



(Photo courtesy of Dynamic Graphics)

## CollegeConfidential.com

[www.collegeconfidential.com](http://www.collegeconfidential.com)

**What:** College Confidential is a for-profit company that seeks to demystify the college admissions process and provide information on other college issues. Its editorial team consists of admissions counselors, a parent with a child who has participated in the admissions process, and authors of books on college admission. The website has four useful main sections: College Search, College Admissions, College Discussion, and Financial Aid & Planning. Each section offers articles written by the staff or other professionals and links to books and websites.

**Best Points:** There is a wealth of information presented here about college admissions and other college-related topics. The

Ask the Dean section features answers to questions such as Is applying to college electronically safe?, How do I go about finding a good women's college?, How do I compare larger universities and smaller colleges?, and Is a college visit necessary? The College Discussion Forums are full of lively interaction among students interested in learning more about various aspects of college.

**What You Should Know:** Full access available. This website has excellent information for students interested in learning more about college. Note: The site also advertises fee-based professional services offered by the site's staff.

## CollegeData

[www.collegedata.com](http://www.collegedata.com)

**What:** Brought to you by 1st Financial Bank, CollegeData has a wealth of information for students, parents, counselors, and others who advise students about college. The site has three main sections: College 411-Making Your College Match, Prepare and Apply-The Goods on Getting In, and Pay Your Way-Financing Your College Education. The site also has a scholarship finder, a college search feature, a newsletter, and a link to the Common

Application that students can use to apply to more than 300 colleges and universities.

**Best Points:** Each section of this site offers comprehensive information and articles that will help students make important decisions about their education. *College Buzz*, an online magazine, offers interesting stories from students about the application process and articles on time management, dealing with stress, and managing financial issues. A Data Locker feature allows visitors to save interesting articles, college information, and scholarships for further review. Users can even use this feature to write themselves notes on followup issues and use electronic labels to sort and categorize their lists. Users of the College Chances feature can enter information about their academic qualifications and extracurricular involvement and receive an estimate of their chances of admittance into a specific college or university.

**What You Should Know:** Limited access available. Visitors must register to use the College Chances, Common Application, and Data Locker. This is an excellent site for students and others interested in learning more about college.

## CollegeJournal

[www.collegejournal.com](http://www.collegejournal.com)

**What:** Brought to you by *The Wall Street Journal*, this site features articles and reviews direct from the newspaper.

**Best Points:**

The home page includes feature stories that are updated daily, covering interesting subjects such as how to choose the right college major, increasing competition for college admission, and colleges' efforts to fight violence on campus.

**What You Should Know:** Full access available. This site provides a wealth of timely and interesting information on college issues.

## CollegeNET: It Pays to Think

[www.collegenet.com](http://www.collegenet.com)

**What:** Are you good with words and looking for a novel way to earn money for college? If so, you've come to the right place at CollegeNet. All it takes is for you to register at CollegeNet, find a discussion forum that interests you, and write about the topic in

questions (or post a video that is also judged by other members). If your writing or video wows the other members, you receive points that accrue toward scholarships. Members who receive the most points earn scholarships. CollegeNET also offers a College Search engine, a Scholarship Search engine, and a section where you can apply online to multiple colleges.

**Best Points:** The discussion forum/video scholarship is a great idea if you are a creative person. The College Search tool allows students to browse colleges by type of institution (two-year, four-year, vocational, medical, etc.), location, enrollment, major, tuition, sports offered, and average GPA. The Scholarship Search offers detailed search criteria to help you find scholarships.

**What You Should Know:** Limited access available. If you plan on applying to schools online and compete for CollegeNet scholarships, you will need to register.

## CollegeNews.org

[www.collegenews.org](http://www.collegenews.org)

**What:** Brought to you by The Annapolis Group, a nonprofit alliance of the nation's leading independent liberal arts colleges, this site delivers the latest news, developments, and trends occurring at liberal arts colleges across the nation.

### Did You Know?

Nineteen percent of U.S. presidents attended a residential liberal arts college, according to The Annapolis Group.

**Best Points:** This resource is a good way to learn about the goals and issues of liberal arts schools in general. The home page is well organized, featuring recent news and editorial pieces. You can also access links to other websites with information on general issues of higher education. A list of member schools (and links) is also provided.

**What You Should Know:** Full access available. This resource may be more useful to journalists seeking information on liberal arts colleges than to a high school student researching his or her options. However, if you are looking for an overview of the benefits of a liberal arts education, this site will be most useful.