**Project Proposal**

**API:** <https://collegeai.com/data>

This document outlines my project proposal, explaining the functionality, tech stack, user demographic, and data collected with regards to my application.

The application will be a website that assists users choosing the right college depending on preferences of their choosing. This will most likely work with a form that gets submitted which should results returned based on preferences.

Outline

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| Stack | Python, Flask/ SQLAlchemy |
| Focus | While this project will depend on what kind of data can be collected and stored in the backend, the focus will be emphasized on the front end – creating a smooth user experience that is friendly and easy to use. This would include creating an intuitive, responsive front end design that feels natural. |
| Type | This will be a website |
| Goal | The goal of this website is to assist with data overload – to create a website that aggregates preferences of users and returns a list if colleges that best fits the criteria outlined. Most of know the stress that comes with selecting a post-secondary school after high school, or may not even know where to begin for those who are considering returning to school. With all the websites and links that may arise from research and the confusion that can occur, this website will aim to simplify the initial search to help narrow down the schools a user may be interested in. |
| Users | Users of this application would most likely be young adults, graduating from high school but can be open to anyone interested in pursuing higher education and is unsure of how to start the necessary research. |
| Data | The kind of data I would like to utilize is cost data, rankings, admissions data, school stats, sports club data, etc. This data will primarily come form an API that contains much of the data that would matter to the users. |

**Additional Elements**

* **Database Schema**: The database schema will include tables for colleges, user preferences, and possibly user accounts if authentication is implemented. This structure will facilitate efficient storage and retrieval of data.
* **API Issues:** While integrating with external APIs, potential challenges may include data consistency, reliability of API responses, and handling rate limits or access restrictions. If creating your own API or scraping data, ensuring data cleanliness and consistency will be critical.
* **Sensitive Information:** no plans to deal with data privacy at the moment
* **App Functionality:** The app will feature a form for users to input their preferences, backend processing to fetch and filter college data based on these preferences, and frontend display of recommended colleges. Additional functionality may include user authentication, saving favorite colleges, and sharing options.