

## Research Do's and Don'ts

Do	Don't
Use your High School Short List or Personal Fit Criteria	Just start looking up schools blindly
Go to <a href="http://www.localschooldirectory.com">www.localschooldirectory.com</a> or <a href="http://www.greatschools.org">www.greatschools.org</a> and search for your region	Waste time looking at schools outside of your city (unless they are boarding schools).
Look for pictures of the facilities at the school and where it is located.	Waste all of your time looking at pictures
Look for links on “About Us”, “Resources”, and “Admissions”	Focus on schools that have admissions requirements way beyond anything you could ever reach
Research stretch schools	Worry about clicking all the links you see
Take notes on key information and important statistics like college enrollment, crime, class sizes, and high school completion rates.	Copy and Paste everything you see
Look up deadlines and admissions requirements	Spend all of your time looking for one particular thing
Find out what Clubs and Activities there are at the school	Get distracted by the details
Look to see if there are any SAT or ACT Preparation programs or classes	Get intimidated by competitive acceptance. If you put together a strong application, it could be you!
See if they use the Common Application	