



Rio Rapids Soccer Club

Factors to Consider when Selecting Schools of Interest

Academic Factors to Consider When Identifying Schools of Interest

- 4-year vs. 2-year
- Private vs. public
- Academic reputation
- Academic climate
 - Highly competitive or supportive
- Academic programs
 - Highly focused, broad ranging, transferability, requirements for major
- Admission requirements
- Size
- Location/distance home
- Residence hall facilities
 - On-campus requirements, availability, food services
- Residential or commuter
 - Suitcase campuses
- Campus Location
 - Urban, suburban, rural
- Career services available
 - Job placement percentage, graduate or professional school attendance
- Cost
- Financial aid
- Academic calendar
- Typical/average class size
 - Student-faculty ratio
- Academic support services
 - Tutoring, special needs
- Retention/graduation rates
 - Freshmen retention
- Entry level course instructors
 - Graduate assistants or professors
- Cooperative education, internships, undergraduate research, study abroad
- Single-sex vs. co-ed
- Religious affiliation
 - Services for your denomination
- Ethnic diversity
- Fraternity/sorority system
- Social/club/recreational activities and facilities
- Climate
- Service Academies

Athletic Factors to Consider When Identifying Schools of Interest

- Program affiliation
 - NCAA I, II, III, NAIA, etc.
- Competition level
 - Overall
 - Championship caliber
- Quality of schedule
- Demands and time commitment of team members
 - In-season
 - Off-season
 - Strength and conditioning
- Scholarship, invited and uninvited walk-on status
- Player retention and turnover
 - Juniors and seniors
- State/public university roster make-up
- Opportunities to contribute
 - Competitive fit
 - System/style of play
 - Where the coach would utilize you
 - Number and class year of players in your role
 - Important to play right away
- Soccer facilities
 - Match/practice fields, weight room, etc.
- Team travel
 - Missed class time
 - Mode of transportation
 - Meal allowances
- Coaching staff
 - # and qualifications
 - Other responsibilities
 - Coaching style and philosophy
 - Tenure: past and future
- Program reputation and visibility
 - Are big crowds and national media attention important
- Athletic department commitment to soccer
- Team atmosphere
 - On the field
 - Social
 - Players you would get along with
- Academic and athletic balance – coach expectations