

The 5 web sites I will be using:

1. www.educationplanner.com

A great site for college and career planning. The major categories are Preparing, Selecting, Applying, Deciding, and Paying. Included in the Preparing section are Holland's career assessment, a Learning Style assessment, and a Self-Assessment worksheet. The Selecting section offers undergraduate and graduate search engines, tips for choosing a major, and a campus visit checklist. The Applying section boasts a resume' builder, an audition and portfolio section, monthly calendars, a free essay writing course, application tips, college interview tips, and links to specific college applications online. The Deciding section includes criteria to help the student select the college they will attend, including a "financial aid award analyzer". The Paying section has explanations of the various types of financial aid, a scholarship search engine, NCAA Scholarship limits, an online FAFSA tutorial, and a section on military options. This site includes many printable worksheets, tips for parents, counselors, and more. Information is also provided in Spanish.

2. www.review.com

This site, sponsored by the Princeton Review, has a college search engine called the "Counselor-O-Matic". While not a perfect search engine, it is a good place to start because it separates schools by "match, reach, and safety". There are also links directly to the college web sites. This site includes financial aid and career information. A student can create an online portfolio here and save the schools they like into their "profile". There is also a direct link to the Common Application web site and online applications for other schools.

3. A college/university web site of the student's choosing: www.-----.edu. There is nothing like going directly to the internet home page of a college/university to see how the school portrays itself. Check out the ease of navigating through the sections. Is the web site up-to-date? Is it easy to find what you are looking for? Does the site provide phone numbers and e-mails for different departments and faculty members? Does the site offer any college planning advice? Does the school have an activities calendar where they list the events on-campus? Can you access a student newspaper through the site? Does the school offer an online application? Can you access the jobs/internship section of the Career Office. Since students access this web site after they attend the school, checking it out ahead of time, gives them an idea of how things are organized and what is available online. I think the web site tells a lot about a school. If it seems disorganized, maybe that is an indication of what you will find on-campus.

4. www.campustours.com While nothing can replace an actual college visit, this site provides a representation of what the campus looks like through a virtual college tour. It is easy to navigate and very professional. You can often access a campus map, residence hall floor plans, and get more information about the school, through this site.

5. www.collegeboard.com Sections include Test Information, Planning for college, Finding a college, Applying to college, and Paying college. Not only can you register for