



## Checklist for Evaluating a College

Whether you're applying to a two- or four-year college, there are many important factors to consider. Use the following checklist to help you determine which college will best meet your individual needs. You're likely to be researching more than one college, so use a copy of this form for each college you consider.

### Specialized Programs for Students with LD

Is there a specialized program for students with LD? Do I want/need the supports of such program?	
How different are the services provided through this program from those offered to all students?	
How easy is it to personalize the types of help I need when I am in this program (e.g., assistive technology and tutoring)?	
Must I be admitted to the college through a regular admissions process before applying to the LD program? Does the LD program also consider students not accepted through regular admissions?	



<p>What specific documentation of my LD is required? Will documentation need to be updated each year? If so, at what cost?</p>	
<p>Is there an additional fee for the program?</p>	
<p>Do I have the option of transferring out of this program if I feel I no longer require the types of services it offers?</p>	
<p>Is there an opportunity to talk with current and/or former students in the program? How did the program help them?</p>	



### General Academic and Career-Planning Support

<p>What academic resources are available to all students (e.g., writing center, peer tutoring, academic advising) that would be useful to me?</p>	
<p>What other resources are available to all students (e.g., career advisement) that would be useful to me?</p>	
<p>If this is a two-year school, what services and/or supports will they offer me if I want to continue on to a four-year college?</p>	
<p>How available are professors outside the classroom (e.g., how regularly are office hours held)?</p>	
<p>If there isn't a specialized program for students with LD, what types of supports are available through the office of disability services?</p>	
<p>What specific documentation of my LD is required in order to access disability services? Will documentation need to be updated each year?</p>	



### **Social and Logistical Issues**

<p>How many students are enrolled? What is the typical class size?</p>	
<p>When I visit the campus, do the students seem friendly? Are they cliquish? Is the student body diverse?</p>	
<p>Does it seem to be a socially active or quiet campus? Do the students party a lot? Do they study a lot?</p>	
<p>How far from home is it, and how far from home do I want to be?</p>	
<p>How big is the campus? Is it easy to navigate? How long will it take to get from one place to another (i.e., classrooms, dorm, library, cafeteria, gym)?</p>	
<p>Are there opportunities to pursue my interest in athletics, music, volunteer service, faith-based services, and/or other activities at this college? Are there teams for which I can try out and clubs in which I can become involved?</p>	