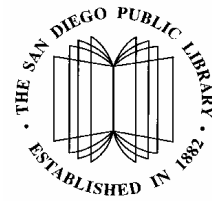


# SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY PATHFINDER



## College and University Resources

Choosing a college or university can be a daunting task. To help you, the San Diego Public Library offers a wide variety of free resources that cover choosing a school, applying for admission, and paying your tuition (or possibly avoiding tuition altogether).

At the Central Library, most of the materials on colleges and universities will be concentrated in the Social Sciences section (located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor), although a number of SAT preparation test books can be found in the Teen Collection. At your local Branch Library, try browsing through the 378s, both in the reference area and in the regular non-fiction stacks. Many branches have special areas for local college and university catalogs, schedules of classes, and brochures, so be sure to ask your librarian if you don't find them right away.

### The Catalog

Computer terminals located throughout Central Library and in each Branch Library provide access to the on-line catalog, which will help you find specific books and other materials in the library's collection. Enter a subject or keyword and then click on the corresponding icon. Some suggested search terms are as follows:

- Universities and colleges—admission
- College applications
- Universities and colleges—entrance requirements
- Student aid
- Scholarships
- Distance education
- Correspondence schools and courses
- Community colleges
- Private Universities and Colleges
- Minorities--scholarships

### The Internet

The Internet can be a great time-saver when it comes to researching colleges and universities, but, due to its unregulated nature, it can also be a source of misinformation. The **Librarians' Index to the Internet** (<http://lii.org/>) is a reliable place to search for college information; all sites indexed by LII have been approved by professional librarians. Some sites of interest:

**Back to College** <http://www.back2college.com/>

"Resource center for re-entry and nontraditional students, with lots of information about everything from choosing a college to using academic reference materials."—LII

**Best 351 College Rankings (The Princeton Review)**

<http://www.princetonreview.com/college/research/rankings/rankings.asp>

"Each year, The Princeton Review surveys thousands of college students to get the inside word about what's going on at the nation's top 351 colleges. Some rankings cover the serious side of school -- academics, professors, libraries, etc. -- and others tell

you what it's really like to live there -- parties, dating, food, dorms, etc." Browse by categories or search by school name.

**CaliforniaColleges.edu** <http://www.californiacolleges.edu/>

"This combined effort by California colleges and universities and the state Department of Education provides information about higher education opportunities in California. In addition to information about specific public and private schools, career planning, and financial aid, users will also find the school codes used for the SAT, ACT, and FAFSA. They can also set up personal accounts to store information."—LII

**College Board** <http://www.collegeboard.com/>

Each year, the College Board serves over three million students and their parents, 22,000 high schools, and 3,500 colleges through major programs and services in college admissions, guidance, assessment, financial aid, enrollment, and teaching and learning. Register online for the SAT here.

**CollegeNet** <http://www.collegenet.com/about/index.html>

Search institutions by various criteria including geography, tuition, and enrollment; create a recruitment profile; and search for financial aid.

**Common Application** <https://www.commonapp.org/>

The Common Application is the recommended form of 230 selective colleges and universities for admission to their undergraduate programs. All give equal consideration to the Common Application and the college's own form.

**Education (usnews.com)**

<http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/eduhome.htm>

"This excellent site from *U.S. News & World Report* features four sections designed to help users choose a college or graduate school and a career - including college rankings, graduate school rankings, financial aid with best values rankings, and guides to careers, internships, and jobs."—LII

**Free Application for Federal Student Aid**

<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

Also available at the Social Sciences Reference Desk.

**HBCU Mentor: Guide to Historically Black Colleges and Universities** <http://www.hbcumentor.org/>

"An online resource to help students and their families select a college, apply for admission, and plan to finance higher education. The *Select a College* section provides information on the traditionally African-American institutions of higher education...There is also information on financial aid, self-assessment tools that help you choose a career path, and online application forms."—LII

# Resources

## School Directories

**America's Best Colleges (U.S. News & World Report).** 2004.  
R 378.73/America's

**The Best 357 Colleges.** 2005.  
R 378.73/Best

**California Colleges and Universities.** 2002.  
R 378.794/California

**College Board College Handbook.** 2005.  
R 378.1057/College

**The Fiske Guide to Colleges.** 2005.  
R 378.73/Fiske

**K & W Guide to Colleges for Students with Learning Disabilities.** 2003.  
R 371.90474/K

**Peterson's 4 Year Colleges.** 2005.  
R 378.73/Peterson's

**Making a Difference: College & Graduate Guide,** by Miriam Weinstein. 2003.  
378.73/Making

**World List of Universities and Other Institutions of Higher Education.** 2002.  
R 378.155/World

## Junior and Community Colleges

**Peterson's Two Year Colleges.** 2005.  
R 378.1543/Peterson's

## SAT I & II Preparation

**The New SAT,** by the staff of Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions. 2005.  
378.1662/New (Teen Collection)

**New SAT 2005: Inside Out!** 2005.  
378.1662/New (Teen Collection)

**The New SAT Math Workbook,** by the staff of Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions. 2004.  
510.76/New (Teen Collection)

**The New SAT Writing Workbook,** by the staff of Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions. 2004.  
378.1662/New (Teen Collection)

**The Official SAT Study Guide: for the New SAT.** 2004.  
378.1662/Official (Teen Collection)

## Getting In

**College Application Essay,** by Sarah Myers McGinty. 2004.  
378.1616/McGinty

**Peterson's Best College Admission Essays,** by Mark A. Stewart. 2004.  
378.161/Stewart (Teen Collection)

## Financial Assistance

**Directory of Financial Aids for Women,** by Gail Ann Schlachter. 2003-2005.  
R 378.3025/Directory

**Financial Aid for African Americans,** by Gail Ann Schlachter and R. David Weber. 2003-2005.  
R 378.30973/Financial

**Financial Aid for Asian Americans,** by Gail Ann Schlachter and R. David Weber. 2003-2005.  
R 378.30973/Financial

**Financial Aid for the Disabled,** by Gail Ann Schlachter and R. David Weber. 2002-2004.  
R 378.3025/Financial

**Financial Aid for Hispanic Americans,** by Gail Ann Schlachter and R. David Weber. 2003-2005.  
R 378.34/Financial

**Financial Aid for Native Americans,** by Gail Ann Schlachter and R. David Weber. 2003-2005.  
R 378.34/Financial

**Peterson's Scholarships Grants and Prizes.** 2005.  
378.34/Peterson's

**The Scholarship Book,** edited by Daniel J. Cassidy. 2004.  
378.34/Scholarship

**The Scholarship Scouting Report,** by Ben Kaplan. 2003.  
378.34/Kaplan.

## Studies Abroad

**Financial Aids for Research and Creative Activities Abroad,** by Gail Ann Schlachter and R. David Weber. 2002-2004.  
R 378.34025 Financial

**Study Abroad.** 2005.  
R 370.196/Study

## Independent Studies and Distance Learning

**Bears' Guide to College Degrees by Mail & Internet,** by John and Mariah Bear. 2003.  
R 374.473/Bears'