

Homeschool Success Masterclass



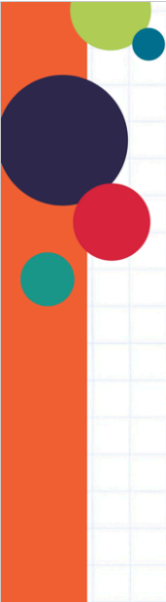
Session 8: Finding the Right College

Helping them find their path.

Guide: [Guide to Helping Teens Find Their Career Path](#)

Help them find the program or degree that leads to their career.

Do a self-needs assessment.



Self-Needs Assessment

- Did you need support and structure in high school?
- Do you routinely need help from others to keep you motivated and focused?
- Do you thrive on individual attention from teachers?
- Do you have the prerequisites required for the program?
- Do you prefer to be near home or in a different part of the country?
- Do you prefer to be in an urban, suburban, or rural setting?
- How does college size feel? size as their high school? Bigger? Smaller?
- Does it have a co-op program to help them get real-life job experience?
- Does it have a sports-centered culture with lots of team spirit or one that doesn't emphasize these things?
- Does it have a party scene or a quieter social life?



Self-Needs Assessment Questions

Choosing the right school

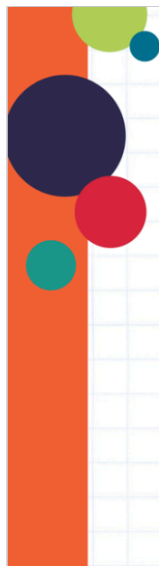
Location

Location

- Do you want to live on the college campus or commute?
- If you choose to live at home how far is the commute to the college of your choice?
- Is public transportation available?
- Is the college located in a small town or larger city?
- How will that impact your decision to attend?
- What are the parking facilities like?



Costs



Costs

- Are private scholarships or grants available specifically for students with disabilities?
- Is a vocational rehabilitation liaison available on the college campus?
- Does the financial aid office offer assistance in completing financial aid forms?
- When are the deadline for applying for financial aid and how early can the financial aid application process begin?
- Are the projected expenses at the college or university within the budget of your family?
- What are the costs associated with attending the college or university in which you are interested (tuition, room & board, books, lab fees)?



Financial aid through FAFSA

[Guide to Applying for Financial Aid Through FAFSA](#)

Financial aid through the Department of Rehabilitation DOR

[GUIDE to Financial Aid for Students With Learning Disabilities](#)

College and class size

Levels of student support

Level 3: Comprehensive Structure (highest level)

Colleges with Comprehensive Structured Programs:

- American University
- Curry College
- University of Arizona
- University of Denver
- American International College
- Marist

[For an extensive list of colleges that are dyslexia-friendly, click here.](#)

Level 2: Coordinated Services (medium level)

Level 1: Basic Service Programs (lowest level)

Colleges specifically for students with learning disabilities

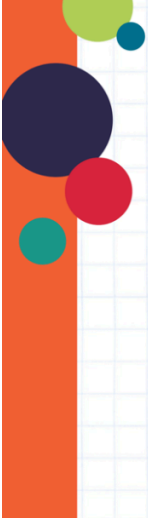
Beacon College

Landmark College

[30 Best Colleges for Students with Learning Disabilities](#)

[List of colleges that don't require an SAT or ACT.](#)

Questions to ask colleges.



Questions to Ask College

- What types of academic accommodations are typically provided to students with learning challenges on your campus? Will this college provide the specific accommodations that I need?
- What other types of support are available?
- Does the program have professional tutors or peer (student) tutors? Does the college have tutors available who are trained and understand the needs of students with learning differences?
- Are students assigned a regular appointment or do they receive services on a drop-in basis?
- Are there additional fees to participate in the support program?



More questions to ask colleges

MORE Questions to Ask the College

- How long has the support program been in place at this college?
- How many students are enrolled in the support program?
- What is the retention rate of students with learning challenges at this college?
- How many students with learning challenges have graduated in the past 5 years? What were their major fields of study?
- Is there a summer pre-college program available to incoming first year students?



Online colleges

Online Schools

- Does the online program have a point person for students with disabilities who is accessible to the student?
- Determine if there are readily available accommodations for students with disabilities.
- Investigate the accessibility of web-based/assistive technology tools used by the school and the cost if any.
- Understand that some online schools are for-profit and have different entrance and payment criteria than traditional universities and colleges.
- Be aware of programs that promise full degrees in short amount of time.
- Verify the program completion and job placement rates for graduates for the online program you're considering.



Resources for finding the right college

[Peterson's education planner](#)

[College Confidential](#)

[The Princeton Review](#)

[ACT](#)

[CollegeBoard.org](#)

[STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE: Using CollegeBoard.org to Find the Right College](#)

General tips for applying to colleges

Disclosing a learning disability on a college application

Identifying key messages you want to convey

The college essay

Should I apply to colleges if my admission test scores are lower than their published ranges?

Letters of recommendation

Preparing for the college interview

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Questions?

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