

CHOOSING A COLLEGE CHECKLIST

CAREERS: Agronomy, Crop Science, Soil Science, Environmental Science

Choosing a college is a big decision—especially if you're interested in a future in science. Use this checklist to compare colleges and narrow your options.

ACADEMICS & PROGRAMS

- ✓ Offers majors or pathways in agronomy, crop science, soil science, environmental science, or related STEM field
- ✓ Allows students to explore different science majors before choosing
- ✓ Has up-to-date labs, field courses, or applied science classes

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE

- ✓ Provides lab work, field research, or outdoor learning
- ✓ Offers undergraduate research opportunities
- ✓ Includes internships, co-ops, or real-world projects for credit

FACULTY & SUPPORT

- ✓ Professors are actively involved in research or applied science
- ✓ Students can work directly with faculty on projects
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CAREER PREPARATION

- ✓ Shares job, internship, or graduate school outcomes
- ✓ Offers career services for STEM students
- ✓ Helps students connect with employers, research programs, or graduate schools

CAMPUS & LOCATION

- ✓ Location supports science learning (farms, labs, ecosystems, research centers)
- ✓ Class sizes allow for hands-on learning and interaction
- ✓ Campus feels like a place where I could belong

COST & VALUE

- ✓ Offers scholarships or financial aid for STEM students
- ✓ Provides a clear estimate of total cost
- ✓ Includes paid internships or work-study opportunities

FINAL FIT CHECK

- ✓ I can see myself learning and growing here
- ✓ The program matches my science interests
- ✓ The school supports my goals after graduation

REMEMBER

You don't need to find the "perfect" college—just the one that gives you the tools, experience, and support to build your future in science.