

THE

Experiential Student's Guide to College Search

Find a college that fits your professional growth and career goals

As an experiential student, you're interested in a college that provides hands-on learning experiences inside and outside of the classroom. You already mapped out your career path or starting salary and are eager to secure a job immediately after graduation. Focus on colleges that build bridges to the workforce and boast successful alumni outcomes.

WHAT YOU SHOULD LOOK FOR IN A COLLEGE:



INTERNSHIPS:

A lot of colleges will advertise their internship opportunities, but not all internship programs are created equal. You should look for opportunities that are built into programs and count toward your undergraduate degree.

ACCESS:

Location should play an important role in your college search. When your college is located in or near a major city, the city becomes your classroom. You will gain access to organizations, businesses, and services where you can gain valuable experience. For example, Saint Rose students take advantage of our proximity to the New York State Capitol, two major hospitals, city school districts, and major media outlets. All of these destinations are a free bus ride away with a Saint Rose ID.

PRO-TIP

Search for colleges that have a department or coordinator dedicated to helping you find a perfect-match internship.



FACILITIES:

Inside the classroom is where you'll learn how to apply theory to practice. A college's facilities should meet the needs of your career goals. For example, does its music industry program have recording studios? Can you perform at commercial music venues? Is the equipment professional grade?

(At Saint Rose, the answers to those questions are yes, yes, and yes.)

BONUS BULLET

MEANINGFUL FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCES:

Some colleges will limit hands-on learning opportunities until you're junior or senior. As a career-focused student, you should gain experience as soon as possible. Look for colleges that provide first-year students the chance to gain hands-on learning opportunities from the jump.



OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER:

Location: Do you want to stay close to home or go somewhere out of state?

Affordability: The Net Price Calculator can estimate how much financial aid you'll receive.

Academics: Are there any industries that interest you? Do any majors stand out?

Livability: Is the campus the right size? Do you like the surrounding community?



HOW YOU SHOULD SEARCH FOR A COLLEGE:

TOUR CAMPUS:

What better way to find out if a college is close to job and internship opportunities or how well it takes care of its facilities than a tour? If that's not a possibility, then many institutions have detailed virtual tour platforms.

SPEAK WITH AN ALUM:

See if the undergraduate admissions office can set you up with an alumni interview (where you get to interview the alum). Ask how their education allowed them to secure a job after graduation, and what you should do to clear a similar path.

RESEARCH OUTCOMES:

Research their alumni network and see if some stories or outcomes excite you! Not to brag, but Saint Rose's most famous alum hosts "The Tonight Show" (that's right, we're talking about Jimmy Fallon).

OTHER COLLEGE SEARCH TIPS:



MEET WITH YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR:

They know you best and can help you with the admissions process from start to finish.



RESEARCH ONLINE:

See if your school has a subscription to online search and match databases.



CHECK YOUR MAIL:

You'll get a ton of mail from colleges — keep only the content that interests you!



VISIT CAMPUSES:

This will help you narrow down the colleges that interest you the most.

SAINT ROSE STATS:



60 clubs, organizations, and musical groups



A business school with a dedicated internship coordinator

COVID-19 DISCLAIMER:

The COVID-19 pandemic might limit visit opportunities and other aspects of the college search process. Despite these challenges, many colleges have made adjustments, and you should still be able to have a rewarding search experience. For example, Saint Rose now offers virtual visit opportunities. Learn more at www.strose.edu/visit.

Do you have any questions?

Contact us: admit@strose.edu