



www.HumbachEducationConsulting.com

Introduction

Welcome to the land of plenty. The Humbach Education Consulting “Everything College” Resource Guide is comprehensive, **current and invaluable!** Please take full advantage of the contents. My hope is that parents will take refuge in this guide yet I suspect they may still feel overwhelmed by the process.

Cue me. Sure, you too are welcome to read the million and two articles, books, websites and blogs on everything ‘college’ or you can [work with me](#), because the vast majority of that information is either in my head or at my fingertips. Bonus – I actually understand it and can apply it to every student and family I work with.

This Resource Guide is intended to help you make sense of the mountains of information and apply that to the dozens of pieces of the college puzzle. One reason there are so many varied categories within college planning is because there are so many varied kinds of students. Each student is unique, with specific requirements, needs and wants and with over 4000 colleges and universities in this country...well, you can see why you need this guide.

This guide gives you the opportunity to choose from a variety of resources on everything from Financial Aid and Scholarship strategy to stealth facts regarding the special application nuances for the artist and athlete. Do you have questions about students that are Gifted and Talented, Under Represented or that have Learning Difficulties? It's all here.

I hope you find this guide early in the process (fresh/soph). Regardless, it will serve you as you try to make heads and tails of the process. Parents will benefit from the choices within, and students will find current and relevant information here as well.

[I'm an expert in college admissions](#) and all that goes with it. I've been reading and compiling this information for many years and I appreciate the ‘moving target’ that is college admissions. What I know for sure, is the information contained herein will help lessen the fear and anxiety that so often accompanies this college process.

Table of Contents

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

FINANCIAL AID

SCHOLARSHIPS

TESTING

ARTISANS AND JOCKS

GIFTED AND TALENTED

GAP YEAR

LEARNING DIFFICULTIES

RECOVERY/TREATMENT

DIVERSITY

UNDERREPRESENTED

**RECOMMENDED BLOGS &
ARTICLES**

COLLEGE AND ADMISSIONS

College Results Online (CRO) is an interactive, user-friendly Web tool designed to provide policymakers, counselors, parents, students, and others with information about college graduation rates for nearly any four-year college or university in the country.

<http://www.collegeresults.org/>

Colleges That Change Lives is truly one of my favorite resources because they are all about helping students explore colleges beyond the ranking and ratings hysteria.

<http://www.ctcl.org/about/ctcl>

Rugg's Recommendations On The Colleges, 30th Ed. Fred Rugg. The latest and greatest from Fred Rugg and a serious staple. This New Desktop Book features over 650 entry changes. Available in electronic form only. Rely on the objective information from Ruggs, instead of any 'ranking' materials! www.ruggsrecs.com

YOUiversityTV is a great source to view over 3000 exclusive college and career related videos. <http://www.youniversitytv.com/>

College Admissions Reading List - Recommended by Faculty and Staff of the Summer Institute of Harvard. Contents of the list found by faculty to be "interesting, provocative, helpful or wonderful for different reasons."

<http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~sica/reading.htm>

CollegeNet - provides links to college's web application pages.

<http://cnsearch.collegenet.com/cgi-bin/APPLY/index>

The Common Application. The whole nine yards about the brand new common app, including essay prompts. <https://www.commonapp.org/CommonApp/default.aspx>

Decoding the Common App's Essay Prompts – all about the new 2013 essay prompts. <http://www.insidetracktocollege.blogspot.com/2013/03/decodingthe-common-apps-essay-prompts.html>

The Universal College Application - <https://www.universalcollegeapp.com>

Serious spotlight on thousands of colleges- www.collegeview.com

The world's largest college forum - www.collegeconfidential.com

A comprehensive list of all majors offered at the UC and CSU schools-

www.assist.org/exploring-majors

A resource of the US Department of Education. College Navigator gathers admission, retention, graduation, and financial aid data for every college in the country.

www.nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator

COLLEGE AND ADMISSIONS

[Book of Majors](#), updated annually, from The College Board

[College Access & Opportunity Guide](#), from the Center for Student Opportunity

[Colleges That Change Lives](#), Loren Pope. Helping students and parents to explore beyond the hysteria of college rankings. Revised by Hilary Masell Oswald

[The College Finder](#), Steven Antonoff.

[College Match](#), Steven Antonoff. This is a terrific guide and easy to use.

[Fiske Guide to Colleges](#). Annual updates.

[Going Geek: What Every Smart Kid \(and Every Smart Parent\) Should Know About College Admissions](#), John Carpenter

[Harvard Schmarvard](#), Jay Mathews. An entertaining read from a Harvard grad. The Insider's Guide to the Colleges, Yale Daily News Staff. Strong resource that focuses on 'match' not 'best'. Annual updates.

[Homeschoolers' College Admissions Handbook](#), Cafi Cohen

[The Insider's Guide to the Colleges](#)

[Making A Difference College & Graduate Guide](#)

[Wintergreen Orchardhouse Sourcebooks](#)

[100 Colleges Where Average Students Can Excel](#), by Joe Anne Adler. Although this book was last published in 1997 it continues to serve as a great starting point and is well worth the read.

COLLEGE AND ADMISSIONS

College Unranked, Ending the College Admissions Frenzy, by Lloyd Thacker, from The Education Conservancy. 'If you are the parent of a college-bound high school student, you owe it to yourself to read this collection of essays before you enter the fray of college admissions. Too many rankings. Too much marketing. Too much pressure. Too many tests. There's a lot of blame to go around, and this book is a beginning at reforming the schools, students, parents and media who drive the system.' West Coast

Cool Colleges, by Donald Asher. This book is terrific and Mr. Asher doles out extremely helpful detail about lots and lots of schools. While a bit outdated in spots, it's funny and articulate and the message is clear - there's a school out there for everyone.

Crazy U One Dad's Crash Course in Getting His Kid into College, by Andrew Ferguson. A great read for students and parents, this book is really funny and at the same time, right on point.

Admission Matters, by Springer, Reider and Franck. What Students and Parents Need to Know About Getting into College (CourseSmart). New updated edition, this book takes a logical and calm look at the college admissions process and gives step by step guidance, from A to Z.

College Admissions: A Step by Step Guide Through the Process, Michael Culpepper. This is a quick read to ease anxiety for families overwhelmed by the process.

College Admission from Application to Acceptance, Step by Step, by Robin Mamlet and Christine VanDeVelde

The College Admission Mystique by Bill Mayher. This is a classic look at what happens (and doesn't happen) behind the closed doors of the admissions office -fascinating.

Fundamentals of College Admission Counseling, from the National Association for College Admission Counseling

The Gatekeepers: Inside the Admissions Process of a Premier College, Jacques Steinberg

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW NOW

Train memory and attention with scientific brain games. www.lumocity.com

SociallyClean (formerly Facewash and Simplewash). Quickly find questionable and inappropriate content and delete what you want. <https://sociallyclean.com/>

What to know about the STEM skills gap- <http://www.edudemic.com/stem-skills-gap/>

Girls Who Code is a national nonprofit organization working to close the gender gap in the technology and engineering sectors. With support from public and private partners, Girls Who Code works to educate, inspire, and equip high school girls with the skills and resources to pursue opportunities in computing fields. <http://www.girlswhocode.com/>

Transition from High School to College

Great Study Skill Tips - based on your learning style. Students with IEPs are taught to understand and compensate for their learning styles, something everyone would benefit from knowing! <http://www.educationplanner.com/students/self-assessments/learning-styles.shtml>

Early Awareness

Early College Awareness – from the Harvard Alumni Association. Many links to early college awareness programs and resources.

<http://www.impactpublications.com/financialaidforminoritiesdirectories.aspx>

<http://survivingthecollegeapplicationprocess.com/getting-legal-house-order-adult-child-leaves-college/>

http://www.ted.com/talks/jackson_katz_violence_against_women_it_s_a_men_s_issue

<http://www.thedailybeast.com/witw/articles/2014/07/22/talking-to-daughters-about-rape.html>

<http://www.thecollegesolution.com/the-shocking-truth-about-graduation-rates/>

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/josh-stephens/college-advice-from-the-p_b_5611370.html

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

A public service initiative that helps middle and high school students prepare, apply, and pay for college. Sponsored by The American Council on Education, the Lumina Foundation, and the Ad Council. <http://www.knowhow2go.org/>

Financial Aid and Scholarships

Financial Aid Guide for the College Bound http://financialaid.ucsc.edu/forms-resources/brochures%20guides/E4FC_FinAidGuide.pdf

The big enchilada. Includes an EFC calculator www.finaid.org

The National Association for College Admission Counseling. Nearly 13,000 professionals from around the world dedicated to serving students as they make choices about pursuing postsecondary education. www.nacacnet.org/studentinfo/Pages/Default.aspx

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid: a required form for any student seeking need-based financial aid. Even if you think you will not qualify for need-based aid, you will need to fill out the FAFSA to apply for low-interest, non-need-based government loans. <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

A resource of the US Department of Education. This is a great, comprehensive site that offers great insight to all things financial aid; such as how to prepare for college, what types of aid are available, qualifications for aid, applying for aid and loan management. <http://studentaid.ed.gov/>

The National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators. More than 18,000 student financial assistance professionals at approximately 3,000 institutions of higher education, serving over 16 million students. Offering extensive resources for students and parents. http://www.nasfaa.org/students/About_Financial_Aid.aspx

When planning to apply and pay for college, U.S. students should explore the academic offerings at publicly supported universities and colleges in their home state. If they qualify for in-state tuition (and admission) as a state resident, they can obtain a first-class education at very reasonable rates. Attending a public institution in another state usually adds a nonresident tuition surcharge that can amount to thousands of dollars each year. www.professionals.collegeboard.com/testing/international/state

CSS Profile - Some colleges use the CSS Profile or an institutional aid application to determine your eligibility for institutional aid. <http://student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile>

College Goal Sunday - National program that provides free on-site assistance with filling out the FAFSA. <http://collegegoalsundayusa.org/>

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Ed.Gov. This Web page provides students, families and institutions with resources and background about the development and adoption of the Financial Aid Shopping Sheet. The Financial Aid Shopping Sheet is a consumer tool that participating institutions will use to notify students about their financial aid package. It is a standardized form that is designed to simplify the information that prospective students receive about costs and financial aid so that they can easily compare institutions and make informed decisions about where to attend school. <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/highered/guid/aid-offer/index.html>

FEDERAL STUDENT AID YOUTUBE PAGE -

http://www.youtube.com/user/federalstudentaid?feature=results_main

How Work Study Works - useful page from CollegeData.com.

http://www.collegedata.com/cs/content/content_payarticle_tmpl.jhtml?articleId=10083

Is College Worth It? http://priceconomics.com/is-college-worth-it/?goback=%2Egde_78767_member_5791707692955353089#%21

Adventures in Education. A great website that offers current and comprehensive information regarding planning and paying for college as well as finding a career and managing your money. <http://www.aie.org/students/>

Financial Football - this financial literacy teaching tool for the classroom includes modules for all age groups. <http://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/games/trainingcamp/>

U.S. Department of Education – Serious nuts and bolts.

<http://www2.ed.gov/parents/landing.jhtml>

Big Future Scholarship Search - from the College Board.

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>

CollegeNet is a great place to start if you already have ideas about the type of scholarship you are looking for. You can search scholarships either by "Key Words" or by creating a "Profile". <http://www.collegenet.com/mach25/app>

FastWeb - Scholarship search. <http://www.fastweb.com/college-scholarships>

Merit Aid. A comprehensive directory of merit scholarships and academic scholarships from colleges across the country. <http://www.meritaid.com/>

Women Funding Women's Education- <http://www.thesunflowerinitiative.com/>

TESTING

On line tutoring. www.arborbridge.com

Free test prep for the new SAT. <https://www.khanacademy.org/sat>

From the wonderful WOW Writing Workshops. <https://www.wowwritingworkshop.com/9-tips-to-master-actsat-writing-tests>

It's all about the phone and the apps.

<http://www.parentscountdowntocollegecoach.com/2014/04/29/test-prep-apps/>

SAT vs the ACT. <http://www.customcollegevisits.com/sat-vs-act/>

The Official SAT Study Guide, from The College Board. This book contains ten practice tests.

The Real ACT Prep Guide, from ACT. Good stuff.

Measuring Up: What Educational Testing Really Tells Us by Daniel Koretz.

http://www.examiner.com/list/the-test-optional-movement-takes-off?CID=examiner_alerts_article

ARTISANS AND JOCKS

Creative Colleges: A Guide for Student Actors, Artists, Dancers, Musicians and Writers, Elaina Loveland

Schools That Rock, Jenny Eliscu

Student Athletes www.berecruited.com

National Collegiate Athletic Association-

<http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/newmedia/public/rates/index.html>

Eligibility Center- http://web1.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/NCAA.jsp

National Junior College Athletic Association- <http://www.njcaa.org/>

National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics-

http://www.playnaia.org/d/NAIA_GuidefortheCollegeBoundStudent.pdf

GIFTED AND TALENTED

Education Program For Gifted Youth - <http://epgy.stanford.edu/>

Johns Hopkins Center For Talented Youth - <http://cty.jhu.edu/>

GAP YEAR

Enrichment Alley - Search resource for summer programs and **gap year options**.

<http://enrichmentalley.com/>

Taking Time Off –Time Out or Burn Out For the Next Generation. Taking a year off between high school and college can be very beneficial, particularly for stressed out students who have spent the last four years in Harvard-or-Bust environments.

http://www.admissions.college.harvard.edu/apply/time_off/index.html

Teen Life - This site also has resources for summer programs, volunteer opportunities, boarding and day schools, and more. <https://www.teenlife.com/>

LEARNING DIFFICULTIES

National Center for Learning Disabilities- <http://www.ncld.org/>

Selecting A College for Students with Learning Disabilities or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

The Learning Disabilities Association of America - <http://www.lidaamerica.org/>

<http://www.ldonline.org/article/11772/>

College Supports for Learning Differences, the most comprehensive guide to college support services for students with LD, AD/HD, and Autism Spectrum disorders. The search for the next step is a challenge for every high school student: for those with learning differences it can be overwhelming. <https://collegesupports.com/>

The K&W Guide to College Programs & Services for Students with Learning Disabilities or Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity, by Princeton Review, Marybeth Kravets and Imy Wax (Sep 18, 2012) Thorough guide for students with learning disabilities with respect to the college search and application process.

Colleges with Programs for Learning Disabled Students - http://www.college-scholarships.com/learning_disabilities.htm

CollegeWebLD is a searchable database that allows educational consultants, school counselors, prospective students and parents to view, search, and compare the disability support services available at U.S. colleges and universities.

<https://collegewebld.com/default.aspx>

RECOVERY/TREATMENT

<http://recoverycampus.com/>

<http://www.collegeexcel.com/index.html>

Transforming youth recovery <http://www.collegeexcel.com/index.html>

<http://thlc.mononga.com/recovery/>

DIVERSITY

Campus Pride - Be sure to visit the Resources area of the website.

<http://www.campuspride.org/>

Gay Straight Alliance Network - <http://www.gsanetwork.org/>

Top 25 LGBT Colleges and Universities

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/08/20/campus-pride-lgbt-colleges-2013_n_3781950.html#slide=2807679

UNDERREPRESENTED

COLLEGE ACCESS AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Founded in 1989, Posse identifies public high school students with extraordinary academic and leadership potential who may be overlooked by traditional college selection processes. Posse extends to these students the opportunity to pursue personal and academic excellence by placing them in supportive, multicultural teams—Posses—of 10 students. Posse partner colleges and universities award Posse Scholars four-year, full-tuition leadership scholarships. <http://www.possefoundation.org/>

QuestBridge is a powerful platform bridging the nation's brightest, under-served youth and leading institutions of higher education and further opportunities. We are an aggregator of excellence. QuestBridge provides a single, internet-based meeting point which links exceptional students with colleges, scholarship providers, enrichment programs employers, and organizations seeking students who have excelled despite obstacles. By facilitating these exchanges, QuestBridge aims to increase the percentage of talented low-income students attending the nation's best universities and the ranks of national leadership itself. <http://www.questbridge.org/>

First Generation Student - This is a great site with tons of info for 'the beginner.'

<http://www.firstgenerationstudent.com/>

Scholarship resources for Minority Students-

http://www.schoolguides.com/scholarship_resources_for_minority_students.html

The Hispanic Scholarship Fund - <http://www.hsf.net/>

Financial Aid For Minorities Directory -

<http://www.impactpublications.com/financialaidforminoritiesdirectories.aspx>

Recommended Blogs and Articles

- www.schools.com
- www.thelearningnetwork.com
- www.morethanatestscore.com
- www.morethanaresume.com
- **campus crime stats** www.ope.ed/gov.security
- **College visits** www.goseecampus.com
- **Should Universities Move Away From a Liberal Arts Education?**
http://www.governing.com/blogs/view/gov-should-universities-move-away-from-liberal-arts-education.html?goback=%2Egde_3872181_member_240944350
- **Secrets To College Success** - Some good tips in here on transitioning to and succeeding in college, from U.S. News.
<http://www.usnews.com/education/blogs/professors-guide/2010/08/17/top-10-secrets-of-college-success>
- **From my all time favorite blogger, Nancy Griesemer**
http://www.examiner.com/list/the-test-optional-movement-takes-off?CID=examiner_alerts_article .
- **What is the definition of an Independent Education Consultant (IEC)**
<http://www.iecaonline.com/blog/2013/06/11/definition-of-independent-educational-consultant-has-little-to-do-with-how-they-are-paid/>
- **College students and credit cards.** Be careful
<http://collegefinancialaidadvisors.com/7-tips-about-college-students-and-credit-cards>
- **Kid going to college, make sure you have these legal docs in place.**
<http://collegefinancialaidadvisors.com/7-tips-about-college-students-and-credit-cards>
- **7 TIPS ABOUT COLLEGE STUDENTS AND CREDIT CARDS**
[HTTP://COLLEGEFINANCIALAIDADVISORS.COM/7-TIPS-ABOUT-COLLEGE-STUDENTS-AND-CREDIT-CARDS](http://collegefinancialaidadvisors.com/7-tips-about-college-students-and-credit-cards)
- **21 College Tips I Wish I Knew Freshman Year**
<http://www.customcollegevisits.com/21-college-tips-wish-knew-freshman-year/#comment-66881>



If you are dedicated to finding a college that will encourage your child to become the person they are meant to be, to unlock their full potential, and give them the very best education for their unique personality, I am here to help. I am dedicated to this cause and thrive on giving you tools and assistance, in one single place, so that the transition is a smooth and happy one. This should be a time that both you and your child look back on and remember fondly.

Let's Meet!

Give me a call at 303.829.2268
or shoot me an email, [here](#).