

The College Selection Process: Separating Myth from Reality

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A Lesson in Supply and Demand

- ❖ The more applications a college receives, the more competition there will be for the available spots in the freshman class.
- ❖ From the college's point of view, recruitment of students is the opportunity to attract the very finest students to their campus.

Factors Affecting a School's Reputation

- ❖ Facility
- ❖ Faculty
- ❖ Student Body
- ❖ Endowment (Alumni)

Value-based Approach to Selecting Colleges

- ❖ Intended Major
- ❖ Comprehensive vs Specialized
- ❖ Cost/Aid Available
- ❖ Past Student Success

What's Best for You?

- ❖ Four-year college vs. Two-year
- ❖ Residential student vs. Commuter
- ❖ Research vs. Teaching Oriented College
- ❖ “Big Fish Little Pond or Big Pond Little Fish?”

College Search...

Do Your Research

❖ Factors to consider:

- Academic programs
- Majors offered
- Location
- Size
- Environment
- Extra-curricular activities/Student life
- Career planning/Internships/Study Abroad
- Admissions Requirements
- Cost
- Financial Aid/Scholarships/Work-Study
- Visit, Visit, VISIT!!

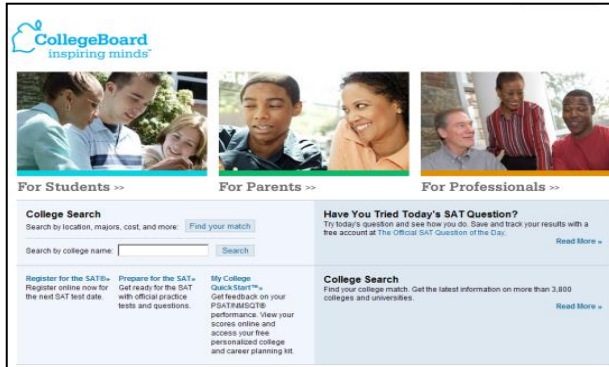
College Search...

Do Your Research

❖ Factors to ignore:

- Your friend is going.
- Your boyfriend/girlfriend is going/is already there.
- They have great football team.
- I want to go as far away from home as I can.
- “Nameplate” chasing.

College Search Resources...



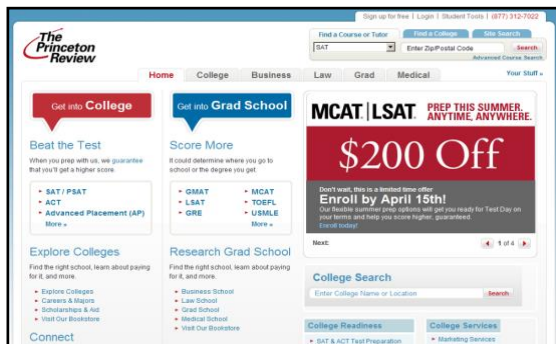
The screenshot shows the CollegeBoard website with the tagline "inspiring minds". It features three main navigation sections: "For Students", "For Parents", and "For Professionals". The "College Search" section is highlighted, with a search bar and a "Find your match" button. Below the search bar, there are several informational boxes, including one for "Have You Tried Today's SAT Question?" and another for "My College Quick Start".

www.CollegeBoard.com



The screenshot shows the College Confidential website with the tagline "A wealth of information™". It features a navigation bar with links for "COLLEGE SEARCH", "COLLEGE RANKINGS", "PAYING FOR COLLEGE", "COLLEGE LIFE", and "ASK THE TEEN". The main content area is titled "College Search" and includes a search bar, a "Find a school by name" section, and a "How Do I Get Started?" section with a "Click Rank" button. A large banner advertises "WITH OVER 3500 SCHOOLS. WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED."

www.CollegeConfidential.com



The screenshot shows the Princeton Review website with the tagline "The Princeton Review". It features a navigation bar with links for "Home", "College", "Business", "Law", "Grad", "Medical", and "Your Study". The main content area includes a "Get into College" section, a "Beat the Test" section, a "Score More" section, and a "Research Grad School" section. A large banner advertises "MCAT | LSAT | PREP THIS SUMMER. ANYTIME, ANYWHERE." with a "\$200 Off" offer.

www.PrincetonReview.com

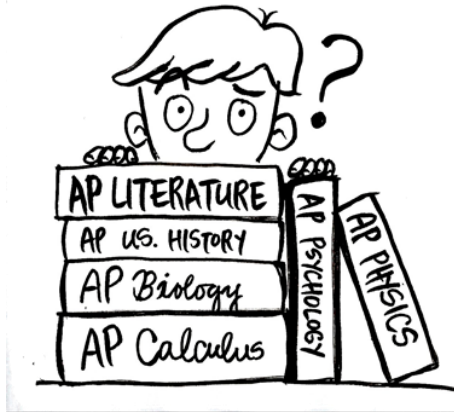


The screenshot shows the Cappex website with the tagline "College search made simple". It features a navigation bar with links for "Home", "College", "Business", "Law", "Grad", "Medical", and "Your Study". The main content area includes a "There's a better way to find the perfect college." section, a "Create Your Free Profile" button, and a "Search by college name" section. A large banner advertises "There's a better way to find the perfect college." with a "Create Your Free Profile" button.

www.Cappex.com

Preparing for College

Enhancing Your Academic Profile



READ!


READ!

READ!

Standardized Test Scores

Why are they relevant?

All standardized tests are not created equal

 The logo features the word "SAT" in large blue letters at the top, "OR" in red cursive script in the middle, and "ACT" in large blue letters at the bottom. Two yellow pencils are positioned horizontally, their tips pointing towards each other and meeting at the "OR".	1,600 TOTAL	Evidence-based reading, writing & Math
	36 TOTAL	English, Math, Reading, Science & Writing

How Do Admissions Officers Review a Candidate

- ❖ High School Transcript
- ❖ Standardized Test Scores (SAT's, ACT's)

- ❖ School/Community Activities
- ❖ Student Writings/Essay
- ❖ Letter of Recommendation

*Quality
over
Quantity*

Admission Lingo

- ❖ Common Application
- ❖ School Specific Application (Paper or Online)
- ❖ Rolling Admission
- ❖ Early Action
- ❖ Early Decision
- ❖ Wait List

Selecting Colleges for Admission

A time-honored principle in applying to schools:

- ❖ Reach
- ❖ Range
- ❖ Safety

Student Loan Debt = \$1.8 TRILLION

