

SELF-ASSESSMENT: Personal Preferences

In order to find colleges that will fit your needs and interests, you must be clear about what those needs really are. Complete the following inventory by circling statement *Yes* (Y), *No* (N), or *Unimportant* (U).

1. I need to be close to home (easily accessible by plane or car). Y N U
2. I need to be in an environment where I will feel like part of a community. Y N U
3. I need to be in a location where I can explore many interests off campus. Y N U
4. The climate where the school is located is an important factor to me. Y N U
5. I want to go to a college attended by many of my friends from high school. Y N U
6. I want the students to be like me--similar in religious background,
political outlook, part of the country, and values. Y N U
7. I want to know my professors and have them available to me. Y N U
8. I need specific facilities – laboratories, studio space, etc. Y N U
9. I want anonymity in college – a chance to “get lost.” Y N U
10. I want to be actively involved in the life of the campus. Y N U
11. I want the majority of students to live on campus, not commute. Y N U
12. I would like to belong to a sorority/fraternity. Y N U
13. I want a “rah-rah” atmosphere on campus. Y N U
14. I would like to participate in intercollegiate athletics. Y N U
15. I want the flexibility to experiment in the curriculum and change majors. Y N U
16. I know what I want to study. Y N U
17. I want professors who are primarily teachers (not researchers)
who care about teaching me. Y N U
18. I need structured curriculum that will be clearly defined for me as far as
core requirements, requirements in my major and electives. Y N U
19. I need a challenging academic environment where most students
are at my ability level or higher. Y N U
20. I need to please myself in making the decision about college more than
I need to please others — family, friends, classmates, or teachers. Y N U

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How important are these characteristics to you? Circle 1 (unimportant) to 5 (extremely important)

1. Liberal arts curriculum	1	2	3	4	5
2. Business curriculum	1	2	3	4	5
3. Engineering curriculum	1	2	3	4	5
4. Required core curriculum	1	2	3	4	5
5. Flexible requirements	1	2	3	4	5
6. Strength of major	1	2	3	4	5
7. Degree program available	1	2	3	4	5
8. Accessibility to faculty	1	2	3	4	5
9. Semester calendar	1	2	3	4	5
10. Trimester calendar	1	2	3	4	5
11. Work study	1	2	3	4	5
12. Cooperative learning (work alternating semesters)	1	2	3	4	5
13. Research availability to underclassmen	1	2	3	4	5
14. Study abroad	1	2	3	4	5
15. Internships	1	2	3	4	5
16. Honor code	1	2	3	4	5
17. Scholarliness of students	1	2	3	4	5
18. Competitiveness of students	1	2	3	4	5
19. Accessibility of library	1	2	3	4	5
20. Ambience of library	1	2	3	4	5
21. State-of-the-art science labs	1	2	3	4	5
22. State-of-the-art technology	1	2	3	4	5
23. State-of-the-art visual art studios	1	2	3	4	5
24. State-of-the-art performance facilities	1	2	3	4	5
25. Residential life	1	2	3	4	5
26. Health services	1	2	3	4	5
27. Counseling services	1	2	3	4	5
28. Tutorial services	1	2	3	4	5
29. Special-needs services	1	2	3	4	5
30. Publicly funded (state) institution	1	2	3	4	5
31. Privately funded institution	1	2	3	4	5
32. Faith-based institution	1	2	3	4	5
33. Secular institution	1	2	3	4	5
34. Co-educational institution	1	2	3	4	5
35. Financial resources and assistance	1	2	3	4	5
36. Campus safety	1	2	3	4	5
37. Distance from home	1	2	3	4	5
38. Campus diversity	1	2	3	4	5
39. Active social life	1	2	3	4	5
40. Interests and values of other students	1	2	3	4	5