



**PLANNING FOR COLLEGE
WORKSHOP
WILL BEGIN SHORTLY**

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Audio only



With video



COLLEGE ADMISSIONS IS LIKE?



“A COLLEGE FOR EVERYONE”

- 2 or 4 year
- Public or Private
- In-State or Out-of-State
- eSports, equestrian, nursing program
- My mother attended
- I like their Instagram
- Affordability



▶ HOW MANY ARE ACCEPTED?

**Under
25%**

**Between
50% and
75%**

**Between
25% and
50%**

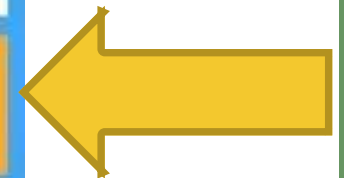
**Over
75%**

TIMING IS EVERYTHING...

- It all begins in the 9th grade
- Junior year – why is it important?
- What about my senior grades?
- Senior year: applying in the fall versus applying in the spring. What's the difference?



Non-Restrictive Application Plans			Restrictive Application Plans	
Regular Decision	Rolling Admission	Early Action (EA)	Restrictive Early	Early Decision
Submit an application by a specified deadline and receive a decision by a designated date	Submit when ready. Schools review application as they "roll-in". They make admission decisions throughout the admissions cycle	Apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the school's regular response date	Apply to a school and receive a decision early. You may be restricted from applying ED, EA, or REA to other schools. If offered, you have until May 1 to confirm	Make a commitment to a first-choice school where, if admitted, you will definitely enroll. The application decision deadline occur early.
Non-Binding!	Non-Binding!	Non-Binding!	Non-Binding!	Binding!
You are not restricted from applying to other institutions and have until May 1 to consider your options and confirm enrollment.			You are responsible for following all restrictions	



HOW WILL COVID-19 IMPACT COLLEGE ADMISSIONS AND TESTING?

- How will student applications be read?
- What is the impact of the application timeline?
- With more schools going test-optional, how much will the score matter?
 - *Schools will still accept testing*
 - *Students will still submit tests*
 - *We do not know if this is permanent or temporary*
 - *Test optional is not the same as test blind*
- What is going to happen with ACT/SAT test dates?
- Will we see a rise in remote online testing?
- What about AP Exams?

▶ **BUT I AM JUST A SOPHOMORE...**

- Prepare for standardized testing (PSAT, PLAN, ACT, SAT).
- Update your file of important documents and notes (resume, community service, awards, honors).
- Research Colleges/Universities and plan a visit – even if it is virtual!
- Watch virtual tours! See if College's will allow you to sit in on a virtual classroom experience.
- Find out about Honors, AP, IB courses offered at your high school.
- Continue extracurricular activities and look into leadership opportunities.
- Continue to meet with your school/college counselor at least once a year

**“COLLEGE IS A
MATCH TO BE MADE
NOT A PRIZE TO BE
WON.”**

It is not about admissions; it is about graduation.

▶ PARENTAL ROLE

“We are applying”

“We are majoring in...”

“When I signed in to our Common App Account”

“We’ve decided that the best College for us is...”

“We are visiting”

“We are writing our essay...”

“Our list of Colleges”



SIPRESS

"We've been thinking a lot about what we want to do with your life."

**HOW DO COLLEGES
MAKE ADMISSION
DECISIONS?**



Factor	N	Considerable Importance	Moderate Importance	Limited Importance	No Importance
Grades in All Courses	220	74.5	15.0	5.5	5.0
Grades in College Prep Courses	220	73.2	16.8	5.9	4.1
Strength of Curriculum	219	62.1	21.9	8.7	7.3
Admission Test Scores (SAT, ACT)	221	45.7	37.1	12.2	5.0
Essay or Writing Sample	220	23.2	33.2	24.1	19.5
Student's Demonstrated Interest	218	16.1	23.9	28.0	32.1
Counselor Recommendation	218	15.1	40.4	26.6	17.9
Teacher Recommendation	219	14.2	40.2	26.5	19.2
Class Rank	220	9.1	29.1	34.1	27.7
Extracurricular Activities	219	6.4	42.9	32.0	18.7
Portfolio	219	6.4	11.9	26.9	54.8
Subject Test Scores (AP, IB)	219	5.5	18.3	35.2	41.1
Interview	219	5.5	16.4	28.3	49.8
Work	217	4.1	28.6	36.9	30.4
State Graduation Exam Scores	218	2.3	8.7	18.8	70.2
SAT II Scores	216	1.9	5.6	14.8	77.8

SOURCE: NACAC Admission Trends Survey, 2018–19.

▶ OBJECTIVE VS SUBJECTIVE CRITERIA

OBJECTIVE CRITERIA

- Academic course selection (9-12)
- Overall performance
- Senior course in progress
- Test Scores (ACT and/or SAT)
- Application volume at the schools to which you are applying

SUBJECTIVE CRITERIA

- Extracurricular activities
- Essay(s)
- Recommendation letter(s)
- Interview
- Campus Visit

AN ADMISSIONS SIMULATION

Presented by
Randolph-Macon College
Office of Admissions

SUMMARY

- No matter your skills, talents or abilities or interests – there are great colleges for you!
- Remember, every year counts not just one.
- Do research and do it early
- Be honest (with yourself and others)
- Use school/college counseling office
- Visit (even if it is virtually right now)
- “College is a match to be made not a prize to be won.”



...and remember,
sometimes you may
just need to take a
lucky shot!



THE “BEST” ...

“ . . . the “best” college is the one that will challenge you appropriately, open your eyes to new ways of thinking, and help you develop and broaden your talents as you take your place in the world ahead.”

- Willard Dix



QUESTIONS?

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