**Categorizing Your College List**

**A LIKELY school is a college where you would have been easily accept the previous year.**

* You want to attend.
* You have visited the college.
* You meet all the requirements for the requirement coursework.
* Your ACT/SAT score is **significantly above** the average that was accepted last year.
* Your unweighted GPA is **significantly above** the average that was accepted last year.
* You have taken the average number of honors/AP courses.
* The major you want is available and you have checked the graduation requirements.
* You meet every requirement for admission and you submit a completed application before the deadline.

**A TARGET school is a college where you should have been accepted the previous year.**

* You want to attend.
* You have visited the college.
* You must meet all the requirements for the recommended coursework.
* Your ACT/SAT score is **equal to or above** the average that was accepted last year.
* Your unweighted GPA is **at or above** the average that was accepted last year.
* You have taken the average number of honors/AP courses.
* The major you want is available and you have checked the graduation requirements.
* You meet every requirement for admissions and you submit a completed application before the deadline.

**A REACH school is a college you really want to attend but you may not meet all the qualifications or the acceptance rate is low.**

* You want to attend.
* You have visited the college.
* You meet all the requirements for the required coursework.
* Your ACT/SAT score is **below** the average that was accepted last year.
* Your unweighted GPA is **below** the average that was accepted last year.
* You have not taken the average number of honors/AP courses.
* The major you want is available and you have checked the graduation requirements.
* You do not meet ever requirement for admission and you submit a completed application before the deadline.

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| **Likely** | **Target** | **Reach** |
|  | 1.) | 1.) |
| 2.) | 2.) | 2.) |
| 3.) | 3.) | 3.) |
| 4.) | 4.) | 4.) |
| The column is for colleges where your qualifications (GPA & test score) are **above** the mid 50% of the admitted student profile. Students generally apply to 2-3 “likely” colleges. | The column is for colleges where your qualifications (GPA & test scores) **evenly match** the mid-50% of the admitted student profile. Students generally apply to 3-4 “target” colleges. | This column is for colleges where your qualifications (GPA & test scores) **do not** evenly match the mid-50% of the admitted student profile. Students generally apply to 3-4 “reach” colleges. |