



Desert Elite Soccer



College Search: Your Path and Preparation

Whether or not you are looking to play collegiate soccer, this information comprised by the staff at DFSC will help you begin your journey on the path to college. Remember, your college experience will be yours and yours alone. Just as you are unique as a person and player, your college path should also be unique. It is of vital to your future that **YOU** dictate your own path. Your parents and coaches can help guide you, but invariably this is a crucial time in your life so take ownership of the important decisions ahead of you. **Use your interests, abilities, and passion to help choose a career and plan your education.** As you decide which colleges and major(s) interest you, keep your long-term goals in mind. Decisions about college are part of your career planning process and should not be taken lightly.



Starting Your College Search

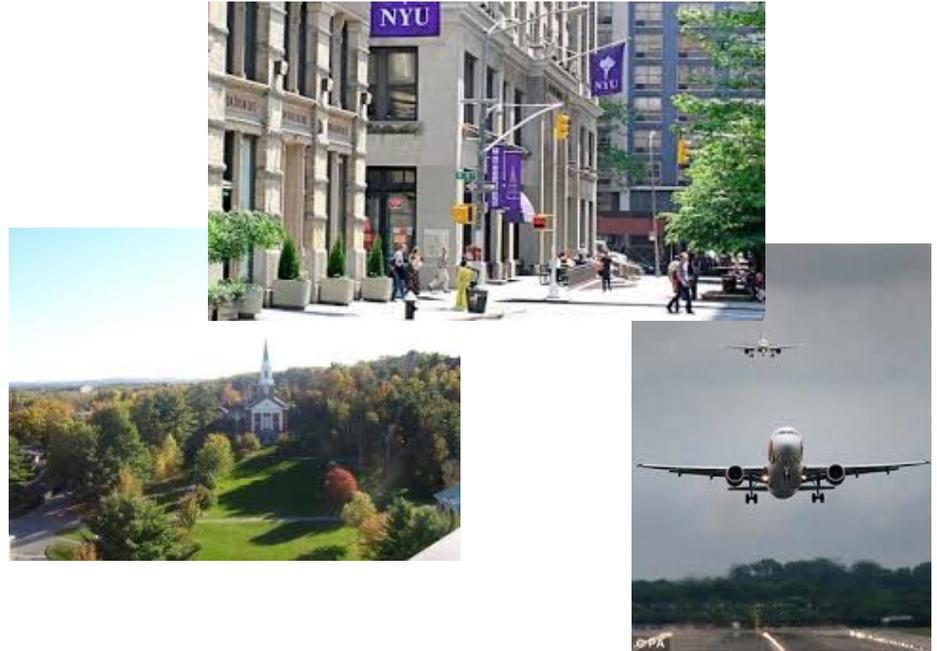
How should you research colleges? What should you look for in a college? Here are some serious considerations when searching for colleges and narrowing down your options:

- ▶ What type and size of school are you looking for?
- ▶ Where are the schools located?
- ▶ What are the housing requirements?
- ▶ Do they offer academic majors that fit your areas of interest?
- ▶ Do you want to play at college and, if so, in what capacity?
- ▶ Do they offer your sport?
- ▶ What should you look for in the team?
- ▶ What should you look for in the coach?
- ▶ Will it be right for ME?



School Type & Size

Do you want a state, private, or religion-based school? Would a community college or technical school better serve your interests? Would a large school overwhelm you? Ask yourself which college environment you would feel most comfortable in to help narrow your search. Typically, state schools are less expensive than private colleges, particularly if you plan to stay in-state. However, don't let this be the determining factor, as private schools often provide more financial support than state schools.



Location

What about location? Do you want to attend school close to home? Do you want to buy airline tickets to travel home for holidays? Are you looking for a warm climate or a place with all four seasons? Would you prefer to be somewhere near extended family? Do you prefer to be in a rural or urban environment? All these factors are worth considering when narrowing your choices.





Housing Requirements

Some universities require that you live on campus or in certain dorms during the first year. Is this something you would want/could afford? What are the student living arrangements in the colleges on your list? It is more likely that you will succeed if you put yourself in an enjoyable environment, and living arrangements can go a long way to determining this environment.

Academic Majors

Does the school have academic majors that are in line with your interests? If you are looking for a very specific major and the school does not have it, there may be a way around the problem. Don't be afraid to contact the school to inquire with an enrollment specialist about your particular field of interest. When you visit campus, ask what other students have done within your field of interest. Did you know that over half of all incoming freshmen don't stay in the major they initially choose, and even fewer end up in the career they thought they wanted to pursue?



Do you want to play in college? If so, in what capacity?

The life of a college athlete is very demanding, so the first thing you need to ask yourself is do you want to become a college soccer player? You will be expected to balance your academics with two or three training sessions daily; this would include speed, agility and weight training, soccer specific sessions and game preparation. The season generally runs from August to November or December, and once the season ends the training regimen continues throughout the year in preparation for the next season. It is a FULL-TIME commitment. Given this information, if you feel you do not want to become a full-time college athlete, remember there are still opportunities to play at college without having to adopt the lifestyle of a collegiate athlete. Many colleges offer club teams, intramural soccer, co-ed soccer and even indoor soccer – all of which have a less strenuous schedule than the school team. Our philosophy at Elite is that we want to instill in you a love of the game that will give you the desire to continue to play soccer. Play because you love the game, not because it is a means to an end!



What should you look for in a coach?

When researching a collegiate team, begin by looking at the coach. Pull up the archives and see what has been going on long term. How stable have the coaches been? There is no guarantee that the coach you are recruited by will be there when you graduate, but you can look for indicators. How long have previous coaches held their positions? If it's a great place to work, you may not see a lot of turnover, whereas if it's a bad place to work, turnover may be constant. If your coach loves his/her job, you better believe that will impact your college experience, as will a coach who is unhappy in the workplace. Look across other sports as well. It will give you a good indication of the school's environment and what they stand for among comparable schools.

Once you start talking to coaches, you can evaluate their personalities and coaching philosophies to see if it will be a match for you. First and foremost, make sure you like the school overall. Coaches come and go over time, so be sure you will be at a school that caters to your needs and one that will invariably give you the best opportunities in life upon graduating.



What should you look for in a team?

Finally, look at the college's team roster. Take time to read the player bios and find out what high schools and clubs current players attended. This should give you an indication of the level of play and whether you will fit in the existing program. Be resourceful – there are many ways to learn about current players if you are interested in the school's program. This will also be a way of finding out style of play and whether or not it will be suited to you. If there is a player from your high school, club or general area, they can be a great resource and advocate. Connect with them to learn about their experience at the school and with the team.



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	47 Jeremy # Position: D Club: Central East HS	D.O.B: 07/06/07 5'8" / 155 lbs Grad Year: 2015 G.P.A.: 3.8 Dad / Mom: Brian Subalvar / Rita Subalvar	Street Address: 2234 Beverly Avenue City, State, Zip: Clovis, CA 93611 Telephone #'s: (559) 324-7200 / (559) 324-1525 / (559) 248-6858 Email Address: robster_sabalin@yahoo.com
	36 Jeremy # Position: M Club: Central East HS	D.O.B: 05/07/07 5'7" / 177 lbs Grad Year: 2015 G.P.A.: 3.3 Dad / Mom: Jorge Salgado / Minerva Rodriguez	Street Address: 1320 E. Omaha Avenue City, State, Zip: Fresno, CA 93720 Telephone #'s: (559) 917-2151 / (559) 917-4663 / (559) 917-6129 Email Address: esher@central.net
	56 Jeremy # Position: D Club: Central East HS	D.O.B: 02/28/06 5'8" / 148 lbs Grad Year: 2015 G.P.A.: 3.3 Dad / Mom: Randall Smith / Kelli Smith	Street Address: 2122 Pines City, State, Zip: Clovis, CA 93619 Telephone #'s: (559) 248-6450 / (559) 906-6164 / (559) 273-0014 Email Address: randysmith@central.net
	28 Jeremy # Position: M Club: Central East HS	D.O.B: 06/10/06 5'7" / 177 lbs Grad Year: 2014 G.P.A.: 3.3 Dad / Mom: Ben Tortava / Teressa Tortava	Street Address: 6155 W. Coast Avenue City, State, Zip: Fresno, CA 93722 Telephone #'s: (559) 289-7145 / (559) 907-3118 / (559) 246-1044 Email Address: ben@bentortava.com
	44 Jeremy # Position: F Club: Reedley HS	D.O.B: 02/02/06 5'7" / 177 lbs Grad Year: 2014 G.P.A.: 3.7 Dad / Mom: Antonio Velarde / Silvia Adame	Street Address: 6155 W. Coast Avenue City, State, Zip: Fresno, CA 93722 Telephone #'s: (559) 306-9877 / (559) 408-1289 / (559) 639-9208 Email Address: adamesilvia@yahoo.com
	31 Jeremy # Position: F Club: Reedley HS	D.O.B: 02/20/06 5'7" / 177 lbs Grad Year: 2014 G.P.A.: 3.7 Dad / Mom: Pablo Velazquez / Xenia Velazquez	Street Address: 21643-B E. Clayton Avenue City, State, Zip: Reedley, CA 93654 Telephone #'s: (559) 306-9877 / (559) 408-1289 / (559) 639-9208 Email Address: psocpoth@yahoo.com



Will it be right for ME?

As you may have gathered, all the information provided is catered towards finding the best fit for YOU as you embark on your path toward college. There is no person who can chart a better course for you than the person looking back at you in the mirror. It's time to spread your wings and fly, and your coaches, parents and teachers can only provide guidance – in the end it is YOUR choice, so choose wisely and do your homework.



College will not be easy, especially if you decide to become a collegiate athlete. This process can be daunting and effort will be needed on your part to get you into the right college environment to set you up for life. Do not shy away from this process; embrace it and believe in yourself. You are more amazing than you will ever give yourself credit for and success awaits!

