



Navigating the Admissions Process

College & Career **Pathways**

Hello, We are...

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Navigating the Admissions Process

Overview

The College Search

- Asking Questions
- Get Organized
- Timeline

The Application Process

- Application Components
- Application Review (What is “holistic review?”)
- Selectivity

The College Search

Ask Questions

Self-reflection

Consider multiple sources & resources

Independence & Responsibility

The College Search

Get Organized for Deadlines:

Find your supporters

Map out deadlines (applications & financial aid)

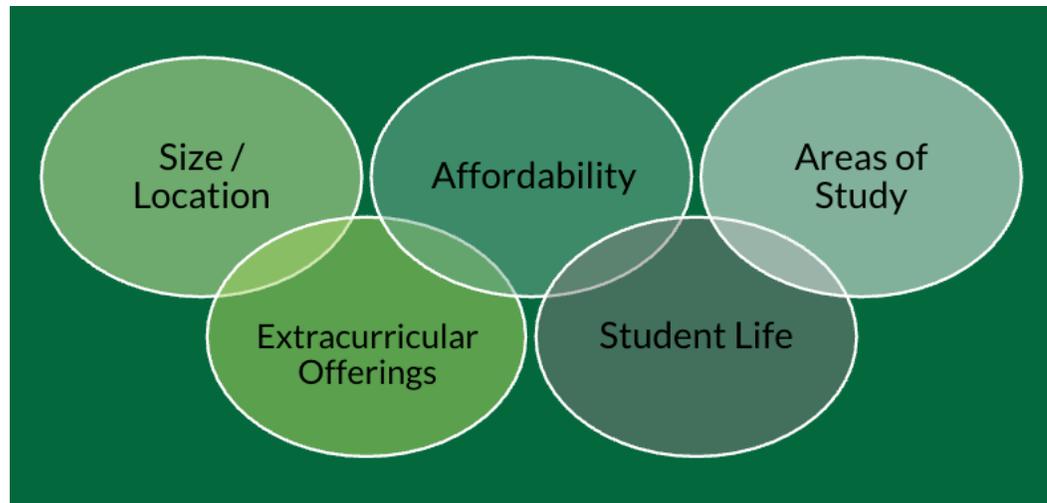
Organize college correspondence

The College Search

Timeline – Early High School

Family conversations to set expectations & share goals

Consider college characteristics & personal preferences



The College Search

Timeline – Mid-HS (Junior Year)

Start the college search in earnest

Visit colleges

Consider your application narrative

Start applications summer after 11th grade

College cost calculators

Explore scholarship opportunities

The College Search

Timeline – Late High School (Senior Year)

More campus visits

Prepare applications for admission and scholarships/financial aid

(a concurrent process)

Deadlines, deadlines, deadlines

Enjoy good news!

Make your final decision

Finish strong

The Application Process

Application Checklist Items:

Application - Common App, Coalition for College, Questbridge, other

Application fee or fee waiver

Transcripts (often submitted by school)

Test scores

Recommendation(s)

Essay(s) - personal statement and/or supplemental

Resume, Interview, Portfolio

The Application Process

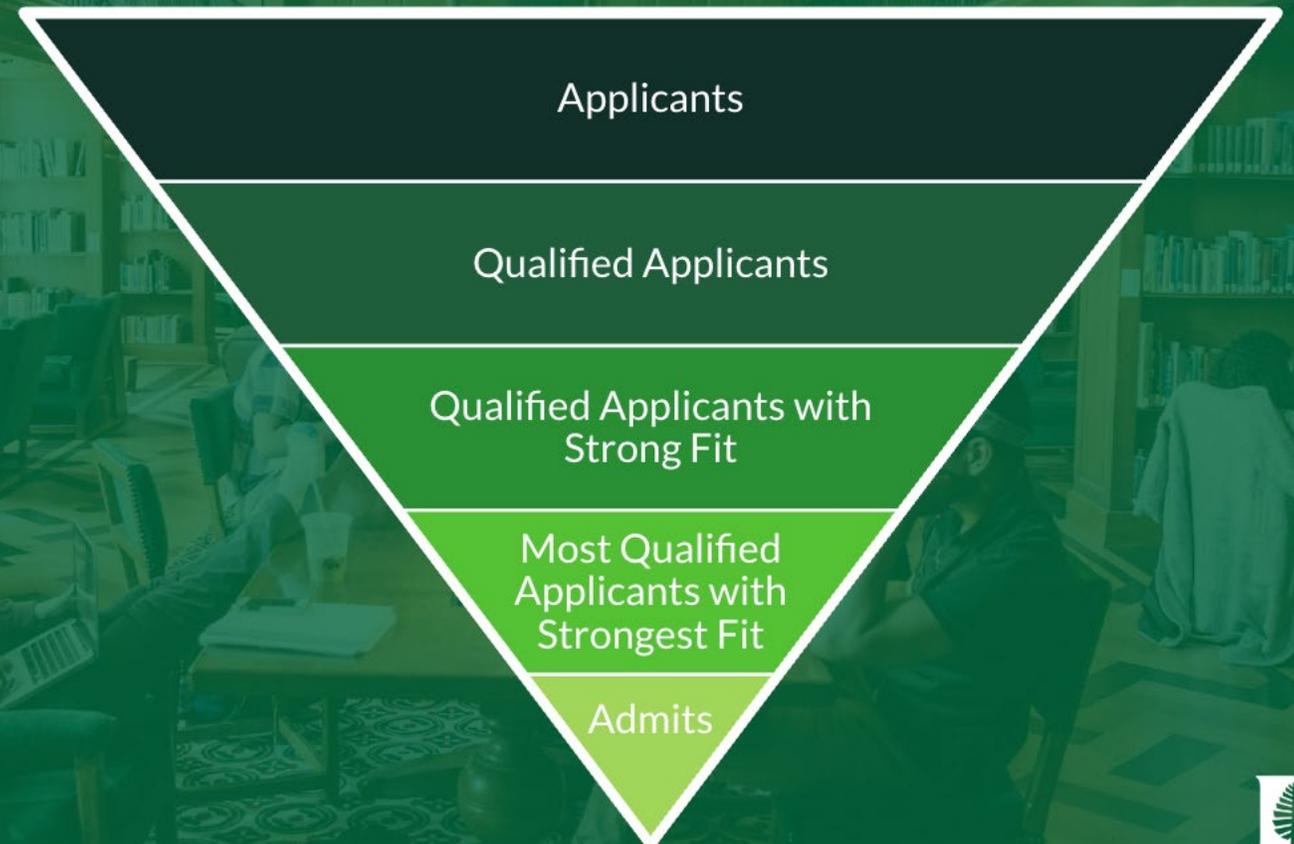
Application Review

“Holistic review”

Selectivity

Minimum requirements?

Holistic Review & Selectivity



Enhance Your Application

How can I make my application stand out?

Considering match & fit

Course Selection

Q: "Is an B in a hard class better than an A in an easy class?"

Academic Performance

Essay Preparation

Selecting & Inviting Recommenders

Connect / Visit

Portfolio, Audition

Application Review Process

What are admissions officers looking at?!

Capable vs competitive

Holistic Review

Curricular rigor

Academic trend

Your story

You choose!

Decision Deadline

May 1st

Stay in touch, visit, connect, & get your questions answered.

Make an informed decision!

Resources

Resources (links are on VSAC site for today's program!):

- VSAC resources
- University websites
- Apply - Free college & scholarship search tools, resources, and summer program directories, including the "College Fit Kit" guide to finding the best colleges for you.
- Khan Academy College Admissions Course
- Collegewise Free Resources