

Checklist for College

By Laura Cooper Peterson

- Planning
 - Research careers.
 - Identify your academic interest early in your high school years.
 - Have your high school counselor assist you in selecting the proper curriculum.
 - Take at least one of the assessment tests.
 - Check with your high school counselor for test schedules.
 - Begin asking teachers, counselors or employers if they would be willing to write a letter of recommendation.
 - Attend college fairs in your area.
 - Visit colleges you are interested in or check out their Web sites.
- Choosing a College
 - Narrow down your list to 3-5 colleges at the beginning of your senior year.
 - Visit the campus, take a tour, sit in on a class or two and stay overnight.
 - Talk with students on campus.
 - Talk with professors in your chosen major(s).
 - Talk to a coach in your chosen sport.
 - Find out if the college has job placement services.
 - Research the college's reputation and graduation rate.
 - Talk with the financial aid office about your aid package.
 - Let all colleges you applied to know about your final decision.
 - Find out if you will be required to pay a deposit to reserve your place.