

# Lesson 8

## College of Best Fit: *Coach Guide*

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### Learning Goals

1. Students will understand qualities looked for in college applicants.
2. Students will understand different types of postsecondary education institutions and what each offers
3. Students will have the ability to match interests to postsecondary institution types

### Introduction (~5 minutes)

- **Welcome your classroom to Beaver Hangouts**
  - Recap your week as a college student. Spend a few minutes talking about the college application process. Think about the following:
    - What was the process like for you?
    - What was the most difficult part of applying to college?
    - How did you decide which schools to apply to?

### Think, Pair, Share! (~10 minutes)

- **What do colleges look for?**
  - Ask students to get into pairs or small groups. Have them brainstorm ideas to the question “*What do students need to do in order to get into college?*”
  - Remind them of the earlier lesson where they played “admissions counselor” and analyzed student profiles.
  - Have each pair share one example from their list and share why colleges are interested in that particular aspect to the application.

### Activity 1 (~5 minutes)

- **What types of schools are out there?**
  - Start a discussion with your class about different postsecondary options. Remind them that there is a type of institution to fit everyone; the best fit will depend on your interests and career goals.

### Activity 2 (~20 minutes)

- **What college fits you?**
  - For this activity, students will match each student description to a school that matches their interest and goals. These can be based on academics, extracurricular, and personal interests of the students.
  - Have students remain in their small groups and read through the description of each student. On the second page they will use the word bank to match which institution type they believe is best for each student.



- Encourage students to think back to prior lessons to make an educated guess for each student. Emphasize that it's okay if they don't understand each type of school well, since you'll be discussing it at the end of the session.
- **Group Share**
  - Go through the worksheet as a class and have students share their answers. While going through each answer, take a minute to explain each type of institution and how that is different from the others.
    - Public university
      - Larger with a wide variety of majors
      - Many different ways to become involved: clubs, sports, research, etc.
      - Typically classes are very large in the beginning
      - Tuition is typically cheaper and more students come from in-state
    - Military
      - Options include: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard
      - Must be 18+ to join, but you do not need a college degree
    - Private liberal arts college
      - Typically smaller schools with smaller class sizes
      - Faculty focus more on teaching than research
      - Tuition is typically more expensive, with more opportunities for financial aid
    - Community college
      - Offers a 2 year Associates Degree
      - Option for students to complete core classes before transferring to a 4 year school
      - Can start a career earlier in some professions such as: medical technician/assistants, mechanics, cosmetology, etc.
    - Art school
      - Colleges that specifically focus on the arts, such as: photography, videography, graphic design, studio art, etc.
      - Offers a more focused degree with less broad core classes

### Closing/Assignment (~5 minutes)

- **Wrap-up**
  - Leave some time for students to ask you questions

