

STUDENT'S SELF-ASSESSMENT

Self-assessment is a way for you to learn more about yourself – your likes, dislikes, needs and where you excel. Knowing these things will help determine what you want from a high school. The best school for you might not necessarily be the best school for your neighbor, your best friend, your sister, or your brother. The assessment below is a tool that helps you take a closer look at yourself and consider things you might otherwise overlook. **You may have taken the self-assessment in the past. However, it is recommended that you take it multiple times as your interests may have changed.**

Read each statement and rate it on a scale from 1-5. Be realistic and honest. After you complete the survey, read "Interpreting your Results," to help understand what your answers mean.

1 = strongly disagree

2 = disagree

3 = not sure/no opinion

4 = agree

5 = strongly agree

ME, MYSELF, AND I: SIZE, DISCIPLINE, LOCATION

1. The idea of going to a single gender school appeals to me.	
2. I want to go to a school with a religious focus.	
3. I like to be around a lot of people.	
4. I prefer lots of one-on-one time with teachers and other students.	
5. I am very independent and need a lot of freedom.	
6. I prefer to have a lot of structure in my day.	
7. I would rather go to school somewhere nearby.	
8. I want to go to the same school as my siblings/friends.	
9. I am willing to have a long commute if it means I can go to the school of my choice.	
10. Someone is able to drive me to school every day.	

ACADEMICS

11. I enjoy advanced/honors classes and am interested in advanced placement.	
12. I plan on going to a four-year college.	
13. I am interested in acquiring technical skills.	
14. I want work experience.	

15. I like the idea of project-based learning.	
16. I work best in small groups.	
17. I dislike group work.	
18. I need extra help in some subjects.	
19. My study skills are already very good.	

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND ENRICHMENT

20. I like having many extracurricular choices.	
21. I prefer devoting my time to just one or two activities rather than many.	
22. I enjoy the arts, dance, visual art, and theater.	
23. I enjoy sports.	
24. I want to learn some other skill, such as cooking, information technology or construction.	
25. I speak another language or want to learn a specific language.	
26. I plan to attend college on an athletic scholarship.	
27. I am interested in internships.	
28. I like field trips.	
29. I am interested in volunteering and community service.	

REMEMBER...

There is no perfect school; it is all about finding the best fit given the available options. This assessment will help you pinpoint the different qualities you may want in a school.

Statements 1-10 address personal preferences and what makes you most comfortable as an individual. They also address issues of size, location, and discipline.

Statements 11-19 address academics and the type of learning environment that is best for you.

Statements 20-29 address extracurricular activities and enrichment. Extracurricular activities can be just as important as academics, especially if you hope to pursue a lifetime of accomplishment in the arts or athletics. While learning always comes first, you may want to consider other interests as well.

INTERPRETING YOUR RESULTS

Each item in the survey is designed to test your feelings on an important issue related to choosing a school. Taken together, your responses may help you create a blueprint for your high school search. Pay attention to your most intense responses: the 5s and the 1s will indicate factors that are most significant when making your decision. Use the factors that matter most to you to create a list of qualities that you need from a school and use that list to begin your search.

Questions 1-2

PRIVATE OR PUBLIC: You can get a great education at public, private and Catholic schools here in New Orleans. However, certain amenities like a religious focus or single gendered education may only be available at non-public schools.

Questions 3-4

SIZE: Small schools are generally able to offer more one-on-one time with faculty, although it is still a good idea to look at the student-teacher ratio of schools of all sizes. Big schools can sometimes offer students more options.

Questions 5-6

DISCIPLINE: Schools offer many different discipline models. Some are very strict and others are very liberal. You may thrive in either environment. Know what works best for you.

Questions 7-10

LOCATION: The location of your school matters a lot. You will need to consider how you will get to and from school, especially if you are planning to participate in after school activities.

Questions 11-12

COLLEGE PREP: Some schools focus on college readiness and offer classes that will help guarantee admission as well as funding for college. Other schools that do not call themselves college prep may offer the same services. Ask about the individual programs that the school offers and if the school offers college prep.

Questions 13-14

JOB READINESS: Some schools offer curriculum that focus on certain careers or that encourage students to accumulate workplace experience.

Questions 15-17

CLASSROOM SE-UP: Do you work best individually or in groups? Do you thrive on competition? Use these questions to help you determine what you want your classroom to look like. Schools will offer many different choices from independent study to Internet classes to project-based learning and beyond.

Questions 18-19

EXTRA HELP: Consider what services you already use at school. Do you go to a tutor? Do you have a lot of extra study opportunities? Think about where you may want help in the future even if you do not need it right now.

Questions 20-26

VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES: If there is one particular activity in which you are very interested, such as football or drama, inquire about these opportunities when applying.

Questions 27-29

THE OUTSIDE WORLD: Some schools may offer opportunities to engage with the community and participate in activities outside of the school. If you want an opportunity to serve and get involved with your community, look for schools that offer you that freedom. Many schools require a certain amount of service before you are eligible to graduate.

Keep an open mind, and keep your options open and apply to as many schools that fit your more general criteria. Your opinion may change after you visit the school and you will want to have several choices when it finally comes time to make a decision.