The College Admissions Process

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Overview

- Types of colleges and universities
- What to consider when choosing a college or university
- Factors that influence admission decisions
- Advice for students
- Courtesy Scholarship
- Questions
Different types of colleges and universities

- **University** is an institution of higher education and research, which grants academic degrees in a variety of subjects. A university provides both undergraduate education and postgraduate education.
  - *University of Georgia, Georgia State University, Georgia Tech, Emory University*

- **Liberal arts colleges** are primarily colleges with an emphasis upon undergraduate study in the liberal arts. A liberal arts education is defined as a "college or university curriculum aimed at imparting general knowledge and developing general intellectual capacities, in contrast to a professional, vocational, or technical curriculum."
  - *Emory College, Agnes Scott College, Berry College*

- A **community college**, sometimes called a junior college, technical college, or a city college, is an educational institution providing higher education and lower-level tertiary education, granting certificates, diplomas, and associates degrees.
  - *Georgia Perimeter College, Atlanta Metropolitan College*

- A **vocational school** provides vocational education and is also referred to as a trade school or career college. They are operated for the express purpose of giving students the skills needed to perform a certain job or jobs.
  - *Atlanta Technical College, Brown College of Court Reporting*

- **Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)** were established before 1964 with the principal mission of educating African Americans and have long played a vital role in the U. S. educational system.
  - *Morehouse, Spelman, Clark Atlanta*
Factors to Consider When Applying to College

- Majors and minors offered
- What does the school specialize in?
- Scholarships/Financial aid programs
- Diversity
- Physical location of school
- Campus climate
- Social setting
- Retention rates
- Support services in place
What Drives Admission Decisions?

Curriculum and Grades!!!

AP Courses – English, Calculus, Languages, Science, History, and Micro/Macro Economics

Perceived “easy” AP’s: Art History, Psychology and Statistics

IB Programs – Full diploma preferred; higher level courses through “Theory of Knowledge”

Advanced/Honors Courses – Classes beyond the traditional college prep track

College Courses/Dual Enrollment – Core courses (Math, Science, Languages, and English)
Other Factors that Influence the Decision

Remember: None of these factors are more important than the Curriculum!!!!

- Test Scores (SAT/ACT)
  - AP Test Scores
  - IB Test Scores
  - SAT Subject Tests
- Extracurricular Activities
  - Leadership Roles
  - Community Service
  - Commitment
- Essays
- Letters of Recommendation

Sometimes...
- Class Rank
- Demonstrated Interest
- Region
- Socioeconomic Status
- Gender
Advice for Students Preparing to Apply to College

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

- **Test Early** - Take the SAT or ACT during the beginning of Junior year
- Take the most challenging courses offered (Math, Sciences, English, and 3 years of Languages)
- Avoid C’s, some B’s are OK
- Volunteer for **leadership positions** and be committed to extracurricular activities
- Request to be on a school’s mailing list; visit campus if possible
- Develop relationships with teachers and counselors for personalized (not generic) letters of recommendation
- Tell stories in essays (the application is not a place to be shy)
- Learn about the school; don’t apply based on name
- Find out about financial aid – money may not be a deterrent
- Apply **early**
- Meet all deadlines and follow up with the schools
Your employment does not entitle your student to admission at Emory or Oxford College

Make sure your student identifies s/he is the child of an staff/faculty member

Contact Human Resource Representative

Know your years of service
Contact Information

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QUESTIONS?