ROAD2COLLEGE
Concierge Services

Non-Academic Factors

Top 10-public school. Highest ranked college in the Northeast. Ratings and rankings catch your eye and influence the college list. But how much *influence* should they play? When we follow up with the families we work with, the biggest factor for their student's success was the right non-academic environment. Social, geographic, club/activities, alumni associations, and more played a key part in their student's success.

What we've seen is that a happy child is a successful child and being happy in their environment allowed them to thrive at their college/university.

Step 1: Create a List
Sit down with your student and create a list of "non-academic" factors and what the ideal scenario would be for each. We've provided you with some of the most popular factors people consider.

Geographic Region	Transportation Near/On Campus	Social
Things you'd consider here: close to home, weather, activities in city, etc.	*Things you'd consider here: On-campus transportation, public transportation, parking, etc.*	*Things you'd consider here: big sport school, school spirit, club sports*

Clubs/Activities	Alumni Associations/Connections	Greek Life
Things you'd consider here: clubs related to your major, volunteer opportunities,clubs related to your interests, etc.	*Things you'd consider here: strong alumni connections, alumni meetings and opportunities, internship support, etc.*	*Things you'd consider here: is Greek life important, different Greek Life associations, etc.*

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Step 2: Compare and Contrast
Using the list of schools from the Financial and Academic Factors homework, see how they compare on the non-academic front. Measure what similarities they have, any deal breakers, etc. You want to make sure your student is going to be happy where they apply.

Rate the following factor 1 - 4, with 4 being the one that matches best.

	Geographic	Transportation	Greek Life	Social	Alumni Networks
School 1					
School 2					
School 3					

Continue to build on this list and what non-academic factors are important to your student. Go through this checklist below to make sure you've crossed your t's and dotted your i's.

Y	N	
☐	☐	1. Has your student been away from home without their parents?
☐	☐	2. Is your student self-motivated?
☐	☐	3. Is your student attending a college in a different geographic area?
☐	☐	4. Is your student planning to attend an in-state college as an out-of-state student?
☐	☐	5. Does your student intend to get involved in clubs, activities and sports while in college?
☐	☐	6. Is Greek life important to your student while in college?
☐	☐	7. Does your student have strong self-regulation skills?
☐	☐	8. Does peer pressure have a significant impact on the decisions your student makes?
☐	☐	9. Is your student comfortable on advocating for themselves?
☐	☐	10. Is your student comfortable asking for/search for assistance when needed?

The College List Drives Everything!