Which schools should I apply to ?!

A Presentation about Match & Fit

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College: An Infinite Variety Pack

- Many shapes, sizes, and flavors
  - 2-yr vs. 4-yr?
  - Public vs. Private?
  - In-state vs. Out of state?
  - Small, medium, or large?
  - Sports culture?
  - Career plans?
  - Specific programs?
  - Cost?
  - Distance from home?

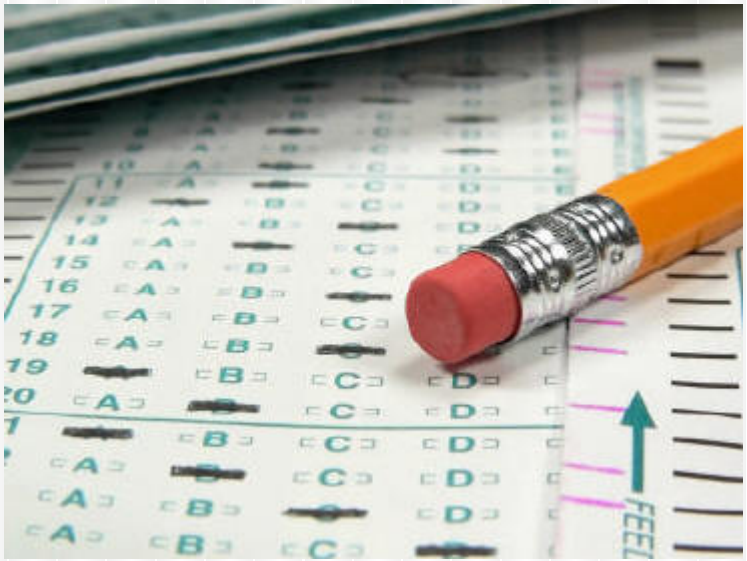
WHERE DO YOU START?!

A Basic Framework

- 5-7 Applications
  - ~3 “Match” Schools
  - 1-2 “Likely” Schools
  - 1-2 “Reach” Schools

Match

- Describes how well a college meets your academic profile and interests
  - GPA
  - Test Scores
  - Programs of study



Case Study: Arthur King

- Opportunities - Page 29
- Pick ~3 “Match”, 1 “Reach”, and 1 “Likely”
- Arthur King, CHS Senior
  - 3.25 GPA
  - 1100 SAT

Fit

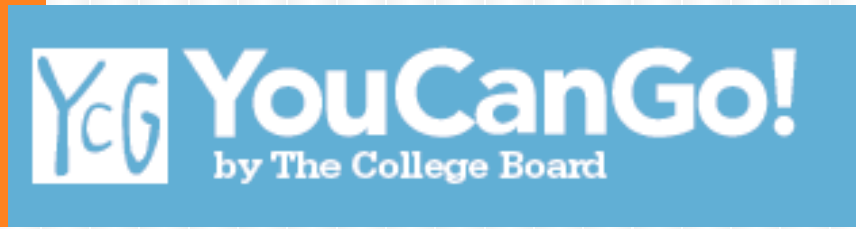
- Describes how well a school's environment and culture meets your personal interests and lifestyle
  - Location: distance, urban vs. rural
  - Student body: diversity, "commuter" school, single-sex, HBCU, Greek life
  - Sports culture
  - Clubs, organizations, activities

Case Study: Arthur King

- Arthur wants to go to a school that is:
  - an HBCU
  - located in a city
  - or both

Websites for College Research

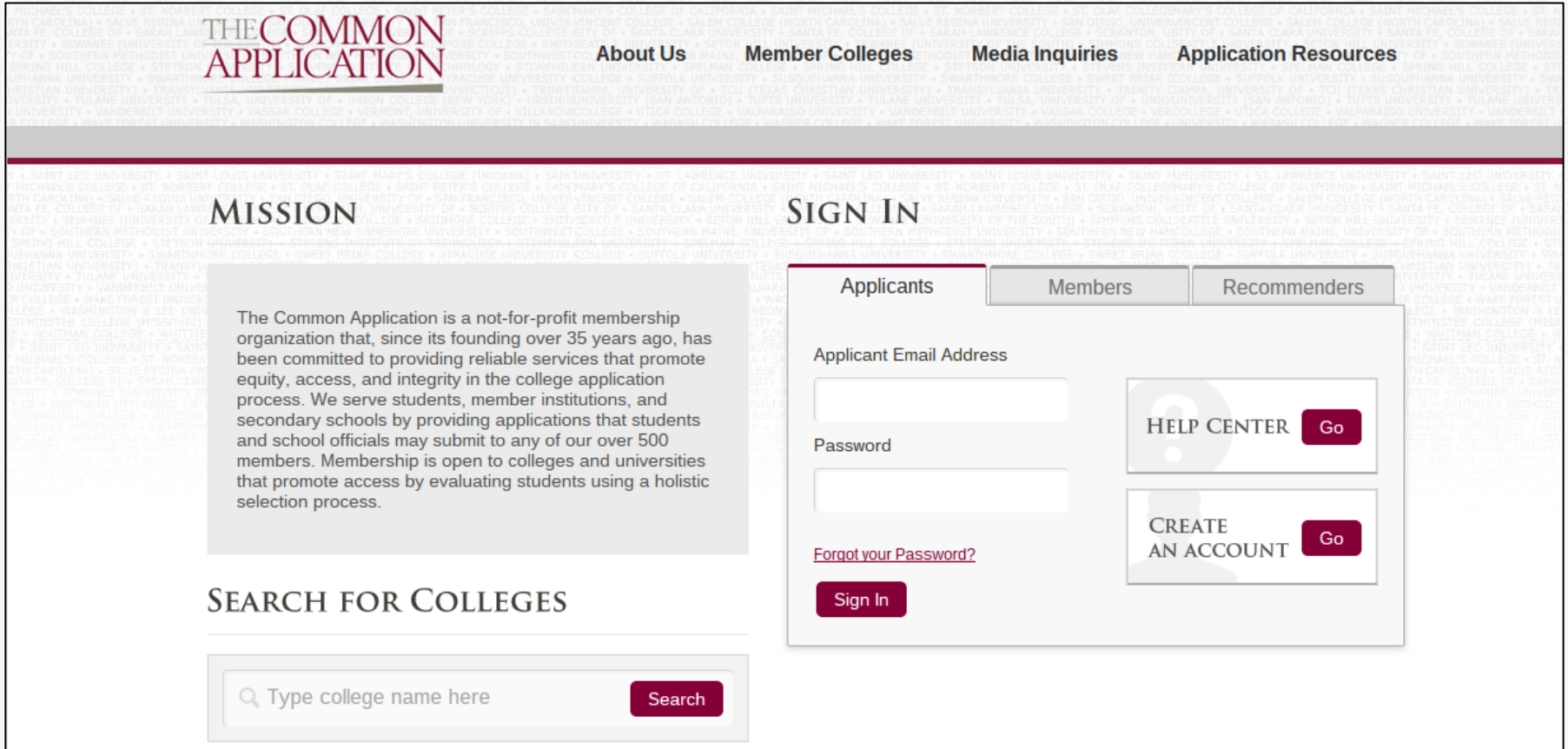
- The Princeton Review
  - http://www.princetonreview.com/college-education.aspx
- Big Future
  - https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/
- YouCanGo!
  - http://youcango.collegeboard.org/



Intro to the Common App

- 500+ “Member” Colleges and Universities
- All use one online platform
- “Supplements” may be required for specific schools
- 5-minute tutorial video:
  - http://www.thecollegeadmissionsconsultant.com/#!the-common-application/ci95

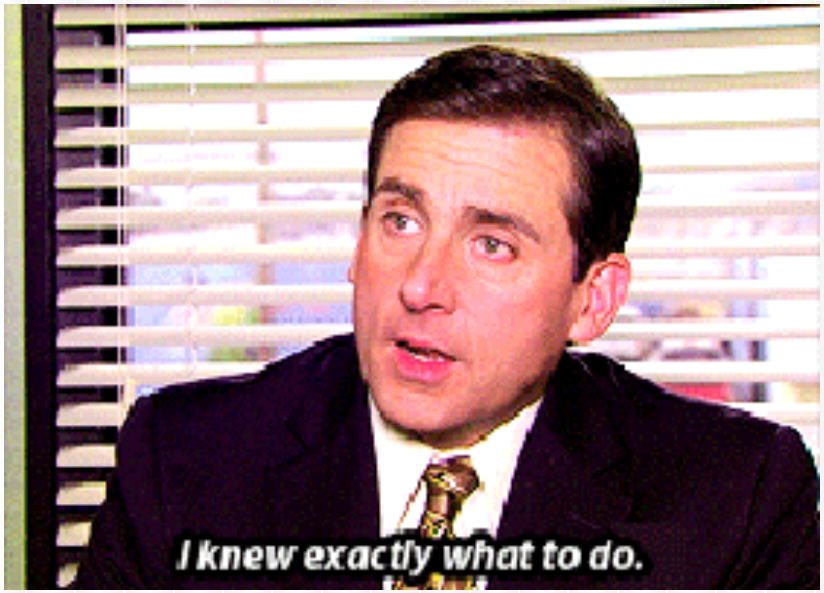
Common App Home Page



How to Find Application Instructions

- Google is your friend.
- Look for Common App Supplement first
- Key Words to look for:
  - (Undergraduate) Admissions
  - Prospective Students
  - Future Students
  - How to Apply / Application Instructions
  - Freshman / First-year
  - Personal Statement

Demo: U of Richmond

Demo: JMU

Questions?