Selecting a college

Whether you’re in the ninth grade and just starting to think about your future or a senior researching your education options, a critical component to preparing for life after high school is finding the right college for you.

1. It is never too early
   Researching a college that best fits your needs can make a big difference in your overall college experience.

2. Choosing your college
   When researching your college, you will want to consider if the college has your program of study available, whether you want to live at home or in a dorm, college size, class size, costs and if you want to attend a traditional or an online college.

3. Go on campus tours
   Don’t judge a college by a name, picture, school colors or sports team. Visit the disability support services office, library, gym and cafeteria, and spend time in areas on campus where students hang out.

4. Access campus resources
   Colleges offer a variety of resources such as disability support services, writing centers, math centers, foreign language labs and tutoring. Each postsecondary institution will have different resources, so it will be your job to explore the many options available to all students, including those within your chosen major.

5. Stay safe
   Safety is important as you move from the structured environment of your home to the independence of a college campus. Explore safety features such as campus escorts, ID access to campus buildings and security staff on campus.

6. Research community resources
   Make sure to research the disability-related resources in your community. If you are already receiving supports from disability resources in your home community, seek out those resources in the college community you choose.