



## BEGINNING TO APPLY FOR COLLEGES

One of the most difficult decisions high schoolers face is where to apply to college. Before students can even consider where to apply, they need to figure a few things out about themselves first. Try answering the questions below about yourself:

- What are some things you feel you do well?
- What challenges you?
- What do you like to do for fun?
- Who do you look up to? Why?
- What's something you've always wanted to try to do?
- What accomplishment has made you the proudest?
- What's your favorite class? Why?
- If you could do any job for a day, what would it be?
- As a young child, what did you want to be when you grew up?
- What do you read about in your free time?

The answers to these questions will be useful as you continue your journey of applying to college. Some of them may even be turned into essays for your applications.

In addition to the counseling staff of Wesley College Preparatory School, there are several free resources available to assist you in applying for college. Students should consider College Board's Big Future tool. Students can create a profile by answering a few simple questions and reduce the challenge of trying to figure out where to apply from a list of 3,823 colleges and universities in the United States to a much more manageable number.

The tool helps students figure out which colleges could be the best fit for them. The Big Future tool asks students about housing and location preferences, interests in sports and activities, how the student is going to pay for their education and what financial needs the student might have, what majors interest the student, learning environments the student learns best in, and much more. Helping the student figure out what college to apply for is only the beginning of what The Big Future tool offers. Students can explore majors, careers, options for financial aid, and more. There are even resources for parents.

To start using this valuable resource go to <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search>.