**FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN NARROWING DOWN**

**YOUR COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY SEARCH**

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| **FACTOR** | **DISCUSSION POINT** |
| Location | within state, regional/national? |
| Student Body Size | <5000, 5000-15,000, >15,000 |
| Academics | do they offer your major, strength of Major; what are admission requirements |
| Campus Housing Options | suite, apt style or off campus |
| Campus Atmosphere | small school or large school feel |
| Strength of softball program | top 25 D1, top 25 D2, top 25 D3, etc.? |
| State of program or in building phase | powerhouse, conference contender, middle of the pack |
| Coaching phase | style, Interaction w/players, # of coaches |
| Resources, athletic dept. staff | academic services available, athletic training staff |
| Athletic facilities | state of the art, average, poor? well kept,  |
| Current players/future teammates | felt comfortable w/players on visit |
| Opportunity | is making an impact freshman year important? |
| Cost/Scholarship | how much can you afford to pay? |

TIPS:

Always return calls and emails.

Be honest with college coaches. If you are not interested in their school, let them know.

Attend as many college games as possible to familiarize yourself with the different levels of play.

Attend college camps and clinics to get more one on one instruction and interaction.

Do your research to ensure the school is right for you prior to contacting the school.

Take the PSAT, SAT, ACT early. Retake the SAT and/or ACT if necessary

Register with the NCAA Clearinghouse by your sophomore year.

Make sure emails to coaches are well written and without grammatical errors.

Personalize letters to the appropriate school

Make sure your team attends quality tournaments that college coaches attend to recruit.