

## **Generally Useful Resources:**

### [Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#)

Note: Search your app store for apps that will let you apply from your phone.

[The FAFSA Forecaster](#) can help you predict how much college may cost you.

Search “Net Price Calculator” for each of the campuses you intend to apply to. Most campuses have them. Fill the campus’s calculator out to get a sense for the “net price” of that school for you after aid.

“[MyinTuition](#)” is one net price calculator that can help you estimate the net price of more than 50 selective and highly selective schools, including Colorado College.

The Common Data Set Initiative is the tool many schools use to respond to surveys from places like US News for its rankings. Data across schools does not appear to be collected in one place but you can see the questions campuses are expected to respond to [here](#). If you want school specific data, google “common data set” and then the name of the school you’re interested in. They often have the data posted on their websites but not all campuses will.

[The College Essay Guy](#) has lots of free resources to help you write your personal statements. Paid services are also available.

[Financially speaking: A guide to financial aid at Penn | The Daily Pennsylvanian](#) - Includes comparative financial aid data for the Ivy League from the 2016-2017 academic year (except for Princeton which reported data from 2017-18) I have not seen an update to this piece on line.

## **Essays, mostly from Dr. Weed, with advice on the college search and application processes.**

[Need Good Recommendations for College or Grad School? Here’s How You Can Get Them](#)

[Here’s How to Write a Great Personal Statement When Applying to College](#)

[Part 1 - Applying to College? Ask These Questions to Increase Your Chances of an Optimal Experience](#)

[Part 2 - Applying to College? Ask These Questions to Increase Your Chances of an Optimal Experience](#)

[Part 3 - Applying to College? Ask These Questions to Increase Your Chances of a Successful Experience](#)

[Applying to College? “Big Data” Can Help You Track Key Metrics that May Affect Your Success There](#)

[Should I Choose My College Based on What I Plan to Major in Today?](#)

[I’m Applying for College Scholarships: Which Ones Should I Go After?](#)

[How to Write a Great Essay That Will Help You Win That Awesome Scholarship](#)

Can Travel Resources Impact the College Experience?

Should Climate be a Factor as I Consider Colleges and Universities?

The Campus Environment and Its Role in Your College Choice

For individual coaching, contact Dr. Matthew Weed at [matthewweedconsults@gmail.com](mailto:matthewweedconsults@gmail.com).  
**Allow at least five days before statements are due or alumni interviews are scheduled to ensure he can find time to help you.**

### **Informative Articles from September 2019:**

How they wrote and rewrote their Harvard Admissions Essays from the Harvard Gazette

As Students Head to College This Fall, They're Really Headed to Career Via Forbes. Ms. D'Amico effectively says, if you're going to college, go there with a plan for how it will fit into your career objectives.

### **Articles from August 2019:**

How to fill out the FAFSA and get financial aid for college - Business Insider

"Parents Disliking Their Kids' College Essays is a Great Sign," From Christopher Rim in Forbes.

New Colorado College Scholarship Targets Low-and-Middle Class students Who Are Residents of Colorado

Here's A No-Brainer: Students Should Know What Their College Costs Will Be

Three financial aid mistakes that could make college more costly

These Are The People Struggling The Most To Pay Back Student Loans

How to save money on college applications

Colleges that Don't Charge Application Fees

### **Articles from July 2019**

University of Texas promises full scholarships to in-state students with family incomes under \$65K by 2020

Rice University announces new program to dramatically expand scholarships for middle class

University of Michigan to offer free tuition to some in-state students

As student loan debt mounts, high schoolers 'shockingly' unaware of aid options

[How smart teens from lower-income families can go beyond grades, SATs to get into top colleges](#)

[College costs are skyrocketing. Here's how to decide if that high price tag is worth it](#)

### **Articles from June 2019**

[These are the college majors with the highest and lowest unemployment rates](#)

[These colleges have the highest employment rate after graduating](#)

### **Articles from May 2019**

[FAFSA got a makeover, and the process is simpler for low-income families.](#)

### **Articles from April 2019**

[How to negotiate for more college financial aid](#)

[How to decipher that college aid offer](#)

[For many students, deciphering the college aid letter is key to picking the right school. Here's how to read between the lines and even appeal for more money.](#)

[SeniorAdvice Caregiver Scholarship – \\$2,000 Award](#)

[For students who have acted as caregiver to an adult friend or relative \*in any capacity\*](#)

### **Articles from March 2019**

[5 Things To Consider If Your Kid Is Going To An Out-Of-State College](#)

### **Articles from February 2019**

[Disadvantaged Students in Elite Schools](#)

[What to Do If Your FAFSA Application Gets Flagged for Verification](#)

### **Articles from January 2019**

[Early college admissions by the numbers](#)

### **Articles from December 2018**

[The 10 most in-demand skills of 2019](#)

[Last-Minute Strategies For Ivy League Applications](#)

[‘They’re Not Fact-Checking’: How Lies on College Applications Can Slip Through the Net](#)  
[Can Students Get Out Of Early Decision Admissions?](#)  
[Millennial Money: A college education isn’t priceless](#)

### **Articles from July 2018**

[5 tricks for paying for college](#)  
[What to do when your kid is waitlisted at their dream college](#)  
[Didn’t get as much financial aid as you’d hoped? You can negotiate for more](#)

### **Articles from June 2018**

[Confessions of a former college admissions officer: 5 ways to ace your college application](#)

### **Very important article**

[5 Questions You Should Ask On A College Tour — But No One Ever Does](#)

### **Articles from 2017**

This first group is all on financial aid:

[Scholarships for Women Abound](#)  
[Top Schools Continue To Provide Massive Financial Aid](#)  
[4 Myths About Athletic Scholarships](#)  
[State-funded student financial aid totaled about \\$12.5 billion across the country](#)  
[7 Tips to Fund College With Scholarships](#)  
[Proven Ways To Reap College Financial Aid](#)

### **Very Useful Piece**

[Make Your Supplemental Essays Stand Out: Tips from a College Admissions Expert](#)

### **The Next Three Articles are on the SAT and ACT**

[Master Common Geometry for Competitive SAT Math Score](#)

Acing the SAT and ACT comes down to embracing 6 simple truths

What You Should Know About The New Summer SAT

Oxford and Cambridge top world university rankings

Students At Most Colleges Don't Pick 'Useless' Majors

Do College Rankings Measure What Happens After Students Enroll?

4 ways to save money during your first year of college

Your Worst College Admissions Nightmare

Getting into college was the easy part. Staying there is becoming harder than ever

### **A Piece on Essay Writing**

You Are What You Write In the College Application Essay

America's Top Colleges 2017

2017 College Financial Grades: How Fit Is Your School?

Five Biggest Trends in College Admissions

College Admissions: Identifying Helpful Resources

The college admissions advice kids have sworn by for years is wrong