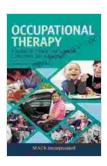
### The Ultimate Guide for Prospective Students, Consumers, and Advocates

Whether you're a high school student starting to think about college, a current college student, or a parent or guardian of a college student, this guide has something for you.



Occupational Therapy: A Guide for Prospective Students, Consumers and Advocates (A Guide for Prospective Students, Consumers, and Advocates)

by Kathlyn L. Reed

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 5 out of 5

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Print length : 182 pages



In this guide, you'll learn about:

- The different types of colleges and universities
- How to choose the right college for you
- The financial aid process
- Your rights as a consumer of higher education
- How to advocate for change in higher education

#### The Different Types of Colleges and Universities

There are many different types of colleges and universities in the United States, each with its own unique strengths and weaknesses. Some of the most common types include:

- Public colleges and universities: These schools are funded by the government and typically have lower tuition rates than private schools.
- Private colleges and universities: These schools are funded by private donations and typically have higher tuition rates than public schools.
- Community colleges: These schools offer two-year degrees and are a great option for students who want to save money or who aren't sure what they want to study.
- For-profit colleges: These schools are owned by private companies and typically have higher tuition rates than public or private schools.

#### How to Choose the Right College for You

Choosing the right college is a big decision. There are a lot of factors to consider, such as:

- Your academic interests
- Your career goals
- Your financial situation
- Your location preferences
- Your campus culture preferences

It's important to do your research and visit different colleges before making a decision. You can also talk to your high school counselor or a college admissions counselor for guidance.

#### The Financial Aid Process

College can be expensive, but there are many different types of financial aid available to help you pay for it. Some of the most common types of financial aid include:

- Grants: Grants are free money that you don't have to repay.
- Scholarships: Scholarships are also free money, but they are typically awarded based on merit or financial need.
- Loans: Loans are money that you have to repay, but they can be a good option if you don't have enough money to pay for college outright.

To apply for financial aid, you'll need to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA is a form that collects information about your family's financial situation. The government uses this information to determine how much financial aid you're eligible for.

#### Your Rights as a Consumer of Higher Education

As a consumer of higher education, you have certain rights. These rights include:

- The right to accurate information about colleges and universities
- The right to a fair and equitable admissions process

- The right to quality education
- The right to a safe and supportive learning environment
- The right to fair treatment and due process

If you feel that your rights have been violated, you can file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education.

#### **How to Advocate for Change in Higher Education**

If you're unhappy with the state of higher education in the United States, there are things you can do to advocate for change. Some of the things you can do include:

- Contact your elected officials
- Join a student organization or advocacy group
- Write letters to the editor or op-eds
- Attend protests or rallies

Your voice can make a difference. By speaking out and advocating for change, you can help to make higher education more affordable, accessible, and equitable for everyone.

This guide has provided you with a comprehensive overview of the college admissions process, your rights as a consumer of higher education, and how to advocate for change in higher education. We hope that this information will help you to make informed decisions about your future and to be an effective advocate for change.



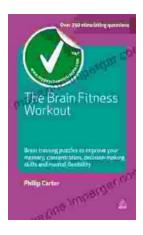
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