

What we want
you to know
TODAY about
selecting a
college.



Define Success.



Get started on your search.



WHEN you need to do WHAT.



How we work together.

Define Success – ‘A good fit’

“ The goal is to SELECT a college OPPORTUNITY that FITS YOU.”

- SELECT:** Not everyone is going to be recruited, and even if you are, you still need to make a decision that is best for YOU.
- OPPORTUNITY:** You are choosing a *chance* or an *opportunity* to do great things – you are not choosing a guarantee of success! What you do when you get to college matters far more than what you *get* from that college.
- FIT:** Consider a good fit to include athletic, academic, financial, and personal factors. A ‘reach’ in any of these areas means that school is a ‘reach’ for you. Remember that there are several if not dozens of great “fits” for each person – there is no one *perfect* fit.
- YOU:** This is YOUR process. Coaches can help, Parents can approve, Teammates can encourage or distract – but ultimately the more you OWN this, the better chance you have of arriving at the right place.

Timeline

Freshman Year	Sophomore Fall	Sophomore Spring	Junior Fall	Junior Spring	Senior Fall	Senior Spring
Develop Great Habits.	Learn what a good fit is for you.	Develop your 'Long List' and contact coaches/teams. (Worksheet) June 15 th recruiting begins.	Establish communication and narrow list. Consider official and unofficial visits.	Update/Evaluate prospective schools and your timeline.	Make decision or commitment, for some this will be dependent on applications.	Celebrate your selection! Communicate with coaches to be prepared.
Get Great Grades!	Commit to academic program to match your goals.	Register with the NCAA. Eligibility Center.	SAT and ACT Testing (AP courses begin).	Finalize your test scores and grades for applications.	Complete application process (everyone!)	Maintain grades – they matter for NCAA!
Commit to a GREAT LCM season (Summer) to setup SCY season.	Focus on multiple FAST meets in Nov/Dec – these will be the start of your recruiting times.	Go BIG this summer – leverage all you have learned in the past year!	Step up and lead the team in Nov/Dec.	Train for summer meets that will be last big impression for coaches.	Lead the team through example. Use Nov/Dec meets for SCY times if needed.	Develop transition plan with coaches. Identify a key competition.

The Bolles Swimming Support Process

1. Freshman/Sophomore Info Meeting – Check NCAA.org & www.collegeswimming.com
2. College Selection Starter Worksheet (Spring of Sophomore Year)
3. Individual Review with Coaches & Parents (Spring/Summer of Soph. Year)
 - A. Connect with College Counselor (ahead of Junior Year)
4. Update and communicate through Junior Year.
5. Celebrate commitments with official ‘signing days’ in Senior year.

Who does what?

The process to select a college takes time and effort – communicating and planning are in addition to your studies and swimming! Plan to make a significant time investment to get this done right.

Student-Athletes: College coaches expect to hear from you and get to know YOU. Also you need to understand the level of swimming you are reaching for – learn to research, communicate, and discuss the process with everyone involved.

Parents: You have lots of wisdom to offer, be cautious about how you encourage the process. There is a time and a place for you to speak with the coach – they often form impressions from you as well!

Coaches: We are here to guide conversations, suggest next steps or options, and advocate for athletes. Coaches are not here to make the process happen – we can assist and support!

Counselors: Can play the best role in guiding academic decisions, evaluating academic fit, and supporting the application process.

Teammates: Being a great teammate means supporting everyone on their selection – make others feel excited about their options when they talk about them and remember your interaction with coaches reflects on the team.

Closing Thoughts / COVID Considerations

COVID Considerations

- Official Visits and Coaching Visits eliminated.
- Budget/Roster Constraints

Solutions: Include more schools in your “narrow” list, and diverse schools more important than ever, be realistic about where you are starting.

Closing Remarks

- Recruiting Services
- SwimCloud / College Swimming.com
- Social Media