

U.S. University Selection

Find Your Best Fit

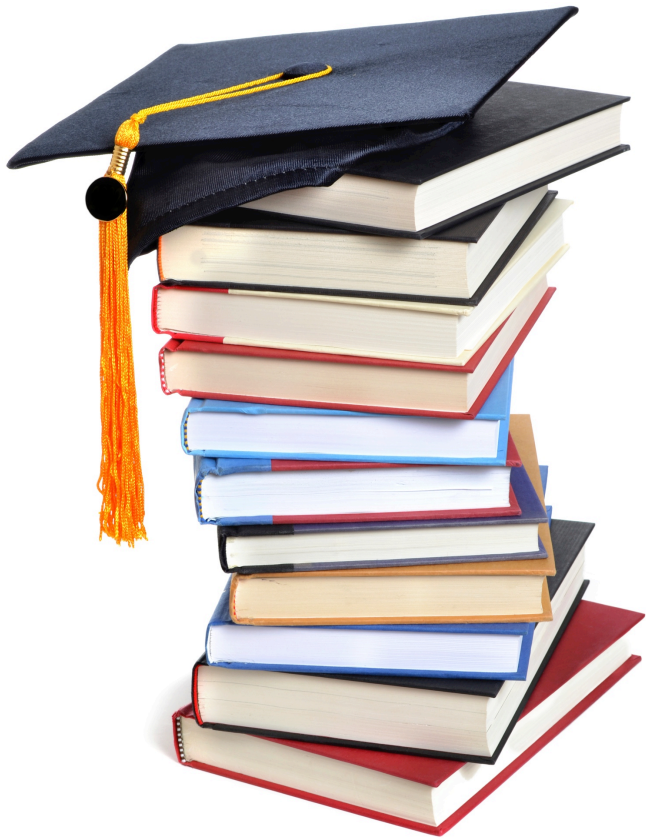


U.S. University Selection

Find Your Best Fit

- Overview of U.S. higher education
- Rankings
- Define Your Priorities
- What is “Fit”
- Resources

U.S. Higher Education System



- Decentralized, No Ministry of Education
- 4000+ universities and colleges
- Large public universities, small private colleges, specialty schools
- Admissions requirements – essays, SAT/ACT, and TOEFL/IELTS
- Test-optional, video applications

Undergraduate Degrees

- Associate Degree (AA, AS) – 2 years (community colleges)
- Bachelor's Degree (BA, BS) – 4 years

Undergraduate Students

- Apply as a first year student (last year of high school)
- Apply to a community college then transfer to a 4- year university
- Apply as a transfer student after 1st or 2nd year of university study in home country

University Rankings

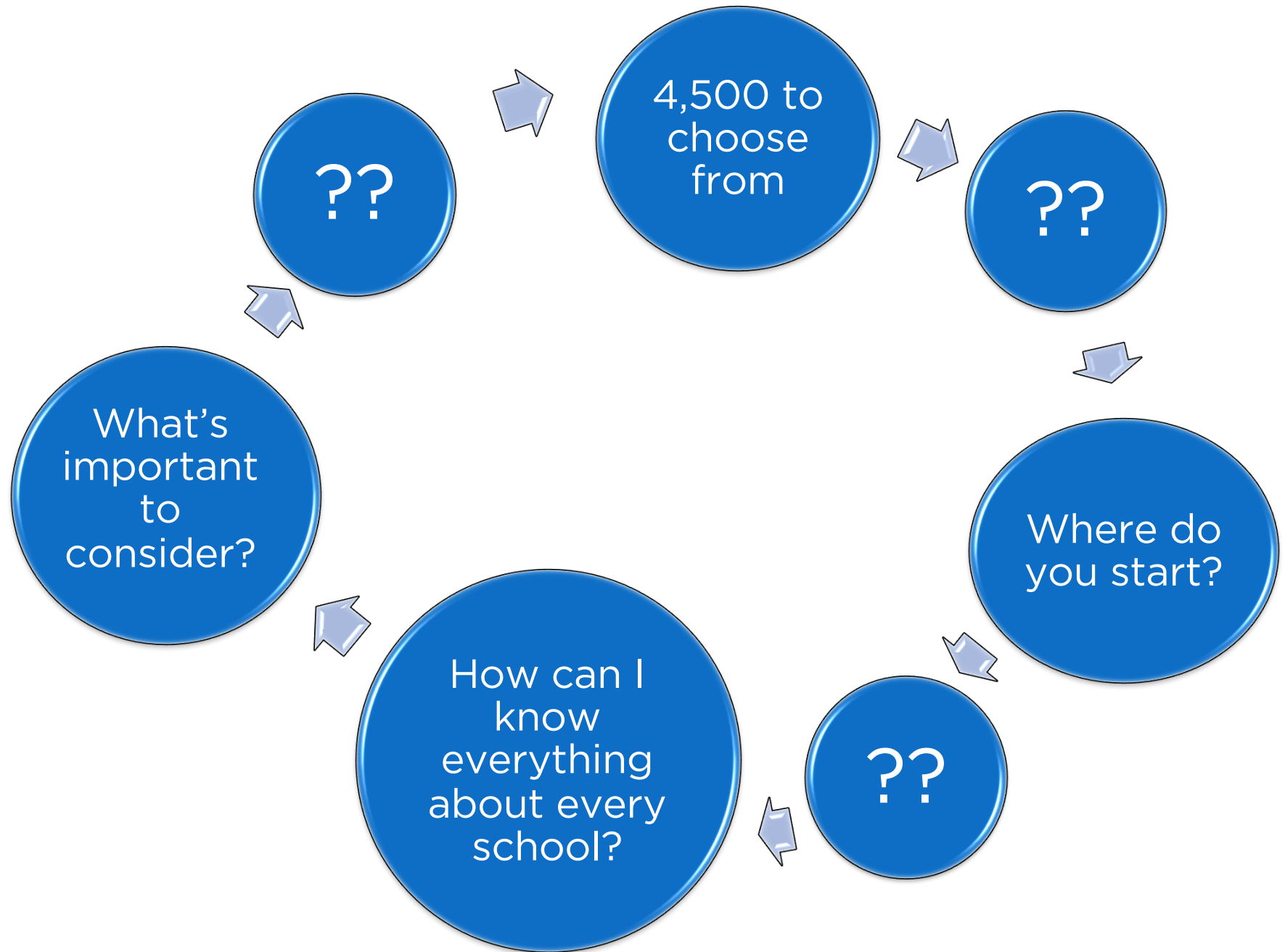
“I want to go to the #1 ranked school”



What do you mean?

University Rankings

- No U.S. national ranking system
- Rankings are self and peer-reported
- Strengths of programs not taken into account
- Ranking differ between organizations



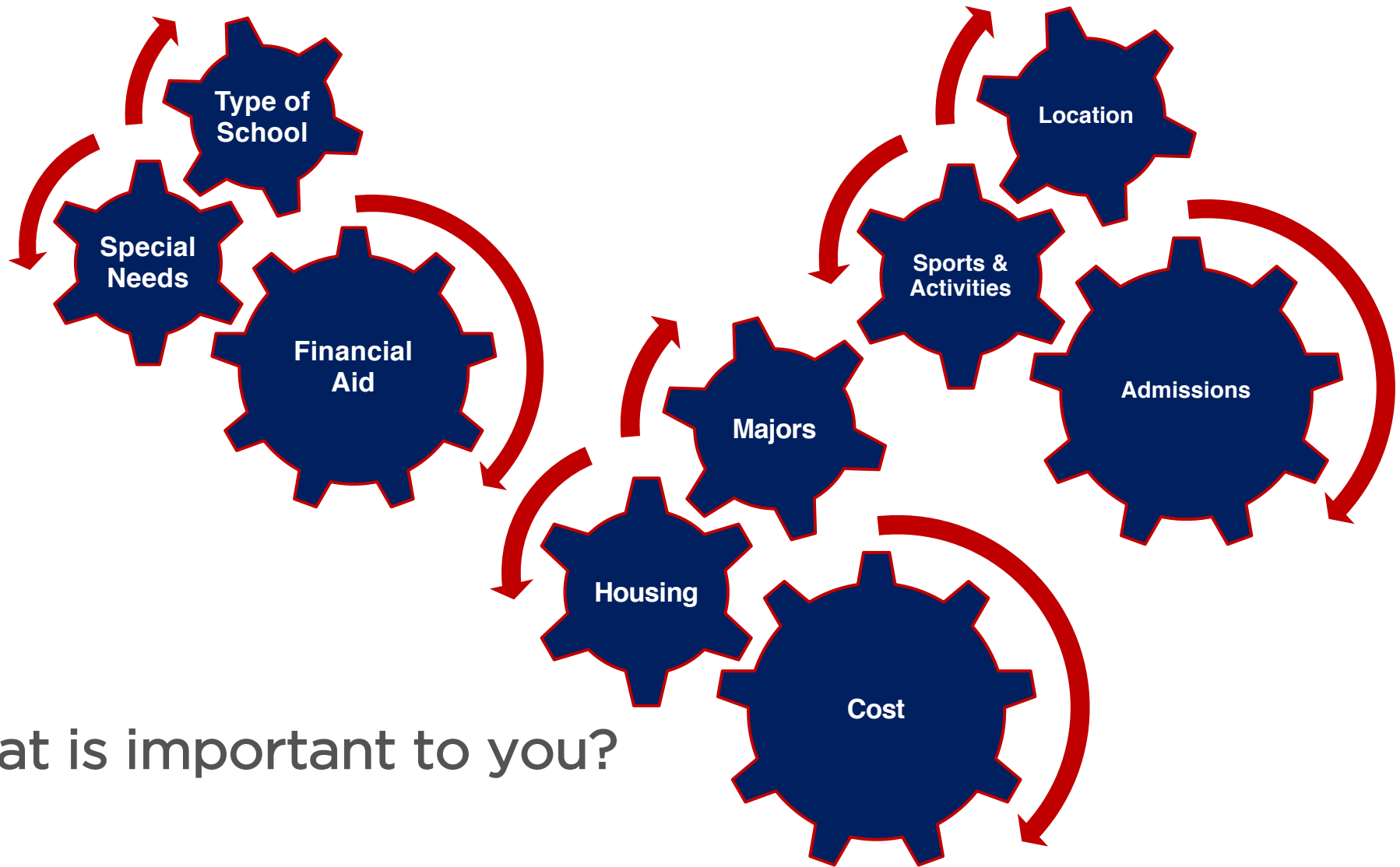
Examine Your Goals

“Don’t try to match yourself to a university; rather try to pick a university that matches you.”

– JOEL SEMAKULA,
EducationUSA UK student



Define Your Priorities



What is important to you?



Examine Your Goals

Important things to Consider

- Academic *strength* in course(s) of study
- Cost and financial aid
- Quality/competitiveness
- Facilities: libraries, labs
- Living Environment: size and location
- Special opportunities: sports, activities, internships, cross-registration, study abroad
- Religious affiliation
- Diversity
- Retention, Graduation Rates

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Resources

- CollegeBoard.org
- Petersons
- College Navigator
- University websites
- Student forums
- Alumni or current students

Questions?