

Some Good Sources of Information about College Admissions

Sally P. Springer, Ph.D.

www.springereducationalconsulting.com

Books

Admission Matters: What Students and Parents Need to Know About Getting Into College, Second Edition, by Sally P. Springer, Jon Reider, and Marion Franck. Published July 2009 by JosseyBass

Excellent source of information about the whole college admissions process, from understanding what goes on in admissions offices, to selecting good fit colleges, to submitting strong applications. Endorsed by parents, counselors, and college presidents. An essential guide (unbiased evaluation by author!)

Colleges That Change Lives: 40 Schools That Will Change the Way You Think About Colleges by Loren Pope and Hilary Oswald Revised 2012 and published by Penguin Books.

Descriptions of 40 colleges that may not be among the most selective but that provide an outstanding education.

Fiske Guide to Colleges by Edward Fiske. Published by Sourcebooks.

Updated annually. Contains profiles and personal descriptions of more than 300 popular colleges and universities.

The Gatekeepers: Inside the Admissions Process of a Premier College by Jacques Steinberg. Published 2002 by Viking.

Describes the author's experience observing an admissions cycle at Wesleyan University. Riveting as a novel, it provides valuable insights into the admissions process at a selective liberal arts college.

Web Resources

www.bigfuture.org

College Board site that contains useful information about all aspects of college search and selection, including financial aid.

www.nacacnet.org

Site of the National Association for College Admission Counseling geared primarily for high school and college counselors, but contains a section for students with helpful information.

<http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cool>

College Opportunities Online sponsored by the Department of Education. The site contains a database of thousands of schools that allows search by location, program, and degree offerings.

www.usnews.com

Site provides free, limited access to the US News database used to generate college rankings. Although I cannot favor the use of these rankings, the data used to generate them can be helpful. The full database can be accessed for an annual fee.

www.fafsa.ed.gov

Federal site for Free Application for Federal Financial Aid. If you are applying for need-based aid, visit this site. You can complete the FAFSA online.

www.fastweb.com

General site with terrific scholarship search as well as expected family contribution calculator.