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**T H E
INSIDER'S
GUIDE
T O T H E
COLLEGES
1990**



**STUDENTS FROM COAST TO
TELL WHAT THEIR COLLEGES ARE**

**COMPILED AND EDITED BY
THE YALE DA**

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这部畅销书多次修订再版，受欢迎，堪称攻读美国与加拿大学士、硕士和博士学位的权威指南。

编者根据学术水平，从北美大陆2000余座4年制高等学府中去芜存精，选择了约300所名牌大学，按其校名的英文字母排列，一一予以介绍：从校址、联系电话、本科生研究生人数、男女生/当地—外埠生比例到申请入学人数、录取分数线及录取百分比、费用、可否转学、申请截止日期，从学校的特点、热门专业、竞争程度、教学设施、住宿状况到校园环境、建筑风格、体育活动、生源情形、学习生活，可谓包罗万象。尤为称道的是，书中大量引用学生们自己对其学

的评论——切身的经验更有助于读者透视高校的内幕。

本书对怎样评估大学、考虑费用，如何申请入学、通过考试、转校等作有益的辅导。本书探讨了影响学生在校求学的诸多因素——学校规模、所处地方、公立或私立、校内气氛、男女合校与否、种族等等，同时还分析了当前北美大学里的各种思潮和时尚。该书并为残迹学生提供了咨询服务。另外，该书还把学校归类分编，方便选择。

读者对象：出国留学人员；外国高等教育研究工作者。

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TO THE COLLEGES
1990**

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The editors have sought to ensure that the information in this book is accurate at press time. Because policies, costs, and statistics do change from time to time, readers should verify important information with the materials of the colleges.

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Preface

College. This word might sound scary to you right now. If so, you've got a lot of company. Caught up in the everyday worries of high school, you may hardly have time to do your English homework—much less spend hours sifting through college guides and brochures. Yet, in the back of your mind, you know that picking a college will be one of the biggest decisions you'll ever make. You may have a picture of what life would be like at the wrong school and figure there's a fair chance you'll wind up there.

Naturally, some schools might do better than others for you. But there is more to college life than any single institution. College is the god-like professor who gladly stays after class to help students with introductory economics or the dorm room where late-night bull sessions run until three in the morning; it's the dining hall where the lines are long and the food is bad or the roommate who skips class and lets you cry on her shoulder after you get a D on your first English paper. College can be gallons of coffee and alcohol. It's all this and much more.

All this is well and good, you're thinking, but it doesn't help much. You can apply to no more than a handful of colleges from among thousands. Maybe you have a hazy idea of what you're looking for, but how do you even begin to narrow your choices? Don't go crying to your guidance counselor just yet. The situation is far from hopeless.

Read about the schools you recognize, go to college nights, talk to friends already at college. Soon you'll have a sense of what colleges can offer and what you want. Maybe you'll find yourself preferring a small school to a large one, or a laid-back, pastoral setting to a bustling city. In any case, you'll know what particulars to look for, and soon it'll be a question of finding schools that best match your criteria.

That's where *The Insider's Guide* fits in. In this sixteenth edition, we give you a snapshot of life at over 300 colleges and universities in the United States and Canada, relying on the opinions of students for our articles. We try to provide information that you won't want to throw in a crate with the countless college brochures that have come through the mail. Of course, it's impossible to capture the full scope and breadth of any institution in two or three pages of text. But we feel the brief sketch we do give is valuable in describing some of the most important particulars of each school, the stuff that would most likely affect you as a student there. Get your hands on this book, read it, think about it, ask students at each college you visit whether they agree with it, and then draw your own conclusions.

Remember that you should never eliminate a school in which you are genuinely interested solely on the basis of an article in the *Insider's Guide*. If some-

thing we say turns you off, get second and third and fourth opinions. The *Insider's Guide* is the product of years of research and innumerable letters from, and conversations with, students around the country. But it's not the given gospel! Keep in mind that each person has his or her own unique experience.

In addition to the reports on each college, the *Guide* includes a number of special features to help you in your search. "The College Finder" gives you a rundown on some schools according to selected attributes. "Getting In" takes you step by step through all the intricacies of the admissions process. In "The College Spectrum," we discuss some of the most important factors to consider when choosing among schools. A new section, "Disabled Student Services," introduces learning disabled and handicapped students to some of the issues they should be aware of when applying to college. "The Changing College Scene" offers a look at some of the current trends in college life; it focuses on campus life in the 1990s and how it's changed over the past two decades. Finally, we've included "Terms You Should Know," a look at some of the often confusing jargon used in the world of college admissions.

If we succeed at anything, we hope it is to encourage you to read and think critically. When an admissions officer at a school of 1,500 speaks of a strong sense of community, ask how extensive the college's research facilities are, or how wide a selection of courses is available. Likewise, for a school that stresses "vast resources" because it has graduate and professional schools, find out where the typical undergraduate fits in. How many graduate students teach classes? Is it easy to get lost in the shuffle? These are the sorts of tough questions you should get in the habit of asking. Often the measure of how good a college really is hinges not on its greatest strengths, but on how well it compensates for potential weaknesses.

Of course, you have to decide what kind of person you are before you can decide where to go, and this is no simple trick. Considering the lack of direction in the world, it seems as though many people get through college and beyond without really questioning who they are. Making a thoughtful decision takes honesty and time, but in the end it's all worthwhile. You've got four of the most challenging, exciting, painful, and rewarding years of your life just ahead. Make the most of them.

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