

College Categorization Checklist

Is This School a Stretch, Target, or Safety?

Step 1: Gather Key Data About the School

- Middle 50% GPA Range: _____
- Middle 50% SAT/ACT Scores: _____
- Acceptance Rate: _____
- Admissions Approach: ☐ Holistic ☐ Primarily Academic
- Is the school Highly Selective? (Acceptance rate below 20%)

Step 2: Compare Your Student's Profile

- Student GPA: _____ ☐ Below ☐ Within Range ☐ Above Median
- Student SAT/ACT (if submitting): _____ ☐ Below ☐ Within Range ☐ Above Median
- Strong Extracurriculars/Leadership/Unique Factors ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Does the school consider Demonstrated Interest? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Admissions Policy: ☐ Need-Blind ☐ Need-Aware

Step 3: Evaluate Financial Fit

- Completed the school's Net Price Calculator
- Estimated Annual Cost: _____
- Is this school affordable without major scholarships? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is your student likely to receive Merit Aid? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Step 4: Make the Call

- ☐ Stretch School
- ☐ Target School
- ☐ Safety School

Final Check

- My student would be excited to attend this school if accepted. ☐

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Quick Tip:

Finding a college's middle 50% GPA, test scores, or financial aid policy is often as simple as a Google search.

Example: "XYZ University middle 50% GPA"

Look for official sources like the college website or College Navigator (nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/).

Need Personalized Guidance?

Scan the QR code below to schedule your free consultation with Bybee College Prep.

