Size
- Major
  - What language do you use in your search? Examples:
    - Business Administration with an International concentration VS. International Business Major
    - Communication, Mass Communications, Media Studies, Communication Studies, Broadcasting
- Price
  - Tuition? Room & Board? Total cost of attendance?
Searching Admission Criteria

- SAT or ACT scores
  - Basic searches may only provide broad and generalized admission criteria.
  - You want to data mine the “gems” to really see where you size up to currently admitted freshmen at a particular school.

- GPA
  - Note: every high school uses their own grading system, weighted or un-weighted system, and cumulative scale.
Click on “Site ID”

Site ID: 0105773

Password: higher
Click on “Choices Planner”
Variety of Components

Check out career profiles and clusters as well as personal assessments:
- Career Finder
- Interest Profiler
- Work Values Sorter
- Basic Skills Survey
- Cluster Finder
- more...

Find post-secondary schools, programs, financial aid and course planning:
- School Finder
- High School Planning
- Scholarship Finder
- Compare Schools
- Course Plan Builder
- more...

RECOMMENDED GUIDEWAYS

Guideway 1
Are you just starting your planning

Guideway 3
Choosing a major and a college?

New Hampshire Edition

Your Portfolio
Collect the things that matter, write about them and access them anywhere.
Sign In

Portfolio name:
Password:
Take a Quiz to begin to identify careers someone with your interests and skills may be interested in.
Explore career options by clusters
Work Component: Specific Jobs

There are tons of options within each career cluster!

Career Clusters - Careers

Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security

- Administrative Law Judge, Adjudicator, and Hearing Officer
- Air Crew Member... (Military - Enlisted)
- Aircraft Launch and Recovery Specialist... (Military - Enlisted)
- Animal Control Worker
- Armored Assault Vehicle Crew Member... (Military - Enlisted)
- Armored Assault Vehicle Officer... (Military - Officer)
- Artillery and Missile Officer... (Military - Officer)
- Bailiff
- Combat Mission Support Officer... (Military - Officer)
- Correctional Officer
- Court Clerk
- Court Reporter
- Criminal Investigator and Special Agent
- Crossing Guard
- Diver... (Military - Enlisted)
- Emergency Management Officer... (Military - Officer)
- Emergency Management Specialist... (Military - Enlisted)
- Emergency Vehicles Dispatcher
- Fire Inspector
- Fire Investigator
- Firefighter
- Firefighter Supervisor
- Fish and Game Warden
- Flight Operations Specialist... (Military - Enlisted)
- Forest Firefighter
- Gaming Surveillance Officer/Investigator
- Immigration and Customs Inspector
- Infantry Officer... (Military - Officer)
- Infantryman... (Military - Enlisted)
- Intelligence Officer... (Military - Officer)
- Intelligence Specialist... (Military - Enlisted)
- Judge Magistrate
Learn Component: Programs & Majors

Browse by Major “Clusters”

- Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
- Architecture and Construction
- Arts, Audio-Video Technology and Media
- Business, Management and Administration
- Education and Training
- Finance
- Government and Public Administration
- Health Science
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Human Services
- Information Technology
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security
- Manufacturing
- Marketing
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)
- Transportation, Distribution and Logistics
- View Descriptions of Clusters

FIND PROGRAMS BY...
- Alphabetical List
  Every program from A to Z
- Advanced Search
- Search by Major or Cluster
- Search by Program Name
- Search by Location

HIGH SCHOOL COURSES
Plan your courses and see how they relate to college and post-secondary options.
- High School Planning
- Course Plan Builder

Or from the hundreds of majors within each cluster!
Learn Component: School Finder

Search by location, size, major, sports, and more…
### Finding a Good “Fit”

- Metrics to help students see if they are a “good fit”

#### Tell me more about freshman SAT and ACT scores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAT - Math</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>200-299</td>
<td>[0%]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300-399</td>
<td>[1%]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400-499</td>
<td>[19%]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500-599</td>
<td>[49%]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600-699</td>
<td>[26%]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>700-800</td>
<td>[2%]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAT - Critical Reading</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>200-299</td>
<td>[0%]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300-399</td>
<td>[2%]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400-499</td>
<td>[27%]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500-599</td>
<td>[49%]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600-699</td>
<td>[18%]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>700-800</td>
<td>[2%]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACT</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-5</td>
<td>[0%]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-11</td>
<td>[3%]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-17</td>
<td>[2%]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-23</td>
<td>[40%]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-29</td>
<td>[49%]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-36</td>
<td>[8%]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There is a School Out There for Everyone!

Tell me more about freshman SAT and ACT scores

**SAT - Math**
- 200-299: [0%]
- 300-399: [6%]
- 400-499: [39%]
- 500-599: [41%]
- 600-699: [12%]
- 700-800: [0%]

**SAT - Critical Reading**
- 200-299: [0%]
- 300-399: [9%]
- 400-499: [42%]
- 500-599: [38%]
- 600-699: [8%]
- 700-800: [0%]

**SAT - Math**
- 200-299: [0%]
- 300-399: [1%]
- 400-499: [19%]
- 500-599: [49%]
- 600-699: [26%]
- 700-800: [2%]

**SAT - Critical Reading**
- 200-299: [0%]
- 300-399: [2%]
- 400-499: [27%]
- 500-599: [49%]
- 600-699: [18%]
- 700-800: [2%]

**SAT - Math**
- 200-299: [0%]
- 300-399: [1%]
- 400-499: [9%]
- 500-599: [4%]
- 600-699: [20%]
- 700-800: [86%]

**SAT - Critical Reading**
- 200-299: [0%]
- 300-399: [0%]
- 400-499: [1%]
- 500-599: [4%]
- 600-699: [29%]
- 700-800: [51%]
BigFuture.Collegeboard.org

My parents weren't sure if they could afford the best education for me.

Jonathan's parents wanted him to attend college, but they didn't know how to pay for it.

find colleges
Look up a college by name
Go
Search by location, major — any way you'd like.

pay for college
How much federal financial aid is out there to help students pay for college? Take a guess.

make a plan
Get a free step-by-step college plan. Just answer a few simple questions.

What grade are you in?
- 6th or lower
- 7th
- 11th
- 12th
- H.S. grad

$1 billion
Get the Facts

Not sure where to start?
Go ▶
Big Future: College Search

You have 3,855 college options. Choose a category on the left to find the right ones for you. We’ll help along the way.

Play around. Do really broad searches then refine them as you go.
The Applying Tab

University of New Hampshire
Durham, NH

A medium-sized, 4-year, public university. This coed college is located in a small town in a rural setting and is primarily a residential campus. It offers associate, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral programs.
### Boston University

**At a Glance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Applicants</td>
<td>54,751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admitted</td>
<td>17,871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrolled</td>
<td>5,629</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Application Deadline**
- $80 Application Fee
- Early Decision & Early Action
  - Applied early decision: 1,643
  - Admitted early decision: 708
  - Applied early action: --
  - Admitted early action: --

**Very Selective**
- 33% of applicants admitted

**Score Ranges for THAT School**

**What do THEY value in an applicant?**

**Apply?**

[Add to My College List]

[See if you're on track]

[Print college profile]

**Early Decision & Early Action**

- Plans available

**What's Important?**

- Application Requirements
- Academics & GPA
- SAT & ACT Scores

**FAQ**

- Go to Online Application
- Request Information
- Fee Waiver Information

**Contact Information**

1.888.7.GRADUATE x119 • nhheaf.org • collegeplanning@nhheaf.org
**SAT Score Requirements**

Are your scores in the gray box? How far in the box your scores fall, MAY make a difference on how much money you will qualify for in merit scholarships.
- Early Decision or Early Action
  - admission rates
- SAT II (subject tests)
  - required or recommended
- Academics
  - Course requirements
Other College Search Tools

- **Petersons**
  - Petorsens.com
  - or in book form

- **Naviance**
  - School-based college search engine
  - Displays your district’s high school specific college admission metrics using “scatter grams”
Questions?

888.7.GRADUATE x119
collegeplanning@nhheaf.org