## College Search Takes Time
Schedule a few hours each week to work on researching colleges.

### What Should I Consider?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of College</th>
<th>technical, 2-year, 4-year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>distance from home, weather, urban or rural, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degrees Available</td>
<td>associate’s, bachelor’s, certifications and apprenticeships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs Available</td>
<td>subject areas or majors offered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public vs. Private</td>
<td>public colleges are partially funded by government funds and private colleges are not directly publicly funded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Focus</td>
<td>colleges that focus on a specific interest or student population such as arts, single-sex, religiously affiliated and specialized-mission colleges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversity</td>
<td>the types of cultures, languages and demographics represented on campus or in the community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Size</td>
<td>number of students, campus size, class size, city population, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of Attendance</td>
<td>in- or out-of-state tuition, college fees, books, transportation and housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selectivity</td>
<td>measured by the percentage of students who get accepted based on admission requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduation Rate</td>
<td>number of students who graduate within 4 or 6 years from that college</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GOOD TO KNOW:

- Community colleges offer 2-year degrees with a path to transfer to a 4-year school and some offer bachelor degree programs.

### DON’T FORGET:

Consider the admissions requirements and determine if the school is a reach, solid, or safety for you. It is recommended that you apply to at least one school in each category:

- **Reach** – You might not get in, but it’s worth applying to because it’s your dream school
- **Solid** – You’re a competitive applicant and will likely get accepted
- **Safety** – You’ll definitely get accepted, and it’s a backup in case the others don’t work out

### TALK TO:

- Your high school counselor
- College and career center adviser
- College admissions counselors or representatives who visit your school
- Family members, teachers, mentors and community members who have been to college