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College Ikigai

dumbT

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The dedicated team working intently on this presentation

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Not all who wander are lost...

# Which college should I go to?

Anxiety over picking a college

52% of high school students say they feel pressure to make decisions about their future—including selecting a college—too soon

A lot of information or no information

It can be overwhelming to navigate tons of webpages finding the right colleges, it drains a lot of time and energy which can rather be used towards something more important

No real matching of interests and colleges

Just selecting colleges by ranking is futile because the real important factor is the matching of interests.
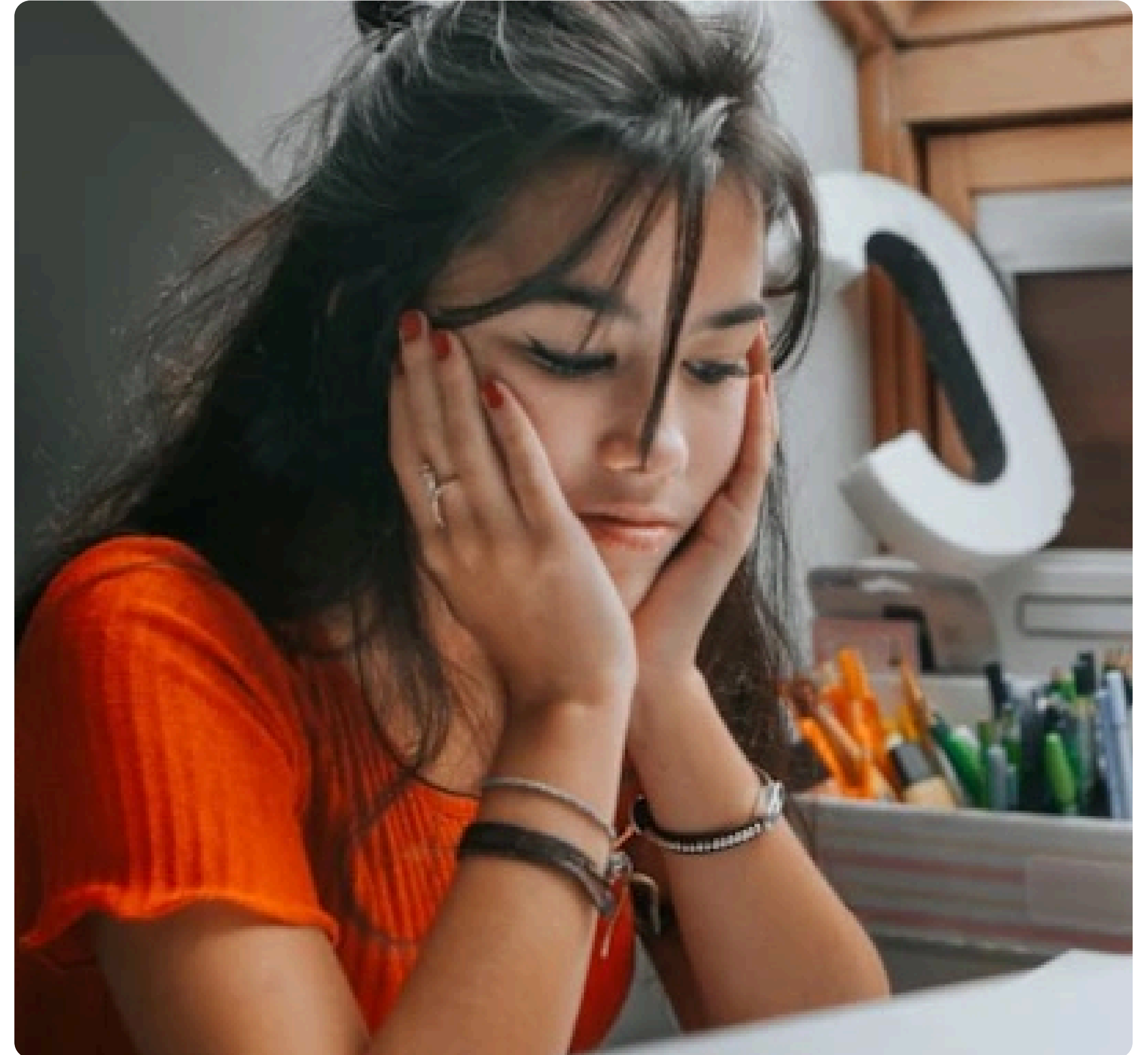
Why use College Ikigai?

◼ Holistic Profile Matching Beyond Scores

- While many apps focus heavily on GPA and test scores, College Ikigai aims for a **more holistic approach** by deeply **considering** a **student's interests**, **projects**, **extracurriculars**, and **personal narrative**.
- This aligns with the **'Ikigai' concept** of finding a place where **passion, mission, vocation, and profession intersect**, suggesting a deeper, more personalized match than just academic statistics.

◼ Focus on "Best Chance of Admission" & "Dream College"

- The application suggests a dual focus: **pragmatic** (likelihood of acceptance) and **aspirational** (finding a truly fitting environment).
- This combination can be **more appealing than tools that focus on one aspect or the other**, or simply list colleges based on broad criteria.

◼ AI-Powered Personalized Suggestions

- College Ikigai leverages a specific AI model **(Novita AI with meta-llama/llama-3.2-1b-instruct)** to generate suggestions.
- This can lead to **more nuanced and personalized recommendations** that a student wouldn't find through traditional filter-based searches.
- It's not just about matching criteria but about understanding the **synergy between the student and potential institutions.**

◼ Simplified, User-Focused Interface

- The current **design** appears **straightforward**: a **clear landing page leading to a single, comprehensive form**.
- This can be **less overwhelming** than applications with complex navigation or numerous filtering options, making the initial step of seeking guidance more accessible and less intimidating for students.

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Technology Stack

01
Frontend

- **React**: A JavaScript library for building user interfaces.

- **HTML5 & CSS3**: For structuring the web pages and styling

- **Fetch API**: Used for making asynchronous HTTP requests to the backend API.

- **Node.js & npm (or Yarn)**: For managing packages (like React itself), and running development servers.

02
Backend

- **Python**: The programming language used for the server-side logic.

- **Flask**: A lightweight WSGI web application framework in Python.

- **Flask-CORS**: A Flask extension allowing the frontend to communicate with the backend API.

- **OpenAI Python Library**: Used to interact with the Novita AI API

03
External Services

-**Novita AI API:** An external AI service providing the Large Language Model **(meta-llama/llama-3.2-1b-instruct)** used for generating college suggestions.
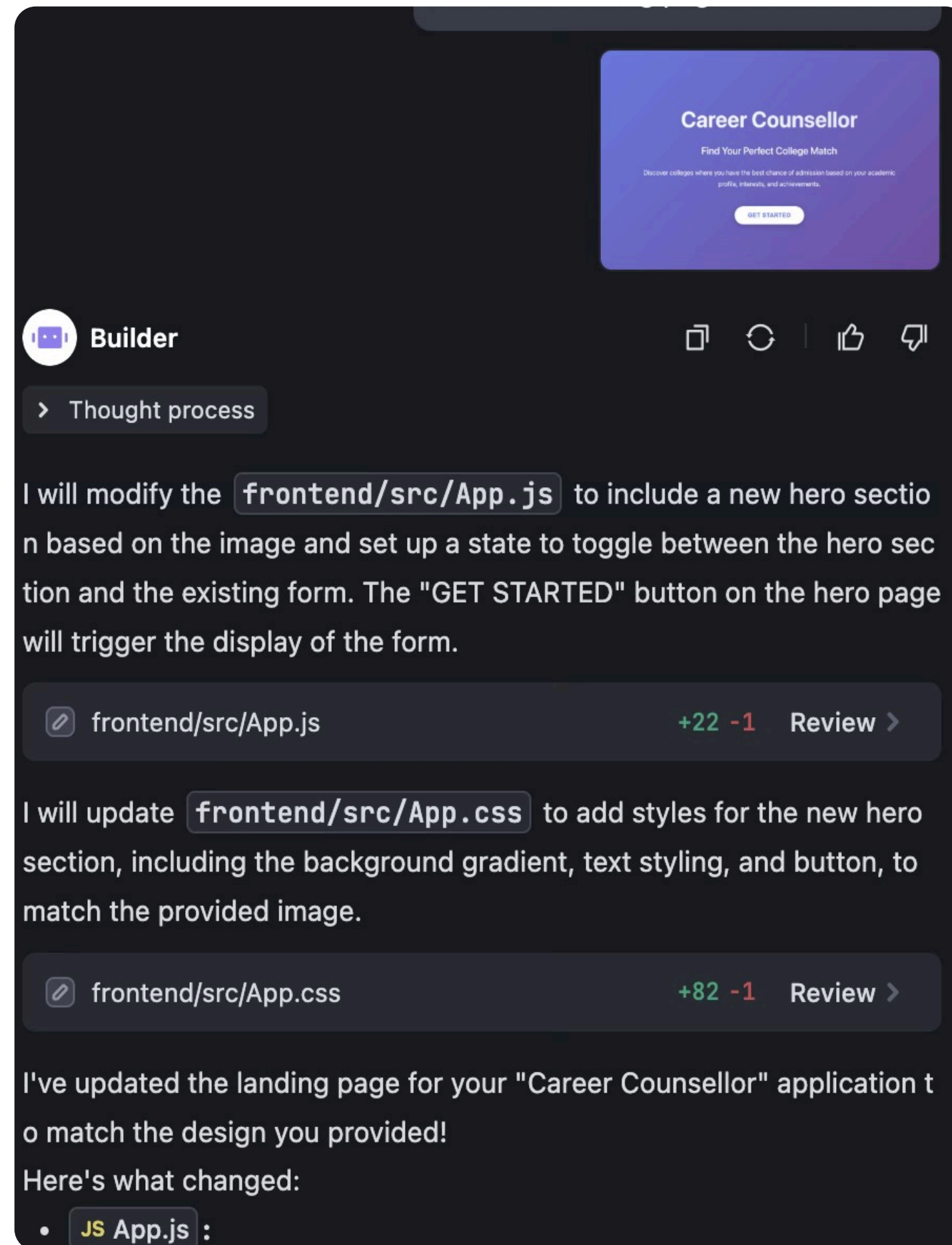
04
Development tools

-**IDE used: Trae**

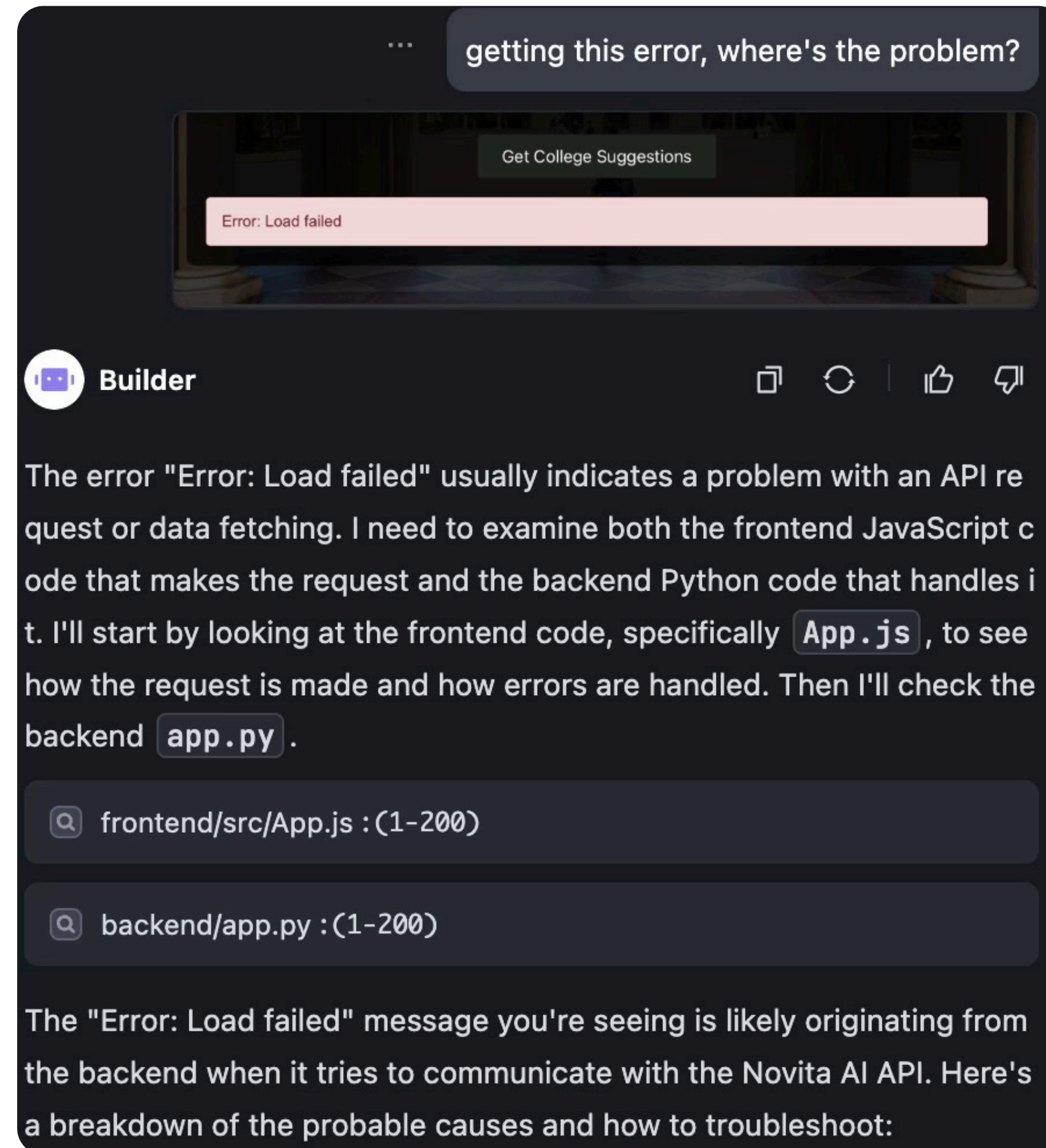Trae was used for developing all the aspects of this application.
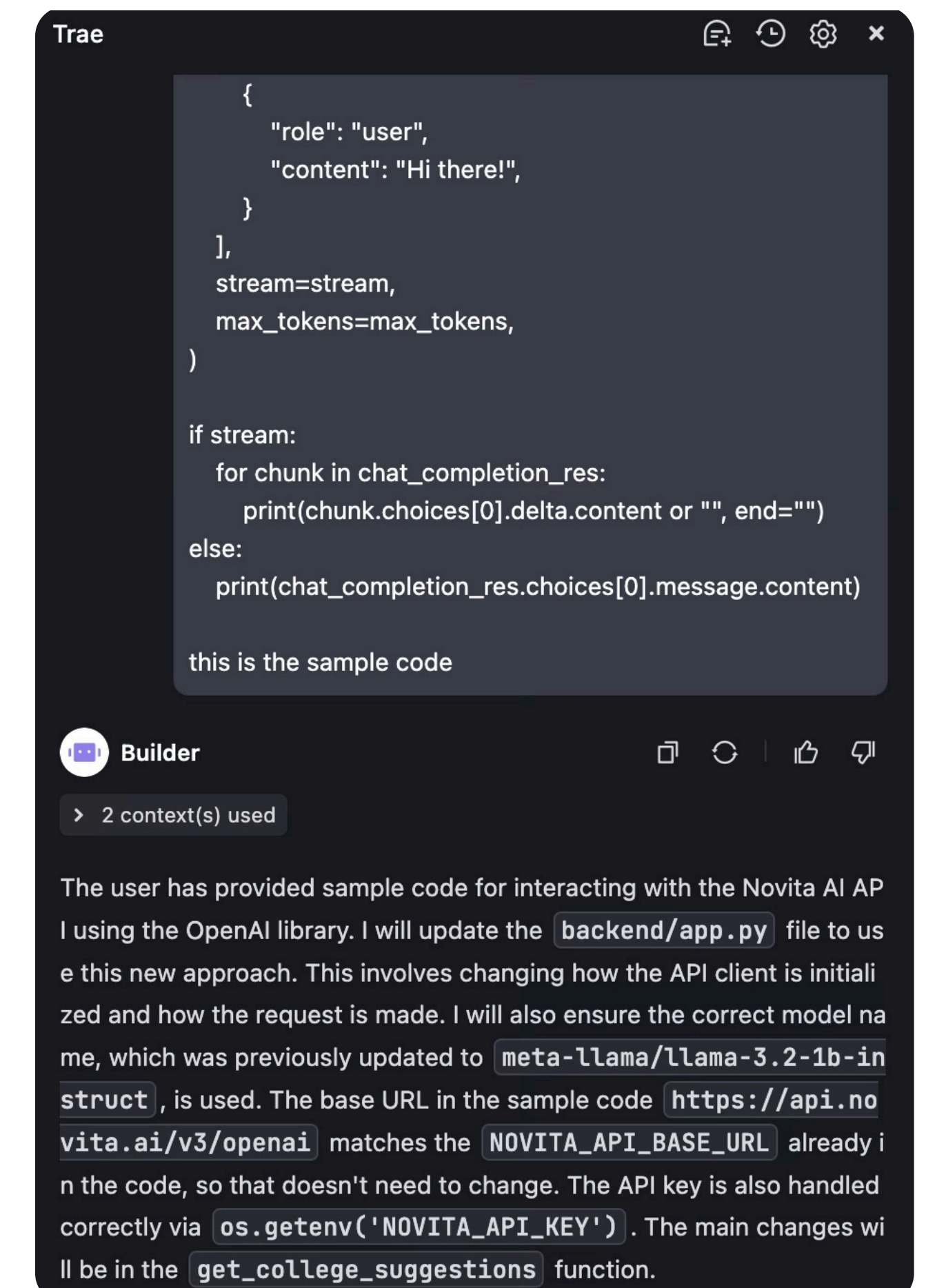
7

Trae Usage

For frontend layout

It saved a lot of time as the layout was created by Trae from a reference image

For easy debugging

Trae was very useful in finding bugs and debugging. With just the error message on the webpage it was able to fix the problem

Integration on Novita API

Trae was successfully able to integrate Novita AI based on the provided sample code.

Novita AI's API integration

- Model used: Llama 3.2 1B Instruct

- The LLM would analyse the student's profile to suggest suitable colleges

- This model was used since it was free but better results can be obtained using a another paid models

Further Development Ideas

■ **Fool-proofing the LLM using RAG**

LLMs can hallucinate and generate the wrong results many times. It's important to verify the information to provide the correct colleges to students

■ **Adding more features**

More features like college tuition, preferred city/ country, professors of interest etc can be used to provide more tailored and personalized responses

■ **Adding chat with current students and alumni feature**

After providing a list of colleges a feature to chat anonymously with the current students and alumni of that college to make a well informed decision about the college

■ **A chatbot and college application tool**

A chatbot to talk to about creating a personalized college application

Working demo

College Ikigai

Not all who wander are lost...find your dream college today

Discover colleges where you have the best chance of admission based on
your academic profile, interests, and achievements.
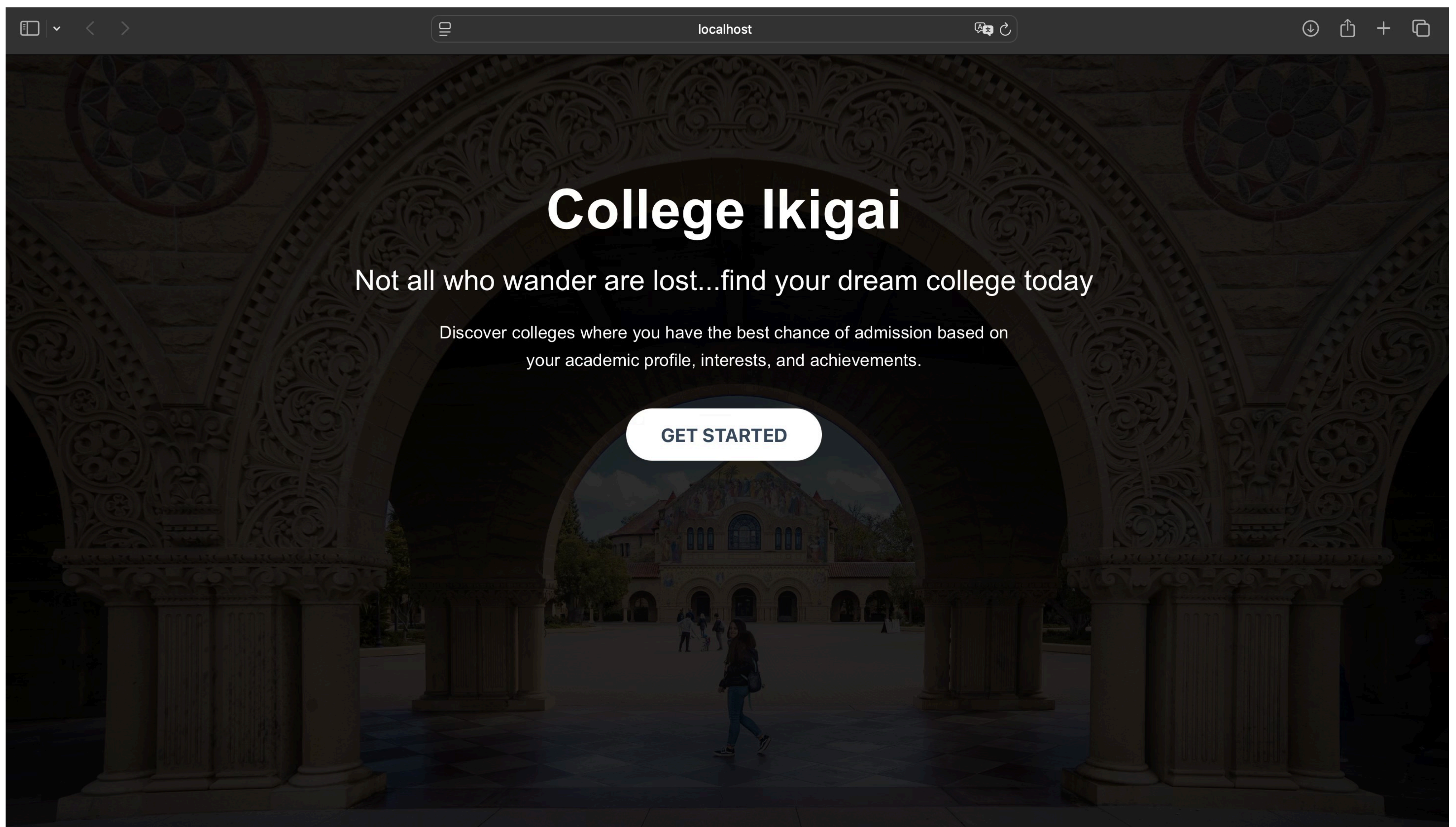
GET STARTED

Landing page: Simple, easy to get started

Empty profile form

Sample profile form for suitable college suggestions

Based on the student profile, here are some suitable college options in India:

1. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur
* Known for its strong focus on art and design, IIT Kanpur has a Sculpture Wing that offers a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree.
* The college has a strong emphasis on hands-on learning and collaboration, which would be beneficial for a sculpting enthusiast.
* IIT Kanpur has a satellite campus in Kanpur, which would allow the student to continue their studies and projects there.

2. University of Mumbai
* The University of Mumbai has a strong Department of Art and Design, which offers a BFA in Sculpture and a MFA in contemporary art.
* The college has a sculpture garden and a studio space that would provide the student with a conducive environment to work on their projects.
* Mumbai is a culturally diverse city with a thriving art scene, offering many opportunities for networking and collaboration.

3. Baba Farid University of Education
* This university has a strong focus on art and design, and offers a BA in Fine Arts (BFA) with a specialization in sculpture.
* The college has a sculpture wing that provides students with hands-on training and opportunities to work on projects.
* Baba Farid University of Education is located in Amritsar, which is a culturally rich and diverse city with many art-related institutions.

4. Amrita School of Visual Arts
* Amrita Art College is one of the largest art colleges in India, offering a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Sculpture.
* The college has a strong focus on contemporary art, and offers a range of projects and exhibitions to showcase the student's work.
* Amrita Art College is located in Kochi, which is known for its vibrant art scene and many galleries.

*Response from the model: LLMS hallucinate and this information needs to be further checked factually, the app can be further developed to provide factually correct information

Thank You!