CPV College Search Activity

NAVIGATING THE COLLEGE SEARCH
Discuss the process of choosing a college with students. Share how you chose your university and how many other schools you considered. If you only had one school in mind, then give examples of other people you know who may have applied to more than one school and how they chose the different colleges.

■ Visit www.campustours.com to take a virtual tour and/or get information about U.S. colleges & universities

ACTIVITIES
1. Ask the student to save at least five schools of their choice, that fit their college criteria
2. Look into 2-year and 4-year schools, both public and private, so your mentee is aware of the many post-secondary opportunities available.
3. Narrow down searches by major, to get your mentee thinking about what they might want to major in. Use this opportunity to find out what they are interested in and talk about career goals.

RECORD THE SELECTIONS
Make sure to have the student right down the names of these schools in a place where they can refer back to. It might be a good idea to record them yourself, as a mentor, so you can include them in future activities. In addition, have them record what they like about these schools specifically. You can even have them write down the admissions office contact info: this makes it easier for the student to contact them about questions dealing with financial aid deadlines.

REFLECTION
What are important factors that influence the student’s choices of college? For example:

- Does location matter (rural/urban, or east/west coast)?
- Does college type matter (public/private)?
- Does school size matter?
- Is the admissions rate something the student must consider carefully?
- Is cost something that must be accounted for in advance?
- Does the student want on-campus housing?
- Does the student want to be involved in certain clubs, athletics, organizations, etc.?

Make sure to go through these questions with the student in order to reflect what these priorities are. You can have the student put these questions in order from most important to least important.