

ONLINE TOOLS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREER PLANNING

www.collegeboard.org

-Full service website that's user-friendly. **Register for SAT** and SAT Subject Tests, send test scores to colleges and search for colleges. Students can create their own profile based on their testing results and then match colleges. Use the '**Big Future**' function to easily look up general information on colleges. View SATs scores a college traditionally accepts to see if you're within range.

-Juniors who have taken PSATs can log on to Collegeboard.com and use the access code provided on the PSATs, to log on to the **Big Future** program. Students can complete job interest surveys and self-interest inventories to gain direction in choosing a major, occupation, and colleges.

***Determining a Major and Researching Careers** (should all be FREE)

<http://masscis.intocareers.org>

-This site provides easy-to-access information on specific jobs and the various aspects of that job, including: wages, physical demands, benefits provided, employment outlook in Massachusetts, common work activities, and hiring practices. Log on for free, just enter your town.

www.self-directed-search.com -Complete a self study to investigate possible career options.

www.mymajors.com -Guide students in the search process of finding a major or program of study

www.careeronestop.org -Explore wages and occupational trends by state. Examine which fields are predicted to grow the fastest. Look up any job position and the average wages earned, the education requirements, a list of skills needed, and what tasks will be done for that job. (Also accessible on www.bls.gov/)

<http://www.projectionscentral.com/Projections/LongTerm>

***College Search Engines**

www.petersons.com -You do need to register to use this site but it is free to register. This site provides information on colleges, allows you to search colleges. Get helpful information, including: on writing your essay, funding for college, choosing the right college, and timelines to help with applying.

www.collegeview.com -Provides profiles of thousands of colleges countrywide, including if educational support centers are offered at the college. Offers tips on the application process and essay writing. Explains financial aid. Students can create a profile, save their searches and request information from colleges directly. *(NOTE: Any information posted on any web-based profile is accessible by colleges.)*

www.gocollege.com -College search engine. Financial Aid information. How to Apply and more.

www.collegestudentathletes.com -Search nationally for NCAA Division III colleges.

www.search4careercolleges.com -Search for Career Colleges or Trade Schools by location & profession.

www.anycollege.com - Search colleges, explore careers and compare college programs.

www.collegebound.net - Articles for college-bound students. Explanations of waitlisting, testing, etc.

www.collegedata.com - NACAC approved college search engine site.

<http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/> - US Department of Education Institute of Education Sciences. Site offers studies and statistics of higher education trends. The College Navigator option allows students to search colleges and view college profiles, including accreditation information.

***Register for National Standardized Tests**

www.collegeboard.com -A resource for parents and students. Register online for SAT & get deadlines. Scholarship and educational loan information. [LHS CEEB # 221150; Test Center Code 22458]

www.act.org - Register online for the ACT assessment test. Search colleges, complete college applications, financial aid estimator and varied career information

***Financial Aid and General Scholarship Information**

(There are many scholarship websites out there. They should be FREE. If they ask for money or a credit card be very careful and read the fine print first. Remember most financial assistance for college will likely come from the college offers itself, not outside funding.)

www.mefa.org -MA Educational Financing Authority, a non-profit Massachusetts based organization who assists in providing financing and information for college. Explanations of different types of financial aid, who qualifies for what, and how to access financial aid.

www.fafsa.ed.gov -Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Deadlines and instruction for applying for financial aid. Filing your FAFSA is **Free**.

www.finaid.org -Free scholarship searches. Explains different types of loans & savings plans. Calculator for estimating college cost, loan payments, and estimated family contribution (EFC). Instructions for filling out financial aid forms. Explanation of military financial aid, including veterans, ROTC and new recruits. This is a Monster network site (Monster job search site).

www.salliemae.com -Offers information about different loans and management options for someone entering college, currently enrolled in college and/or completed college. This site also offers information on funding various types of post-secondary educations.

Scholarship Search Engines: **Fastweb.com**, **StudentScholarship.org**, **Scholarships.com**

(These should always be FREE!)

***Athletes**

http://web1.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/NCAA.html - Register with the NCAA Clearinghouse

www.ncaa.org/ - Information on the NCAA Clearinghouse and becoming a student athlete at the college level, including requirements needed.

***The Common Application online**

www.commonapp.org -Students need to follow the directions very CAREFULLY. There is no customer service phone number and once submitted the application cannot be changed and will be seen by all colleges.

***College Fair Schedule Websites: www.nacacnet.org and www.neacac.org**