

College Fair Prep for Students: Print this prep sheet & use it for planning and note-taking.

You plan to buy an automobile – how do you decide which one? Outline your decision process; what’s most important to you?

- How will it be used? It has to serve your purpose!
- Price? New/Used – Take out a loan/pay cash
- Which brand carries the kind of vehicle you’re looking for?
- Etc, etc, etc.

This list will vary from person-to-person but **why is this so important?** You want to get a vehicle that serves your needs and that is a good return on your investment!

Choosing a College is essentially the same process for the same reason 😊

How do you decide which colleges you want to check out at a College Fair?

Before the Fair

1. How will you use your certification/diploma/degree? What careers are you interested in?

- _____
- _____
- _____

2. What colleges offer majors & programs that prepare for that career?

Website: Sdcollegeadmissions.com

Tab: For Students

Link: Educational Opportunities in South Dakota Publication

Pages 23 – 28 find chart of majors & programs. Find 3 Colleges that offer the ones you’re interested in.

3. Make your list of 3 college booths you want to visit at the fair.

- _____
- _____
- _____

Attending the Virtual College Fair

This is the fun part! Admission Counselors are enthusiastic about college planning and meeting students. They’re excited about helping you learn more about your options! You can learn so much from an Admissions Counselor!

1. Visit colleges 1, 2 and 3 on your list. You can click on a college logo to visit their booth. Most important! Join their live video chat to talk to or just listen to a college admission counselor. You can ask questions, verbally or simply type your question in the chat option.

When visiting a booth – you want them to see you so have your video on. If you are not already muted, mute yourself until you want to ask a question or respond to a question. Introduce yourself if you have a chance and tell them what major you are interested in and one other thing that is important to you about choosing a school.

2. What questions can you ask to get answers that really tell you about that school? Here are a few suggested questions – feel free to add your own.
 - What makes your school different from other comparable colleges in SD or out of state?
 - What resources do you offer to help me obtain a job after graduation?
 - Are there deadlines or other prerequisites to be accepted in your programs?
 - Are there any support services to help me as a student? What are they?
 - How do I set up a campus visit?
3. Take Notes! Jot down general impressions and specific things you want to remember.

After the Fair

4. Look through your notes, jot down additional thoughts. Compare your notes, thoughts and ideas with your School Counselor, friends and family.
5. Decide which colleges you want to travel to for a closer look and contact them to schedule.