



YOUR COLLEGE SEARCH CHECKLIST



Stay on top of your college search with these helpful tips and tasks!

- BROWSE COLLEGES ON SITES LIKE NAVIANCE OR NICHE.**

These often have reviews from current students which offer valuable insight about the school.
- FINALIZE A LIST OF POTENTIAL COLLEGES TO LOOK AT.**

Remember to include a variety of sizes, settings and locations to find the right fit for you. If you already have a major in mind, make sure these schools have the programs you're looking for.
- SIGN UP FOR COLLEGE VISITS AND EVENTS.**

Most schools have virtual options while some might have in-person options, but don't worry! More visit options will become available throughout the fall and spring. Find ours at www.merrimack.edu/visit!
- CREATE A CALENDAR OF IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES.**

Colleges have different admission timelines for applying, scholarships, special programs, financial aid and more.
- BEGIN WORKING ON YOUR COLLEGE ESSAY.**

It's never too early to start outlining some ideas or exploring the essay prompts on Common App. Just remember to proofread, proofread, proofread!
- START GATHERING INFORMATION FOR YOUR APPLICATION.**

Make a list of jobs you've had, community service you've performed, sports you've played, clubs you've joined, and any other achievements or activities you can think of.
- THINK ABOUT WHO YOUR RECOMMENDERS WILL BE.**

Some schools require letters of recommendation from counselors, teachers, coaches, or others that know you well. It's never too early to ask!
- CREATE YOUR COMMON APP ACCOUNT AND PROFILE.**

The Common App makes it easy to apply to multiple schools with the same application. Don't forget to add Merrimack College to your list!

YOUR COLLEGE CHEAT SHEET

WHAT SHOULD I BE LOOKING FOR IN A POTENTIAL COLLEGE?

These questions will help you narrow down your list as you think about schools:

How far away from home do I want to be?

Consider the costs of driving vs flying, how often you'll go home for breaks, and how much stuff you plan to bring with you.

Do I prefer large or small group settings?

Small schools mean discussion-based classes, familiar faces and personal attention. Large schools often have 100+ student lecture halls which allow you to blend in with the crowd. Merrimack is a smaller school with built-in learning communities, personalized Success Coaches, and faculty that know your name.

Do I prefer the city or the suburbs?

Being in the city typically means there's a lot going on, but the noise and excitement can be distracting at times. Rural and suburban schools are typically calmer and quieter, but that doesn't mean boring! Merrimack is the best of both worlds; we are only a short ride from the city, mountains, beaches, and more!

What do I need to be happy and healthy?

Maybe it's great vegan food, or a club rugby team, or a performing arts center. College is more than just a major; it's your home for the next four years! Don't lose sight of your needs and your wellbeing during the process.

➔ PRO TIP

Colleges send A LOT of emails! Keep your inbox clean by creating a separate email account specifically for your college search process. Use this new email address on your applications, event registrations, and more—but remember to check it daily!

WHAT DO I NEED TO APPLY TO MERRIMACK COLLEGE?

- The Common Application or Merrimack Application
- High School Transcript
- Secondary School Report
- Recommendation Letter(s)

That's it! **NO application fee. NO test scores required.** But if you have additional items—like transcripts for college credits—you should submit those for review as well.

Visit www.merrimack.edu/apply for more information about transfer and international application requirements.

WHAT IS THE DEADLINE TO APPLY?

EARLY DECISION 1	November 1
EARLY ACTION 1	November 15
EARLY ACTION 2	January 15
ROLLING*	January 16 - August 1

*Applications completed after January 15 will be reviewed on a rolling basis until August 1 and admission decisions will be released within a week of application completion.

QUESTIONS?

Contact our Admission team at admission@merrimack.edu or check www.merrimack.edu/meet-our-team to find your admission counselor.