Each transfer university has different transfer requirements and qualities. It is important to find a good academic and personal match. Choosing early will help you be more efficient in your class choices and more competitive for your top preference.

**Step 1 - decide what is important to you by looking at the below categories and choosing the description/s that match your preferences.**

**Academics of school:**
___ My major is offered
___ The department offering my major is supportive of students
___ The department that offers my major coordinates internship opportunities
___ My minor is offered
___ Ranking/Reputation of school
___ Teacher to student ratio
___ Research opportunities, there are opportunities to assist in the lab with a faculty member
___ The faculty publishes and/or are recognized in their field/ won significant awards
___ The school/major is competitive
___ The college/major has the recognized accreditation
___ There is an option to attend part-time
___ Non-traditional education is offered such as, internet, independent study, specialized major
___ There are a variety of study abroad programs
___ The school/major is not impacted/ I can get the classes when I need/want them

**Social/Student life:**
___ Intercollegiate sports I like to play or watch are available
___ Intramural sports I like to play or watch are available
___ Personality/values of student body
___ Diversity/ ethnic/gender ratios
___ Fraternities and/or sororities
___ Guaranteed transfer housing
___ Off-campus living options/cost

**Location:**
___ Local
___ In-state
___ Medium city
___ Large city
___ Small town near a city
___ Out of town
___ Rural/isolated town
___ College town
___ Weather conditions
___ Activities close by, surfing, museums, snow skiing, hiking, nightlife, ext.

Support Services:
___ Career Services, they assist with internship/job opportunities
___ Financial Aid
___ Scholarships
___ Academic Advising
___ Counseling/psychological services
___ Disability Resources
___ Library Resources
___ Campus safety/Police

Step 2- Fill out your top criteria for the ideal campus from the above list:

Academics: ____________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________

Social/Student Life: _____________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________

Support Services: _______________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________

Other: __________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________

Step 3- Rank the criteria that are most important to you in order:

_______________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________

Step 4- Research individual schools to see which is the best fit for you and matches your above criteria. You can go to the school web site, which is usually www.school name.edu, example, www.palomar.edu or you can use one of the following search engines.
Step 5- Complete the below exercise:

Campuses I am considering:                      Criteria that match:

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

Step 6- List your top 3 choices, tour each of these schools, and visit the department chair of your major field of study. Meet with a counselor to learn about requirements for successful admission into the university or program and to complete an educational plan.

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________