

# My College Finder – An Android based application

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*Abstract*— In any field after higher secondary education there is an entrance examination for getting admission to graduation/post-graduation college. It may be engineering, diploma, M.Tech, MBA, MBBS or any other technical or nontechnical field. In order to get admission in good colleges of these fields students first has to get the good score in these entrance examinations. But even after getting a good score most of the students or their parents are not having any idea about the good colleges in that particular field. And for the students who has got the average score it is even more difficult task to find the appropriate college and get the admission in it. It happens that for searching the colleges the students have to search on the internet extensively. My college Finder is an application that will help these students to get the most appropriate college for them in whatever field they are aiming to develop their career. This will reduce the efforts, money spent and as well as the stress of the students and their parents.

## INTRODUCTION:

This application is an Android OS based application which will be working on all the smart phones and tablets that are working on android OS 2.3 and above. Nowadays most of the students or parents are having smart phones running on android OS and it will be very much convenient for them to find an appropriate college at any time, any place and anywhere in the world just by entering their marks of the entrance exam, the stream of interest and their category.

The probable college names will be given to them by considering the data they have entered and the last year cutoff's of these colleges. This all data including college name, their last year cutoff, etc will be stored on the company's web-server. This will be a reliable data as it will be taken from the Official website of Directorate Of Technical Education (dte.org).

In this application we will be providing a login page wherein students first have to register by entering their username, password and phone no, and if they are already registered then they just have to enter their username and password to login.

Once they are logged in we will be displaying a page wherein all the instructions will be given to the corresponding user about how to use the application. After accepting all the terms and conditions student will move to the next page wherein they have to select their course of interest. After doing this, they will be redirected to the page where they have to enter their marks of the entrance examination in text box, choose their stream (like COMPUTER SCIENCE in case of engineering), and choose their category from the dropdown box.

This all data that has been collected from the students will not be stored on the company's web server, instead of that it will be stored on the local database known as SQLDATABASE which is provided by android itself on that smartphone or tablet. So, here there is no question of security or integrity as data will not leak anywhere on the internet as it is present on the user's device only.

Once student has entered the data, standard SQL queries will be processed on this data to fetch the appropriate college information from company's web-server. These probable 20 or 30 college names will be shown to the students in an organized manner on their device screen. Students can click on the college names to get the information about that particular college.

Students can also be given the physical location of the college by using google maps which can be accessed directly by the facility provided in android os. This will again reduce the efforts of the students and their parents to locate the college physically. Accommodation facility for the college will also be included in the information of the college. This will help the student in a better way.

Also once student has entered the data, they do not have to enter it again and again. It will be stored on in the sqldatabase and student can login and check the college names as many times as they want.

## Flow the Application and its Use

### Cases:

This application is a mobile application for the Android OS. So this application will have multiple screens which will have a certain flow. In this application the students who are going to use this application will just have to enter their marks first. Then the next thing which the student will have to enter is the branch of preference. It will include the various branches which are present under the university. The student will just have to select the branch of the preference and go to next screen. There he will have to give the caste category. It will include the various castes so that if the particular student is in the reservation the student will get the college options accordingly. This option is due to fact that there is a separate cutoff for the reservation so that those students will also get benefitted from this application. After feeding this all the data in the application, the student hits enter and gets the list of the most appropriate colleges for him/her according to the data. The student will get the best suited colleges for him/her in the list.

After getting the names of colleges the student can select a particular college. On selecting the college the complete information of the college will appear on the mobile screen. This information will include the detailed description of the college also with photographs. This information will include the foundation year of the college, the branches offered by the colleges, the intake for every branch, the principal etc. From this information the student will get a general idea about the college. If the student is further interested, a real time location of the college will be provided there as an option. The Google maps facility of the android phones will be used there. This will give the student the correct idea of the location of the college. Also the link to the website of the college will be provided there so that if the student wants to further know about the college, it can be done through the website. Also a feature of calling the college directly through the phone will be provided. The telephone number of that college will be already stored in the database and all that the student has to do is just tap the screen and the call is set.

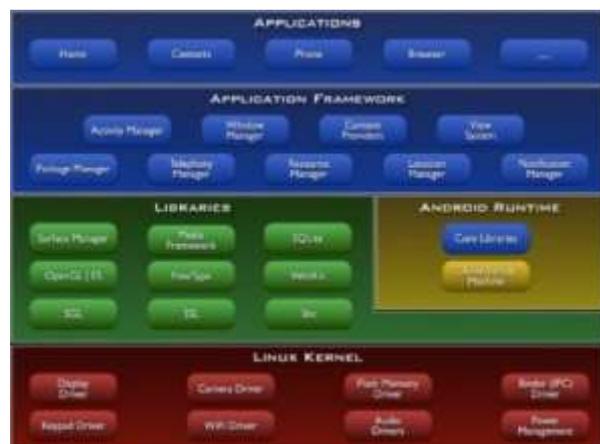


### Related Work:

Currently in the market, number of books are there which give such kind of information, but these books are costly and are also not reliable. Also they do not give an organized information, student has to search college according to their marks. Also there are some websites which do provide similar functionality, but there is no smartphone application like this for Android OS. But here in this application we will be giving the organized first 20-30 probable colleges in table format, hence student do not have to take any extra efforts and also the data provided will be very much reliable as it is taken from the dte.org website itself.

### About Platform:

Android was built from the ground-up to enable developers to create compelling mobile applications that take full advantage of all a handset has to offer. It was built to be truly open. For example, an application can call upon any of the phone's core functionality such as making calls, sending text messages, or using the camera, allowing developers to create richer and more cohesive experiences for users. Android is built on the open Linux Kernel. Furthermore, it utilizes a custom virtual machine that was designed to optimize memory and hardware resources in a mobile environment. Android is open source; it can be liberally extended to incorporate new cutting edge technologies as they emerge. The platform will continue to evolve as the developer community works together to build innovative mobile applications. This platform of the Android OS was chosen for its immense popularity in the market at present and especially by observing its attraction amongst the student class of the users. Also the Android has a huge advantage for the developers in terms of the SDK provided by Google or the large communities like the developer. android which are present for all the Android application developers.



**Challenges:**

In this application we have to store a large amount of data which will include the college id, names, the entire description, the location of the college which will be used for displaying on the Google maps, the contact information of the college the link to the website of the college. This entire data will be stored on the web server and the user will be getting this data from the web server, present at a remote location on the mobile phone which will also be present at the other location. For this our main challenge will be storing the data into the database in a structured format which will be easy for the retrieval. Also one of the other challenges of this project will be retrieving the data from the web server onto the mobile phone for which we will be using the parsing of the data using a parser. Also presenting the data onto the confined space of the mobile screen so as to effectively present it to the user will prove to be another challenge.

**Use of Data Mining in application:**

In this application the data mining will be used. Data mining is the concept in which the data which is required or which is useful for the certain application is retrieved from the database. This is the best method for obtaining information or data from the large database. Here the data mining will be used for the purpose of giving the user the most optimal solution for his/her query. The results of the last 3 years of the scores obtained by the students in the entrance exams will be retrieved from the present database and after the study and analysis of this result the prediction for the cutoff for the present year can be made based on the present year's results. Due to this the user which is the student in this case will get a precise or an optimal solution about the colleges in which the admission may be obtained and the results will be most appropriate as they are based on the study of the previous results.

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