

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA FOR COLLEGE

Students: Read through the criteria listed. Think about which are essential, nice to have, or not important for **YOU** as you think about a college setting.

Parents/Caregivers: Think about the criteria from your child's perspective.

Feel free to add other criteria that are not listed.

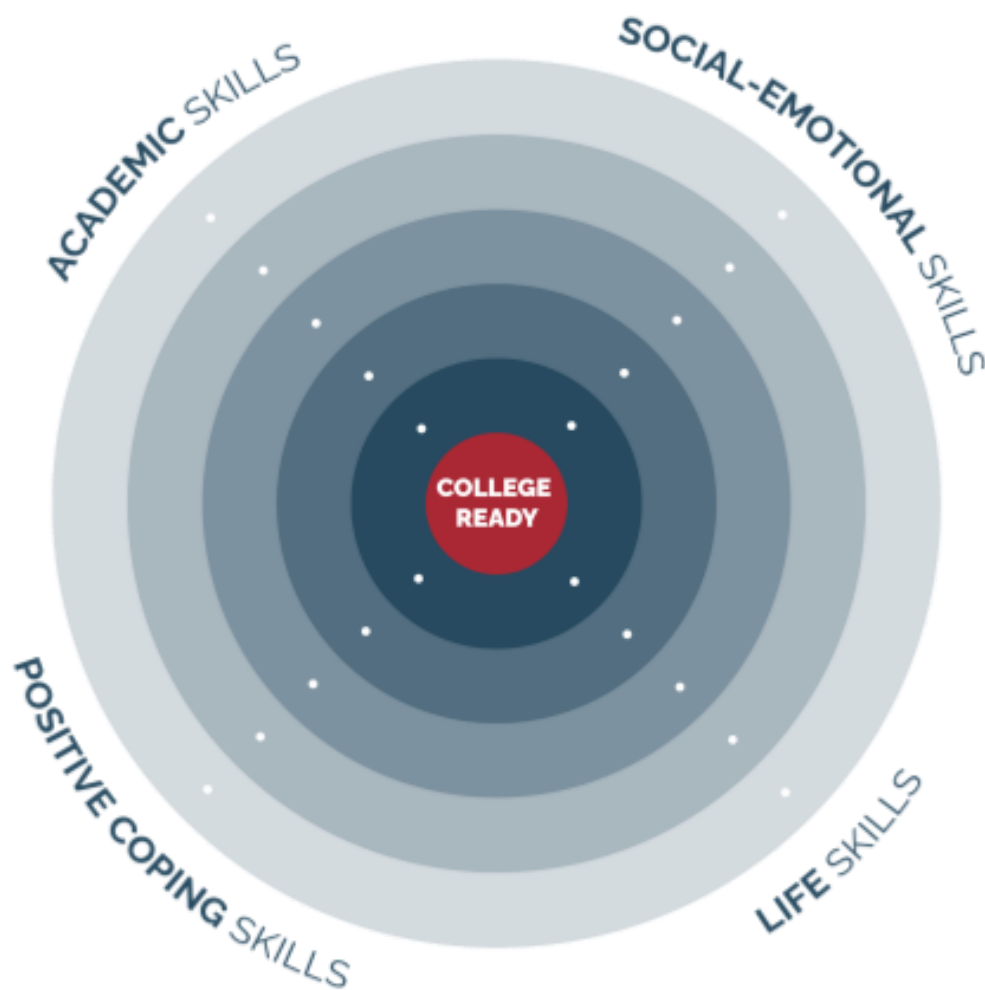
	NOT IMPORTANT	NICE TO HAVE	ESSENTIAL
Strong athletic program			
Diversity of student body/faculty			
Extracurricular activities I enjoy			
Community service opportunities			
Mental health services & supports			
Retention (% that graduate within 6 yrs.)			
Availability of professional internships			
Famous & reputable alumni			
School spirit			
Undergraduate academic reputation			
Project-based/ hands-on curricula			
Support for first gen students			
Highly competitive admissions			
Greek life			
LGBTQ+ friendly			
Commitment to sustainability			
Faculty Resources			
Alumni giving rate			
Quality of teaching			
Location			
Affordability/ cost			
Number of students			
Size of endowment			
Availability of a particular major			
Access to arts/ cultural experiences			
Research opportunities			
High SAT/ ACT scores			
Faith community			
Small class sizes			
Academic support services			

COLLEGE READINESS

Reflect on your child's current skill sets in these 4 areas of readiness.
Locate your child's college readiness within the graphic below.

Manage time and assignments
Produce high-quality work
Engage in complex thinking and problem-solving
Prepared to take college-level coursework without remediation

Identify and regulate one's emotions
Show empathy for others
Build and maintain positive relationships
Collaborate with others
Engage in constructive conflict
Make ethical and respectful choices



Find a network of support
Proactively ask for help
Practice healing, and restorative activities
Engage in healthy risk-taking
Learn how to navigate challenges
Articulate and set boundaries

Contribute to family and community
Engage in work-related activities
Build financial literacy
Manage personal time and commitments
Maintain self-care and balance

CHALLENGE SUCCESS