



ALL FOR ONE

The overflowing mailbox.



There are more than 3800 colleges and universities in the US. You're probably getting contacted by all of them.



HOW DO YOU
CHOOSE?

You probably get emails like this:



Hi Andrew,

My name is Sara Hamer, and I am a Junior at Xavier University. **The [people at Xavier](#) supported me while I was going through my college search, and I want to do the same for you.** Here are some tips I found most useful. Hopefully they can help you!

- Start now. **It is never too soon to be dreaming** and searching for your best college fit.
 - Think about **where you want to go**, even if it's not where your friends are looking. Trust me, **I found best friends at Xavier and you will in college, too.**
 - Be open to new possibilities.** This is a great time in life to try something new, and you never know what could come from looking into a new city or different major.
- I love it at Xavier, and I could never imagine myself anywhere else. **Come [visit Xavier](#) - I think you'll quickly see how it could be a great fit for you, too.**

All for one!

Sara Hamer
Xavier Class of 2020

Unsubscribe from [Xavier University](#)

THE PARADOX

How do you know
what you want when
you don't know what
you want?

Today's homework

- Students: Just who are you, anyway?
- Parents: What kind of school best suits your student?
- Together: Compare lists, discuss options. No judgements. Get on the same page.

Getting Started

A little bit of research

The screenshot shows the BigFuture College Search interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the CollegeBoard logo, an 'Access' button, and a search bar. Below this, the BigFuture logo is on the left, and a series of links (Get Started, Find Colleges, Explore Careers, Pay for College, Get In, Make a Plan) are on the right. The main heading is 'College Search'. On the left side, there's a 'SELECT FILTERS' section with a list of filter categories: Test Scores & Selectivity, Type of School, Location, Campus & Housing, Majors & Learning Environment, Sports & Activities, Academic Credit, Paying, Additional Support Programs, and Diversity. Each category has a corresponding button. At the bottom of this list are 'Save Selections' and 'Clear All Selections' buttons. A large green circular callout bubble in the center contains the text: 'You have 3,806 college options. Choose a category on the left to find the right ones for you. We'll help along the way.' A pink circular bubble to the right of the green one contains the text: 'Not sure where to start? Go to College Search Step-by-Step, an interactive guide.'

CollegeBoard Access

Sign In Search

BigFuture

Get Started Find Colleges Explore Careers Pay for College Get In Make a Plan

Home / Find Colleges / College Search

College Search

Save Selections Clear All Selections

SELECT FILTERS

- Test Scores & Selectivity
- Type of School
- Location
- Campus & Housing
- Majors & Learning Environment
- Sports & Activities
- Academic Credit
- Paying
- Additional Support Programs
- Diversity

Save Selections Clear All Selections

You have 3,806 college options. Choose a category on the left to find the right ones for you. We'll help along the way.

Not sure where to start? Go to College Search Step-by-Step, an interactive guide.

<http://bigfuture.collegeboard.org>

The College Fair



- A chance to learn more about schools from the experts
- Get a list before you go and highlight the schools you want to visit
- Don't ignore schools you've never heard of-you might find your dream school!

So, you're at the fair. What should you do?

- ◉ Introduce yourself to the rep.
- ◉ It's a conversation.
- ◉ Create labels or pre-register electronically.
- ◉ Ask the reps about their "Cross Apps"
- ◉ PS: We're usually lined up alphabetically.



Local College Fairs: Spring 2020

March 3	North Central 6:00-8:00 pm
March 14	NACAC College Fair Donald E. Stephens Center, Rosemont 11:00 am-3:00 pm
March 15	Jesuit College Fair Marriott Oak Brook 2:00-4:00 pm
March 24	Fox Valley @ St. Charles North 6:00-8:00 pm

Visiting Campus

Get to know us—on our turf

Campus Visits 101

- ◉ When? Summer? School year?
- ◉ Pre-register!
- ◉ Two types:
 - Individual
 - Open House
- ◉ Ask for local recommendations

Your typical campus visit:

- Information Session
- Campus Tour
- Meal in the cafeteria
- Coupon for the bookstore

HOT TIP:

Let your student do the talking!



Your Spring Break HOT SPOT

Central Illinois

Spring Break Hot Spot: Central Illinois

Augustana College (2,200)

Bradley University (5,000)

Illinois State University (18,000)

Illinois Wesleyan University (2,100)

University of Illinois (30,000)

And I-74 gets you to Xavier, too!

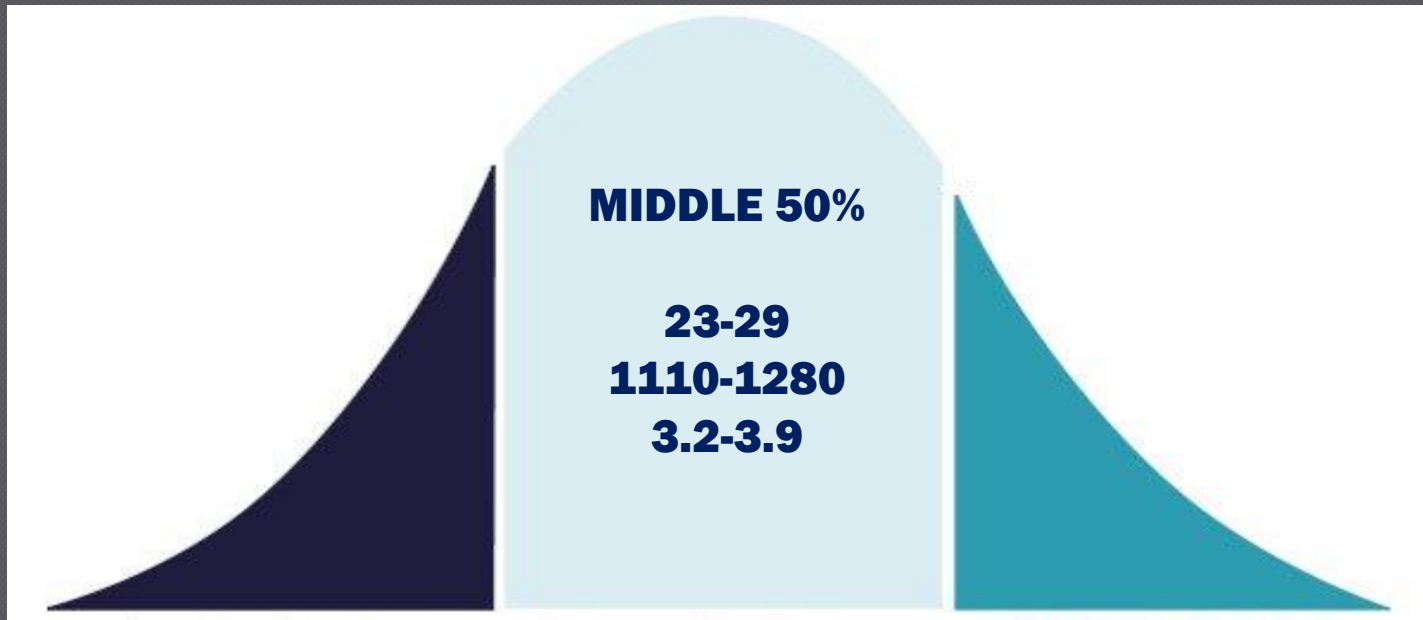
Ask (and answer) questions!

- Visits are your time to be a detective.
- Have some prepared questions ready for each school you visit.
- Personalize your questions.
- We want to know about you, too!

Here are a few good questions

- ◉ Are classes taught by professors?
- ◉ What do students do on the weekends?
- ◉ What is the placement rate?
- ◉ How do I find an internship?
- ◉ Can students have cars on campus?
- ◉ Do students graduate in four years?
- ◉ What is the profile of admitted students?

How to use the profile



- What kind of academic experience do you want?
- Don't ask "What's your minimum GPA?"
- Think about scholarship possibilities!

Your Friendly Neighborhood Admission Counselor

- ◎ **Check the website**
- ◎ **How can I reach out to my rep?**
- ◎ **We're coming to visit your school!**



Questions? Comments?

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