

College Search 101: *Finding Your "Fit"*

Presenter

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Finding *Your* Fit

educational options

- Outside of the US
- Within the US:
 - Community College / Junior College
 - Public Universities
 - Private / Independent Colleges
 - Comprehensive / Liberal Arts / Specialized Programs

Finding *Your* Fit

what is most important to you?

- Academics / program / major
- Specialization
- Location
- Size
- Reputation
- Support Services
- Athletics
- Student Activities
- Religious Affiliation

Finding *Your* Fit

make a list - research schools - narrow it down

- Make a list
- Dive In!
 - Research on your own
 - Reach out to each university
- Narrow your list down
 - Safe
 - Core
 - Reach

Getting In

what makes a strong application?

- Quantitative:
 - Academics – courses from secondary school and university
 - Tests
 - TOEFL / IELTS / PTE
 - SAT / ACT
 - Graduate tests: GRE / GMAT / LSAT / MCAT
- Qualitative
 - Activities
 - Letters of Recommendation
 - Essay

Financing Your Education

context of need & cost

Admission Policies

- Need blind
- Need aware

Important questions:

- When are financial documents required?
- Should I note my interest in scholarships/aid on the application?

Financing Your Education

understanding COA

Cost

- Public vs. Private
- Direct and Indirect Costs

Important questions:

- Is merit aid available?
- Do I pay more as an international/non-residential student?
- Is need-based aid available?
- Is housing available? Required?

Financing Your Education

scholarships - how do I pay for this?

Scholarships

- Academic Merit
- Government or corporate programs
- Talent
 - Visual and Performing Arts
 - Athletics

Important questions:

- Is there a separate application/interview/audition/portfolio process required?
- Is it renewable? If so, what are the conditions?

Financing Your Education

need-based aid - how do I pay for this?

US Citizens/Permanent Residents

- Grants – Pell Grant and potential state grants
- Loans – Stafford program; sub and un-sub
- Work study
- FAFSA
 - EFC

Important questions:

- What is my status?
- Important dates and deadlines?
- What is “free”? What do I have to pay back?

Financing Your Education

need-based aid - how do I pay for this? (continued)

International Students

- Grants – institutional
- Loans – government or private bank
- On-campus employment

Important questions:

- How do I apply?
- What/where/when can I work as an F-1?
- What is “free”? What do I have to pay back?

California Lutheran University Programs

Educating Leaders for a Global Society

- 39 Majors / 40 Minors:
Business, Creative Arts, Education, Humanities, Science,
Social Science, and Technology
New Majors in Hospitality & Tourism Management and
Film
- Focus on results & experiential learning
Internships - Research – Study Abroad
- Scholarships: \$7,500 – \$35,000
Academic - Talent – Grant



Cal Lutheran Reputation

Rankings

**“A Top 10 Masters-Granting University
in Western United States”**

-US News & World Report



**“CLU is ranked among the
Top 300 universities
in the U.S.A.”** *-Forbes Magazine*

**“Top 20 in the United States for Alumni
Earning Above Expectation”**

–The Economist

**The
Economist**

National vs. Regional Universities

U.S. News & World Report categories are based on types of degrees

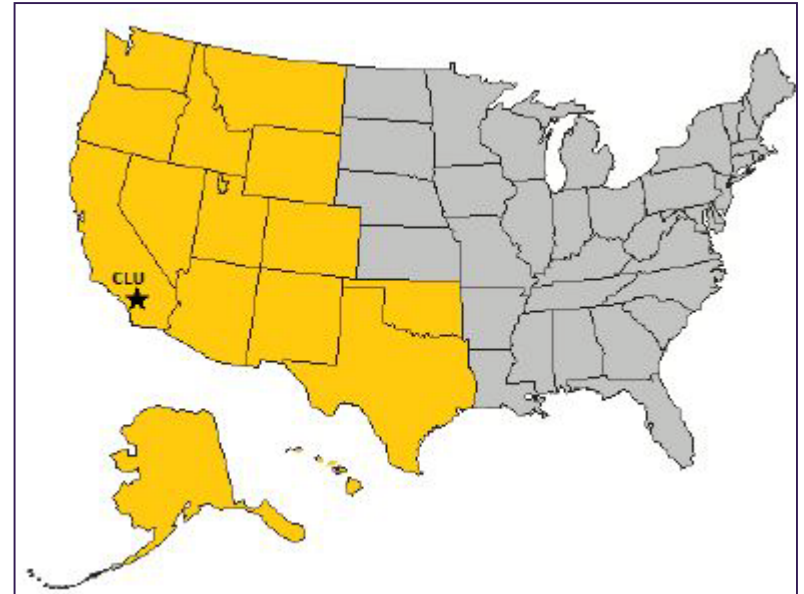
- **Nationally ranked**
Many doctoral degrees
- **Regionally ranked**
Mostly Bachelors & masters degrees
- Liberal arts colleges
Best-known schools offering only bachelors degrees
- **Regional colleges**
Other universities offering only bachelors degrees



Regional Universities - Western

US News and World Report

- Trinity University-Texas (1)
- California Polytechnic State Univ.–San Luis Obispo (4)
- **California Lutheran University (9)**
- Western Washington University (17)
- California Polytechnic State Univ.–Pomona (14)
- California State University–Long Beach (20)
- San Jose State University (24)
- San Francisco State (31)
- California State University-Channel Islands (43)
- California State University–Northridge (49)
- Hawaii Pacific University (60)
- Southern Utah University (72)



Source: US News & World Report 2019

Thank You!

- *Resources:*

- EducationUSA
- www.collegeboard.com
- www.fafsa.gov
- US News and World Report
- Each university / college website

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