

# *College Planning Bibliography*

## ***Comprehensive guides that balance information and opinion***

### The Best (371) Colleges by The Princeton Review

Despite its presumptuous name, this is a very good resource with lots of statistics as well as opinions about the colleges in a highly readable format. It includes a breakdown of the student body by ethnicity, a list of each institution's most common "overlap" of schools that students apply to, financial aid information and more. You can learn more at The Princeton Review's website at: <http://tinyurl.com/vskhk>

### The Black Students' Guide to Colleges by Barry Beckham

This book has quotes from black students and professors at each campus, analysis of course offerings and African American studies programs. It describes organizations for African Americans, and looks at the community around the campus in terms of diversity. This is a useful and interesting guide.

### College Access & Opportunity Guide by the Center for Student Opportunity

This guide explores colleges that are particularly committed to access, opportunity and success for various under-served student groups such as particular minorities, first-generation-to-college students and economically disadvantaged students.

### Cool Colleges by Donald Asher

This guide's subtitle is "For the Hyper-Intelligent, Self-Directed, Late-Blooming and Just Plain Different." It reviews interesting groups of colleges through specific lenses, investigating "the eco schools" or "the Great Books programs" for example, and reflects on other "cool" ideas abounding on various campuses.

### The Fiske Guide to Colleges by Edward Fiske

Edward Fiske is the education editor for the *New York Times*. In this work he attempts to capture the ambiance of the school in addition to the facts. He uses a star rating system to assess the academics, social life, and quality of life for each school. Enjoyable and entertaining to read.

### Insider's Guide to Colleges by Editors of the Yale Daily News

This is another entertaining and opinionated guide which talks about the social environment, favorite departments, the physical appearance of the campus and the types of students who attend.

### The Multicultural Students' Guide to Colleges by Robert Mitchell

This fine guide has charts for each college showing percentages of African American, Hispanic, Asian, and Native American students and faculty. It describes the organizations sponsored by each group and discusses the attitudes on campus towards diversity.

## ***Specialty guides***

### Guide to Architecture Schools by the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture

This book includes complete descriptions of architecture programs in the U.S. and Canada, including both undergraduate and graduate level work. A section on advice about how to select a school and the education process is quite valuable.

### Guide to Performing Arts Programs by Carole J. Everett and Muriel Topaz

This practical guide offers a comprehensive review of dance, drama and music programs, including curriculum, selectivity and facilities at each campus. Notably, the book includes "special advice" for applicants on how to prepare for auditions.

### The K&W Guide to Colleges for Students with Learning Disabilities or ADD by The Princeton Review

Focusing on over 300 colleges that have learning disability programs, this book details what services each school provides. Additionally, a comprehensive list of contact people in a college's Student Support Services department, and the like, is included.

## ***Insights on college missions, admissions, and values***

### Colleges That Change Lives by Loren Pope

This excellent alternative to the typical "rating" system discusses forty distinctive colleges and small universities chosen for their proven ability to develop potential, values, initiative, and risk-taking. Pope evaluates each school's program and personality, and includes interviews with students and professors. You can learn more at the Colleges That Change Lives website at: [www.ctcl.com](http://www.ctcl.com)

### Colleges Unranked: Ending the College Admissions Frenzy by Lloyd Thacker

In this book, the presidents and admissions deans of leading colleges remind readers that college choice and admission are a matter of fit, not winning a prize.

### How to Get Into the Top Colleges by Richard Montauk and Krista Klein

The co-author, also one of Lick's college counselors, admits that the title is embarrassing, but this book is part of a three-part series that had been named before she joined the project. This is a detailed look at each element of a thoughtfully executed college search and application process. It contains loads of direct quotes from directors of admissions at about eighty schools in support of the advice.