



The Free School

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<http://www.thefreeschool.education/admissions.html>

Introduction

This document summarizes most criteria that college applicants consider when they decide which educational institutions they will apply to and which offer to enrol that they will accept.

The component of this document that lists decision-support criteria has two parts. Part 1 explores mandatory admission criteria set by the educational institution. It is logical to explore these criteria first. Applicants who do not meet all admission criteria do not need to explore Part 2. Discussion in Part 2 summarizes the criteria that college seekers may consider when they receive a letter of offer from a post-secondary educational institute.

The flow chart diagram on the next page diagrammatically summarizes this two part decision-making process.

College selection tool

College name _____

Step 1 : Do I satisfy all mandatory admissions criteria?

☒ X n/a

Academic
grades

Financial aid /
affordable

Recommendation
letter/s

Prior study
prerequisites

Other _____



If you satisfy all admissions criteria, please proceed to step 2.

Step 2 : Does this college satisfy my needs?

College/field
reputation

Faculty
skillset

Infrastructure &
Academic support

Curriculum:
Quality & choice

Teaching modes:
Flexible *etc.*

Student
demographics

Sports clubs
& societies

Location &
nearby facilities

Alumni
services

Other _____

PART 1

Mandatory criteria

Academic certifications

- Evidence of language proficiency (*e.g.* IELTS)
- Do you have the minimum academic grades for admission?
- Academic grades may require a minimum test score for a public exam such as the ACT Test.
- Academic criteria may mandate the completion of a specified program, such as the requirement to hold a Bachelor Degree in a related field as a prerequisite for admission into a Master Degree.

Finances

- Are you eligible for financial aid?
- Can you afford essential text books and other resources?
- Can you afford to pay for tuition fees from your own funds?
- Can you fund administration fees and charges?
- Can you afford associated living costs?

Recommendation letters

- Are you required to provide one or more letters of recommendation from educators, associates or employers?

Prerequisites

- Assumed knowledge (*e.g.* senior-level high school advanced mathematics)
- Mandatory prerequisites (*e.g.* senior high school chemistry to study Dentistry)

Other

- Health examinations (*e.g.* for medical courses)
- Criminal history checks (*e.g.* for childcare courses)
- Relevant professional work experience
- Relevant professional registration (*e.g.* Registered Nurse designation to study a Master of Nursing Degree)

PART 2

Applicant's criteria

Reputation

- Reputation of the Discipline
- Reputation of the Department

- Reputation of the Faculty School
- Reputation of the institution
- Ethos, mandate and values of the institution

Teaching faculty

- Qualifications
- Research profile
- Academic training
- Industry experience
- Track-record with supporting students

Infrastructure

- WIFI
- Library
- Student housing
- On campus catering
- On campus parking
- Science laboratories
- Computer laboratories

- Sports facilities and gymnasium

Support

- Health Service
- Careers Service
- Counseling Service
- Disability Support Services
- Students' Representative Council
- Religious Minister and place of worship
- Academic support such as a well-resourced Writing Center

Curriculum

- Does the school offer the major and minor subjects that I aim to study?
- Content - what theoretical aspects are taught within each coursework subject?
- Quality of the curriculum
- Does this program offer internships such as those that bear course credits?
- Is this course accredited by relevant professional associations?
- Is this course accredited for skilled-migration purposes?

Service delivery

- Teaching quality
- Customer service orientation - student support services
- Customer service orientation - teaching and research support
- Does the college offer delivery modes that suit my needs, *e.g.*, face-to-face classes, online delivery and blended-learning (combined face-to-face and online)?

Demographics

- Is the student demographic a match for the types of people that I wish to study alongside?

Sports

- Sports scholarships
- Sports teams for athletes
- Access to quality coaching
- Band
- Cheerleaders
- Sports team cheer squad

Student societies

- Examples: International Student Society, Glee Club, Debating Club.

Location and nearby facilities

- Access to public transport
- Proximity to my residence and work

Alumni services

- Access to library resources
- Invitations to alumni events
- Post graduation career guidance service

Other criteria

- Will the college allow credit transfer for study in a similar course that I have completed at another institution?
- Does the college offer expense reimbursement for graduate research scholars?
- Does the college offer undergraduate and graduate teaching fellowships?

Further reading

These resources listed overleaf are available in Acrobat or YouTube video file format.

The School's YouTube subscriber name is **The Free School**.

<http://www.thefreeschool.education/scholarships.html>

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**How to write a winner essay for
college and scholarship applications**

library@thefreeschool.education

<http://www.thefreeschool.education/motivation-letters.html>

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**How to write a motivation letter or a
motivation statement for college and
scholarship applications**

The Free School Library presentation

library@thefreeschool.education

<http://www.thefreeschool.education/scholarships.html>

How to apply for Graduate School

The Free School Library presentation

library@thefreeschool.education



<http://www.thefreeschool.education/scholarships.html>

How to apply for a scholarship



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PhD free tuition - Graduate Teaching Assistantship / Fellowship programs in the United States, Canada and other countries.

Original content analysis research.

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<http://www.thefreeschool.education/finances.html>

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How to plan for your finances and budget as an international student

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Free or low tuition fees for international university students in Germany, Iceland, Norway, Finland, Luxembourg, Greece, Brazil, Panama and the Czech Republic - November 2016.

Original content analysis research.

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<http://chat.thefreeschool.education/>

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Discussion Forum



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Free online peer tuition 365 days a year.

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