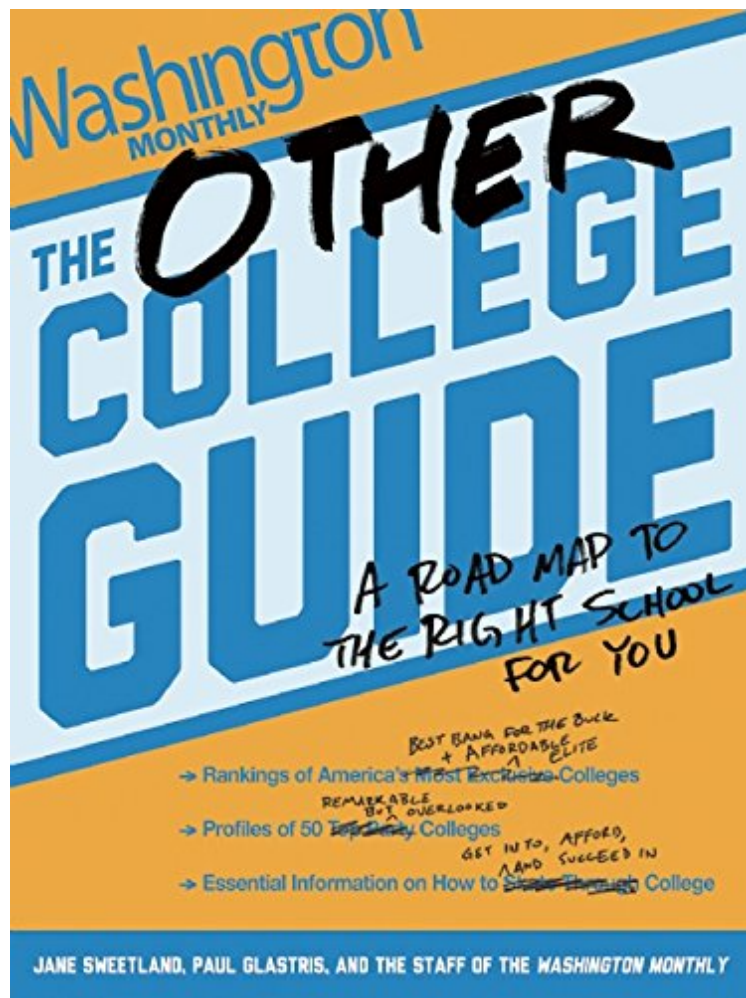


The Other College Guide: A Roadmap to the Right School for You

Jane Sweetland, Paul Glastris, Staff Washington Monthly
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Jane Sweetland, Paul Glastris, Staff Washington Monthly : The Other College Guide: A Roadmap to the Right School for You before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Other College Guide: A Roadmap to the Right School for You:

13 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Finally, a combined admissions and "best fit" guide that does not patronizeBy Jon L AlbeeHere's a college guide that really stands out. There are many college DIRECTORIES out there. Fiske. Yale. Princeton Review. These are all examples of books that give you vast amounts of information about the institutions themselves, but do not necessarily focus on admission or fit. Then there are also a lot of college ADMISSION guides out there too. These books break down the complex admission process for American colleges and universities into instructions that prospective students and parents can understand. Finally, there are many popular "best fit" guides. These are the college directories more generally inspired by Loren Pope's original COLLEGES

THAT CHANGE LIVES, and are based on the idea that the best college for you is the one that fits best, not necessarily the one with the most recognizable brand or the highest ranking. This book is a superb admissions guide combined with a thoughtful "best fit" college directory all rolled up in one book. The introductory sections on how to play the college admissions game are really good. They're built around a thorough and rigorous process for selecting the right colleges and then building an admissions strategy that is honest, efficient and realistic. I love the way the guide begins with a prospective student's interests and talents and builds an entire admissions strategy and prospective college list based on this. It's effective and, most importantly, credible. Many "best fit" guides are driven by a kind of under-handed elitism. Not so with this book. There's not an ounce of you'll-just-have-to-settle-for-your-local-community-college-because-you're-not-smart-enough-to-go-to-Princeton snobbery in this book at all. I'm skeptical of "best fit" college guides in general, because I think they patronize students and parents by attempting to get them to believe that brand and reputation mean nothing at all. This book acknowledges that there's a place for brand and reputation, but it correctly concludes that "value added" is enormously important to the undergraduate experience. If you get in and drop out, there's not much value added. I would recommend this book to prospective students just beginning to think about college (maybe 10th grade) and to the parents of those students. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. There's so much useful information in this guide that it should be ordered ...By nightowl There's so much useful information in this guide that it should be ordered one or even two years before a decision is to be made. It will answer every question you have about nearby or faraway colleges and universities. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Got this to pass on to my grandchildren....By Jaygee I bought this to pass on to my grandchildren, I looked through it a little, saw that it had good information, hope it helps the kids!

A college degree has never been more important or more expensive. If you're not made of money, where can you get an amazing liberal arts education without your parents having to remortgage the house or cash in their retirement fund? Which degrees will allow you to fulfill your dreams and earn a decent paycheck? What do you really need to know if you're the first in your family to go to college? How do you find good schools that offer a well-rounded campus life for black or Latino students? From the staff of Washington Monthly comes a new kind of college guide, inspired by and including the magazine's signature alternative college rankings. The Other College Guide features smartly designed, engaging chapters on finding the best-fit schools and the real deal about money, loans, and preparing for the world of work. This essential higher ed handbook also highlights information on what to look for (and watch out for) in online programs and for-profit colleges and concludes with fifty profiles of remarkable but frequently overlooked schools. All things being unequal, The Other College Guide will provide American students and their families and school counselors with the honest and practical information they need to make sense of the college process and carve a path to the future they imagine.

"A welcome and engaging alternative to typical college guides . . . a refreshingly down-to-earth approach to deciding what matters when choosing a college." Diana Natalicio, president, University of Texas at El Paso "Amazing and essential. I've been waiting my entire career for a guide that empowers and supports all students and families." Joshua Steckel, college counselor and co-author of Hold Fast to Dreams "The Other College Guide is all about students, not school recognition and reputation . . . a wonderful and crucial resource." Anthony Lising Antonio, associate director, Stanford Institute for Higher Education Research