

PRELIMINARY COLLEGE LIST

STUDENT'S NAME: _____

This Preliminary College List should be filled in as completely as possible (even if the summer brings additional changes to the “final” list of schools to which you are applying). This is a tool to assist both you and your counselor in ensuring that a true range of schools has been achieved in this application process and in meeting all application deadlines in an organized fashion.

College	Reach	Target	Safety
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- REACH SCHOOL:** A reach school is one where your academic credentials fall below the school's range for the average freshman. Reach schools are long-shots, but they should still be possible (and not a dream). Don't let the sticker price of a financial reach school scare you off! Financial need, academic strength, and a college's desire to have you on campus can all influence your financial aid award and make the cost of attendance more manageable.
- TARGET SCHOOL:** A match school is one where your academic credentials (GPA, SAT or ACT scores, and class rank) fall well within (or even exceed) the school's range for the average freshman. There are no guarantees, but it's not unreasonable to be accepted to several of your match schools.
- SAFETY SCHOOL:** A safety school is one where your academic credentials fall above the school's range for the average freshman. You should be reasonably certain that you will be admitted to your safety schools. Like the rest of your list, these should also be colleges you'd be happy to attend. In addition to an admissions safety school, it's a good idea to include a financial safety school on your list, one that you and your family can afford even if you received no aid at all.