



A Message from CAH Staff

Hello,

Another application cycle has concluded, and we, the staff of the College Admissions Hub (CAH) Discord are left with one question: how do we best prepare the next high school class for the process next year? After seeing the overwhelmingly positive response from the r/ApplyingToCollege and CAH communities, we decided to once again make another iteration of the Real Safeties, Matches, and Reaches document.

The purposes of this document remains the same: to provide future applicants with a tool to help them better determine what a true safety, match, and reach is and pass on wisdom from one graduating class to another. We hope this resource will help you be better informed and more in-tune into the process, as well as dispel any admissions myths you may hold.

We know this process is incredibly stressful, and full of tears of both joy and distress. However, despite the emotional rollercoaster which is the application process, we know you will all do amazing. Work hard, persevere, research, edit, edit, edit, and the rest will follow.

While you're here, make sure to check out both the [international companion document](#), as well as the [Admissions Reflections from the Class of 2022](#) document where you can find more advice and thoughts from the class of 2022. Also, feel free to join the College Admissions Hub Discord ([invite link here](#))! We have an ever growing population and we will welcome you with love and open arms.

All the best,

The CAH Discord Staff Team

What's new?

- 29 domestic + 8 international profiles with more detailed descriptions of applicant's ECs, honors, essays, and recommendations.
- Two companion documents: one with [*international profiles*](#), and the other a compilation of [*admissions advice from the Class of 2022*](#)
- An additional info section to explain atypical circumstances or key application elements which otherwise would not have been mentioned
- Advice from each applicant included in their profile

How to Use This Resource

This document is made for for all those who are applying to colleges in the upcoming cycle, as well as those who are supporting applicants (counselors, parents, siblings) and wish to be more informed about the process.

Though the mission of this year's RSMR is the same as [*last year's*](#), the two resources differ structurally. We've decided to divide the contents of RSMR into three separate files: one with domestic profiles (this file), one with [*international profiles*](#), and the last a [*compilation of admissions advice*](#). This decision was made in the hopes that applicants could find more relevant profiles easier and because one RSMR document would've been nearly 90 pages long (yikes). This does not mean that international or domestic applicants should only look at their "designated" files. There are important lessons to be learnt from every profile for all applicants, regardless of where they are applying from.

We recommend that users **FIRST** read through the advice document before proceeding to the profiles themselves. It's quite easy to get lost in the results and not take in some of the amazing and insightful advice offered by recent applicants. When viewing the profiles, make sure to not focus too much on one single applicant, especially outliers. Look for trends as they will be a better predictor of your success.

Notes, Disclaimers, and Warnings

- Once again, entries were collected from a very skewed, competitive and unrepresentative pool. This is but a snapshot of one's application, so take the success of each profile with a grain of salt.
- Like an admissions officer, look at both the individual entries as well as the pool of entries holistically. Don't focus too much on one part of an applicant's entry or the entry of one individual
- Ratings of ECs, honours, essays, and recommendations are all self-assessed. Please take these ratings and any descriptions of these elements with a grain of salt.
- Some profiles are very long and cross-over several pages. Make sure to scroll down!

Summary of Results

1. Having amazing ECs is by no means a panacea to all your application process problems. Submitting weaker essays can really be a death sentence, even for individuals with "insane" extracurriculars. This, once again, goes to show how incredibly important that applicants really spend time on their essays if they want to be successful.

- See entries 4 and 8

2. The schools you get into are not always indicative of one's intelligence or extracurricular strength. There are several applicants here whose ECs are certainly at the highest echelons yet were denied from "top" schools. Admissions is not a perfect process. In fact, it's far from it. While it may seem impossible for certain applicants to be rejected, or for results to be random, it's important to remember that this process is not a judgment on their or anyone's value or merit. It can be stressful, and it will surprise you, but it's never the end of the world.

3. Start early and take your time. Being strong on paper does not guarantee perfect results, and taking your time to craft strong essays and hone each aspect of your application is critical no matter who you are.

4. While it's easy to overlook financial aid when in the midst of applying, cost is often one of the single most important determining factors when deciding to attend. Be informed: not only about what need-based aid you might receive, but about what factors influence that aid, what strain certain cost levels would have on your family, and perhaps most importantly, about potential merit aid that might change your preferences altogether. 1k is actually a lot of money to owe. Sometimes, making the more financially sound choice is better than choosing a school because of prestige.

- See entries 8, 15, 33

5. Love your safety. Statistically speaking, not everyone can go to their dream school. In addition to being realistic when choosing your safety in measures such as acceptance rate or middle 50, it's also important to keep in mind fit and cost.

6. There's a fine line between being confident and being unrealistic. Being honest with yourself and about your strengths will only help you to create the best possible applications that you can. this applies to both safeties and reaches!

<u>Applicants By School</u>
Entries 9, 12, 13, 16, 17, 20, 25, 27, 30*, 32*, 34, 35, 36* applied to <u>LACs</u> → Accepted: 12, 13, 16, 20, 30*, 32 → Rejected: 9, 17, 25, 27, 34, 35, 36*
Entries 1, 4, 5, 13, 18, 20, 22, 24, 28, 31*, 35* applied to <u>Stanford</u> → Accepted: 4, 18 → Rejected: 1, 5, 13, 20, 22, 24, 28, 31*, 35*
Entries 3, 4, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 22, 23, 25, 28, 29, 32* applied to <u>Cornell</u> → Accepted: 14, 18, 23, 28 → Rejected: 3, 4, 8, 11, 12, 13, 22, 25, 29, 32*
Entries 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13, 16, 18, 19, 20, 22, 25, 28, 29, 30*, 32*, 34*, 35* applied to other <u>Ivies</u> → Accepted: 16, 18, 34*, 35* → Rejected: 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13, 19, 20, 22, 25, 28, 29, 30*, 32*,
Entries 1, 8, 11, 18, 21, 22, 24, 31*, 34, 36*, 37* applied to <u>UC Berkeley</u> → Accepted: 22, 31*, 37* → Rejected: , 8, 11, 18, 21, 24, 34, 36*
Entries 1, 8, 11, 18, 21, 22, 24, 26, 27, 31*, 34*, 36*, 37* applied to <u>UCLA</u> → Accepted: 8, 18, 22, 24, 26, 31*, 34*, 37* → Rejected: 1, 11, 21, 27, 36*
Entries 3, 4, 8, 15, 16, 19, 22, 24, 28, 29 applied to <u>MIT</u> → Accepted: 4, 22 → Rejected: 3, 8, 15, 16, 19, 24, 28, 29
Entries 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 18 applied to <u>WUSTL</u> → Accepted: 5, 8, 18 → Rejected: 6, 9, 11, 12
*international applicant

7. There is no one 'perfect applicant' in this process. Anyone can succeed, and anyone can fail. The best thing to do right now is commit yourself to putting in the work so that you have the best chances at succeeding possible.

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1. AIR

attending UCR

advice

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ “Don't have high expectations” ❖ “Apply to safeties you like” ❖ “Spend more time on essays”

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> Asian male	<i>high school type:</i> competitive public in state	<i>state/country:</i> California
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 3.85	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 3.5	<i>class rank:</i> N/A
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 1530 SAT	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> 780+ Math 2, high 600 Chemistry	<i>financial need (optional):</i> N/A

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Electrical engineering	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i>
<i>extracurriculars:</i> rating: 6	<i>honors:</i> rating: 2
<i>essays:</i> rating: 5	<i>recommendations:</i> rating: 4?

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> Cal Poly Pomona, San Jose State - Likely	<i>matches:</i> UC Riverside - Likely Purdue, Cal Poly SLO - Unsure UC Irvine, UC Davis - Unlikely	<i>reaches:</i> UC San Diego, UCLA, UC Berkeley, USC, Stanford - Unlikely
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> Cal Poly Pomona, San Jose State - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> UC Riverside - Accepted Purdue - Accepted , alternate major Cal Poly SLO, UC Irvine, UC Davis - Rejected	<i>reaches:</i> USC - Trojan Transfer Plan (1/4 of an Accept lol) UCSD, UCLA, Berkeley, Stanford - Rejected

2. A J F E W O I

attending Vanderbilt University

advice

- ❖ “Don’t set expectations for yourself. Just do it.”
- ❖ “Write essays on time.”
- ❖ What do you wish you did differently? “Not stress about getting in or not.”
- ❖ “Just do it.”

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i>	<i>high school type:</i> Public	<i>state/country:</i> MS
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> No weighted GPA	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 4.0	<i>class rank:</i> 13/ around 450
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 35	<i>subject tests (optional):</i>	<i>financial need (optional):</i> yes

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> neuroscience	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i>
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Felt they were above average rating: 8	<i>honors:</i> They were alright, some were generic rating: 6
<i>Essays:</i> I felt they were average Rating: 5	<i>recommendations:</i> Average recs Rating: 5

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> Olemiss - Likely	<i>matches:</i> Baylor- Likely	<i>Reaches:</i> Vanderbilt- Unsure
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>Safeties:</i> Olemiss - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> Baylor - Accepted	<i>Reaches:</i> Vanderbilt - Accepted

3. ALVIN

attending Case Western Reserve University

advice

- ❖ “It was a lot of stress, but it's not impossible and worth it at the end.”
- ❖ “Don't procrastinate too hard and don't bandwagon off what friends tell you.”
- ❖ Additional information: “I had an extremely low GPA relative to everybody else but a high SAT score. It was difficult to gauge where I stood in the pack.”

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> Asian	<i>high school type:</i> Public	<i>state/country:</i> Virginia
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 3.87/4	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 3.2/4	<i>class rank:</i> N/A
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 1570 SAT, 33 ACT	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> 800 Math 2, 750 Chem, 750 Lit, 700 World History	<i>financial need (optional):</i> N/A

academic information

<i>intended major: Nursing or Biology</i>	<i>additional notes/info (optional): Did nursing for most schools.</i>
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Pretty mediocre, no leadership positions. Only thing that stood out was NIH internship. rating: 7	<i>honors:</i> Nothing fancy, some honor societies in school like NHS and MHS. rating: 4
<i>essays:</i> I wrote about a chess tournament that changed how I saw life. It worked pretty well I guess seeing how I was accepted. rating: 9	<i>recommendations:</i> I was a lazy student last year and was constantly on my phone. I don't think my teacher recommendations were particularly strong, but my counselor loves me. rating: 8

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> VCU, GMU, Rutgers, Drexel, Virginia Tech - Likely	<i>matches:</i> Northeastern, Case Western, UMD - Likely	<i>reaches:</i> Cornell, Georgetown, MIT - Unlikely UVA - Unsure
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> VCU, GMU, Rutgers, Drexel, Virginia Tech - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> Northeastern, Case Western, UMD - Accepted	<i>reaches:</i> Georgetown - Accepted Cornell, MIT, UVA - Rejected

4. ANONYMOUS: A

attending Stanford University

advice

- ❖ “Portrayal of who you are is extremely important - just listing ECs and stats isn’t everything”
- ❖ “How you write about and portray your ECs is as important, if not more important, than what your ECs were.”

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> Asian Male (Not Chinese/Japanese/Korean)	<i>high school type:</i> public	<i>state/country:</i> USA
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> n/a	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 4.0	<i>class rank:</i> 1/330ish
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 1570 SAT	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> 800 Math II, 770 Chem	<i>financial need (optional):</i> n/a

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> CS	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i> RSI students historically have good chances of being accepted to at least one of HYPsM - it’s likely my most important EC
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Research Science Institute (RSI) at MIT , (Semi) independent research post RSI, Coaching FLL team, Software engineer - 3 years <i>Rating: 10</i>	<i>honors:</i> Regeneron STS Scholar, 1st Place <State> State Academic Olympiad, National Merit Semifinalist (at time of application) <i>Rating: 10</i>
<i>essays:</i> Kind of went down in quality after Stanford and MIT essays. <i>Rating (those two): 7-8</i> <i>Rating (the rest): 6</i>	<i>recommendations:</i> $\frac{2}{3}$ were from people who wrote my RSI recs (one of which was a teacher). Strong relationships. <i>Rating: 7-8</i>

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> University of Utah - Likely	<i>matches:</i> Stanford, MIT - Likely Princeton, Cornell, Harvard - Unsure	<i>reaches:</i> n/a

after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> University of Utah - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> Stanford (REA), MIT - Accepted Princeton - Rejected Harvard, Cornell - Waitlisted	<i>reaches:</i> n/a

5. ANONYMOUS: B

attending Vanderbilt University

advice

- ❖ “All I can say is trust in what you've done throughout your 4 years of high school, write your essays with passion (cliche as it is), and good luck! After you submit your application ... live out your last year of high school.”
- ❖ “It's not really about prestige, but the fit of the school/environment that you're surrounded by.”

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> Asian/Pacific Islander Male	<i>high school type:</i> Non-competitive	<i>state/country:</i> IN/USA
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> ~4.6	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 4.0	<i>class rank:</i> 2/506
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 1550/36	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> 800 Chem/800 Math2	<i>financial need (optional):</i> None

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Neuroscience Pre-med	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i>
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Did not really do much until around junior year. I wished I had realized all the opportunities that I was exposed to yet failed to capitalize on. My junior year EC's were excellent though, and given another year, would have been even better. rating: 5	<i>honors:</i> Not really many honors, there were some state honors and 1-2 national ones but nothing really big. rating: 4
<i>essays:</i> Everyone said they were really good, but I personally thought they could be improved. There were several ideas I could've incorporated to perhaps stand out a bit more. rating: 7	<i>recommendations:</i> One really excellent one with a teacher that was a mentor throughout high school, the others were all good. rating: 7

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> Indiana University, Purdue University - Likely	<i>matches:</i> WUSTL, Vanderbilt, Rice - Unsure	<i>reaches:</i> UChicago (EA) - Unsure Harvard, Yale, Stanford - Unlikely

after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> Indiana University, Purdue University - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> WUSTL, Vanderbilt - Accepted Rice - Waitlisted	<i>reaches:</i> UChicago (EA) - Deferred , then Rejected Harvard, Yale, Stanford - Rejected

6. ANONYMOUS: C

attending Washington University in St. Louis

advice

- ❖ “Part of it is definitely based on stats, ECs, all the other stuff. But for the most part a very large part is a lottery and you just have to be lucky.”
- ❖ “It's not about what you write, but how you write it. For the common app/coalition essay/essays in general, a lot of people want to write about things that make them stand out, which is cool and all but if you write it badly then you're shit outta luck.”

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> African American	<i>high school type:</i> Public	<i>state/country:</i> CA, USA
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 3.65	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 3.51	<i>class rank:</i> n/a
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 30	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> BioM: 670	<i>financial need (optional):</i> Needed and got

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Bio or Neuro	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i>
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Quality>quantity but they weren't the greatest rating: 7.5	<i>honors:</i> Mainly sports related/honor roll stuff rating: 4
<i>essays:</i> Pretty good? WashU only saw my common app and I put a lot of time into it rating: 8	<i>recommendations:</i> Probably really good, got them from teachers who liked me rating: 9

Results (take this section with a grain of salt because I was stupid and didn't know what I was doing)

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> Purdue, UW Madison, UIUC - Likely	<i>matches:</i> UDub, Villanova (Legacy), UC Davis, Cal Poly SLO - Likely Northeastern, Colgate - Unlikely	<i>reaches:</i> BU - VERY Unsure WashU, UNC, Notre Dame - VERY Unlikely
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> n/a	<i>matches:</i> UIUC - Accepted UW Madison - Deferred	<i>reaches:</i> WashU - Accepted!!! Villanova - Deferred

7. A R R E N

attending Santa Clara University

advice

- ❖ Don't fall in love with a single school
- ❖ Find a very good, honest friend to help you with essays
- ❖ Don't get bamboozled by acceptance rates

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> Chinese, Filipino, Hispanic	<i>high school type:</i> Large, Public	<i>state/country:</i> Hawaii, United States
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 4.17/4.0	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 4.0/4.0	<i>class rank:</i> 1/250
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 1410/29	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> Math II: 730	<i>financial need (optional):</i> High, EFC: 0

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Computer Science	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i>
<i>extracurriculars:</i> NHS President, Interact Club Treasurer, Spanish Club Secretary, Cyberpatriot, many school spirit events, Tennis, Diving Heavily involved in all of them, but I don't think I described them very well on the Common App. Don't think I had good ones for CS. rating: 7	<i>honors:</i> Pretty good stuff, but not a lot. Got a scholarship to represent the US in Hiroshima, award of recognition by the state, and UW materials science camp rating: 8
<i>essays:</i> Worked on personal essay for a long time, decided it wasn't good, wrote an entirely new one on the final day and was happy with it. Supplements were okay and were done in 1-2 hours. rating: 9	<i>recommendations:</i> Trig/Precalc, AP Eng, AP Lit Never read them, but I have very close relationships with them rating: 8

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> University of San Francisco, University of Colorado at Denver - Likely	<i>matches:</i> Santa Clara University, Boston University, Cal Poly SLO - Unsure NYU - Unlikely	<i>reaches:</i> Northeastern, Pitzer, Claremont McKenna, University of Washington - Unlikely Purdue - Unsure
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> University of San Francisco, University of Colorado at Denver - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> Santa Clara University, Boston University, NYU - Accept Cal Poly SLO - Waitlist	<i>reaches:</i> Northeastern - Accepted Pitzer, Claremont McKenna - Rejected UW, Purdue - Waitlisted

8. BINCHOSITY

attending Rice University (JHU was too expensive lol)

advice

- ❖ “Essays are what separate you from other applicants. Great writing skills are extremely important.”
- ❖ “Don’t get caught up over your dream school — it’s okay to have multiple!”
- ❖ “C’s in classes can hurt a lot, based on trends I’ve seen for T20 applicants at my school. Keep GPAs up.”
- ❖ “I don’t recommend ED if you can’t afford your school (play around with NPCs). **Also, a lot of top tier schools try to lure applicants in the RD round with THICC merit-based scholarships.**”

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> Asian / Female	<i>high school type:</i> public	<i>state/country:</i> Midwest / USA
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 4.801 W (no cap)	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 3.961 / 4.0	<i>class rank:</i> 3/375
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 35 ACT	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> 790 - Math 2, 730 - Bio E	<i>financial need (optional):</i> High income bracket :(

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> BME - premed track* *Dream schools: I didn’t really have a dream school, mostly because I didn’t find one single school that fit me perfectly -- there’s pros and cons for each school I applied to. Depending on the school/strength of their engineering or pre-med or programs/ tracks, I applied to different majors at different schools.	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i> Standardized test scores: Nuances DO exist between test scores. For the ACT, for example, anything 34+ is competitive for T20 schools, and 35+ is even better for T10 -- of course, this is assuming your essays/ECs fall in line too. Shotgunning - I shotgunned, and I don’t regret doing it at all because both choice and financial aid are extremely important to me and my family.
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Research/ISEF Club (President); School newspaper (Page Editor); Photography Club (Exec. Board); National Honor Society; Key Club; DECA Leadership Council; CSWEA Internship <i>rating: 7</i>	<i>honors:</i> National Merit Commended Scholar; Siemens Semifinalist; awards from multiple international science fairs; research published by local water association; Scholastic Art & Writing awards <i>rating: 8</i>
<i>essays:</i> Common App essay could’ve been better; supps probably were what probably made me stand out. <i>rating: 5</i>	<i>recommendations:</i> Strong recs -- I also got a thicc letter from my research mentor. Counselor rec was meh. <i>rating: 8</i>

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> UW-Madison, Purdue, UIUC, UWash - Likely	<i>matches:</i> UNC, UCSD, Case - Likely GTech, UMich - Unsure	<i>reaches:</i> WashU, UCLA - Unsure MIT, Rice, Vanderbilt, UC Berkeley, Northwestern, Columbia, Harvard, Cornell, Brown, UPenn, JHU, Duke, Princeton - Unlikely
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> UW-Madison, Purdue, UIUC, UWash - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> UNC, UCSD, Case, UMich - Accepted GTech - Waitlisted	<i>reaches:</i> Harvard, Duke, UC Berkeley, MIT - Rejected Brown, Northwestern, Columbia, Cornell, UPenn, Princeton - Waitlisted JHU, UCLA, WashU, Vanderbilt, Rice - Accepted

9. BROZEL

attending UNC Chapel Hill

advice

❖ “I wish I had taken time to learn more about different colleges before application season. I found that I didn't know where I wanted to apply, and when I did choose places, I didn't have good reasons for it.”
❖ “If you're homeschooled, do your research and ask lots of questions about the process! You may not have a college counselor, but you do have an entire discord community full of helpful people, so make use of it.”
❖ “Remember, this is the culmination of the work you’ve done over all of high school, so give it your all!”

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> Asian/White	<i>high school type:</i> Small international school in India 2 years, Homeschool 2 years	<i>state/country:</i> North Carolina, USA
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> N/A	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 3.99 out of 4.00	<i>class rank:</i> N/A
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 2400 superscore	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> 800 Math II, 800 Bio, 760 Chem	<i>financial need (optional):</i> Moderate. EFC~\$20,000

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Biology/Biochemistry	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i> Earned associates degree in science from a community college
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Did unique project with Tibetan refugees, but none of my ECs lasted very long b/c of move to US. <i>rating:</i> 7	<i>honors:</i> Only generic things for my grades/AP's <i>rating:</i> 4
<i>essays:</i> Interesting topics, average execution. Was a little disappointed with how they turned out. <i>rating:</i> 6.5	<i>recommendations:</i> I can't really say. <i>rating:</i> N/A

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> NC State, East Carolina U- Likely	<i>matches:</i> UNC Chapel Hill, WUSTL, Case Western- Likely	<i>reaches:</i> UChicago, Columbia, Brown, Yale, Swarthmore- Unsure

after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> NC State- Problem w/ test scores, app. didn't go through ECU- Accepted	<i>matches:</i> UNC CH- Accepted WUSTL, Case Western- Waitlisted	<i>reaches:</i> UChicago, Columbia, Brown, Yale, Swarthmore - Rejected

10. CONNOR

attending UT Austin

advice

- ❖ “I actually had a lot of fun with the college application process, because the process of searching for schools and thinking about what I wanted really refined my goals and made me more confident in myself.”
- ❖ “In my case, I applied to a top 20 school, but liked other schools just as much, because the things I liked about that top 20 school were not limited to top 20 schools. So when I got rejected from Northwestern, I was perfectly fine with it because I already had other options I liked just as much.”

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> White / Male	<i>high school type:</i> Private	<i>state/country:</i> Texas / United States
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 3.86 / 4.0	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 4.03 / 4.5	<i>class rank:</i> No rank at my school
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 1510 (760 R&W, 750 M)	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> N/A	<i>financial need (optional):</i> Minimal to none

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Journalism	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i> Attended a summer camp at Boston University
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Main ones were a youth radio program, a journalism summer camp, and volunteering for a charity that produces audiobooks for dyslexic and visually impaired students. Other stuff tended to be similarly writing and audio/music related. Not a huge number of big time commitment EC's but I think I had solid depth in my areas of interest, and it tied in nicely with my major. rating: 8	<i>honors:</i> National Honor Society in 11th and 12th grade, AP Scholar with Distinction. That's it. rating: 4
<i>essays:</i> Put a lot of time and effort into essays and supplements, and I believe that paid off. I'm sure looking back at them, I would have done certain things differently, but I believe that the essays showed the AO's the non-numbers side of my personality, which is what they're mean to do. rating: 8	<i>recommendations:</i> I asked for recs from my English teacher, my math teacher, and my youth radio counselor. All three of them knew me very well, and I had worked closely with them and built strong relationships with them through classes and in the counselor's case, radio. So I imagine their recommendations were strong. rating: 8

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> University of North Texas, Ithaca College, University of Colorado-Boulder - Likely	<i>matches:</i> University of Minnesota at Twin Cities, Emerson College - Likely George Washington University, University of Texas at Austin - Unsure	<i>reaches:</i> Boston University, Northeastern University - Unsure Northwestern University - Unlikely
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> University of North Texas, Ithaca College, University of Colorado-Boulder - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> University of Minnesota at Twin Cities, Emerson College, George Washington University, University of Texas at Austin - Accepted	<i>reaches:</i> Boston University, Northeastern University - Accepted Northwestern University - Rejected

11. H E C T O R

attending UCSB

advice

- ❖ “Don't spend weeks trying to increase your score by 10-20 points. Either increase it by 100, or don't bother. GPA is #1 here. The transcript speaks millions of words of how you spent four years in high school.”
- ❖ “I shotgunned. I believe it's worth it (if you can afford it).”
- ❖ “Not all safeties are safeties. Depends what you are applying for. I got waitlisted at UIUC with a whopping 66% acceptance rate overall for engineering.”

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> Asian/Male	<i>high school type:</i> Public (competitive)	<i>state/country:</i> California/USA
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 4.1 W 4.1 UC Capped	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 3.62	<i>class rank:</i> Unranked
<i>SAT/ACT: 1460 (800 Math 660 English)</i>	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> 800 Math II 800 Chemistry 790 Physics	<i>financial need (optional):</i> Too rich to have financial need

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Electrical Engineering, Physics, Chemical Engineering, Chemistry	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i> I didn't apply early anywhere (another mistake on my part)
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Badminton, Science Olympiad; Two year qualifier for math competition for Geometry and Alg2; 5K runner won 3rd place in Age division in San Francisco; Flea Market food stand seller; Around the world club; Volunteered at library and playground My ECs were below average (another mistake)	<i>honors:</i> American Chemistry Society Award PE award from school for athleticism AP Scholar with Honor (Had some lame honors, nothing that special)
<i>essays:</i> Common app: Was about my passion for physics UC essays: Passion for physics and Yugioh (Don't judge) Essays for other schools were about why I liked them or why I liked physics.	<i>recommendations:</i> Math teacher (had her for three classes and did well in them) History teacher (did exceptionally well in his class) My Math teacher is known for writing decent recs- 9/10 History teacher I don't know, but he's a nice dude :) - 6/10

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> UCI, UIUC, Purdue, University of the Pacific - Likely	<i>matches:</i> UCD, CWRU, UW Seattle - Likely UCSB, Georgia Tech, NYU, BU, Tulane - Unsure Northeastern - Unlikely	<i>reaches:</i> UCB, UCLA, UCSD, Rice, UMich - Unsure WUSTL, Cornell, USC - Unlikely
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> UCI, University of the Pacific (Honors w/25k scholarship) - Accepted UIUC, Purdue - Waitlisted	<i>matches:</i> UCSB, BU (guaranteed transfer)- Accepted UCD, CWRU, NYU, Tulane - Waitlisted UW Seattle, Georgia Tech, Northeastern - Rejected	<i>reaches:</i> UCB, UCLA, UCSD, WUSTL, USC, UMich, Cornell, Rice (baited me with fee waiver godammit) - Rejected

12. H E X

attending JHU

advice

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ "Don't get too attached to any one school" ❖ "If you're applying to 10+ schools start your supp in September, this is what helped me do decent with RD schools. ❖ Listen to other people's suggestions for your supplements too. ... Find a few people on the server or IRL who will review your supplements (maybe not all) and utilize but more importantly listen to them.

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> White Male	<i>high school type:</i> Public	<i>state/country:</i> New York
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 3.87/4 (converted from /100)	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 4.53/4 (converted from /100)	<i>class rank:</i> School doesn't rank
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 1530 (800 M, 730 EBRW)	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> Math 2 (800), World History (780), US History (770), Chemistry (750)	<i>financial need (optional):</i> None

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Political Science/History	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i> Harvard Legacy
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Research w/ Professor, Internship for Election and All-County Bass Clarinet rating: 7	<i>honors:</i> AP Scholar with Distinction rating: 2
<i>essays:</i> My CommonApp was so trash Oscar the Grouch could live there- 3/10 Supplements were good- 7/10	<i>recommendations:</i> I knew both of them pretty well I guess rating: 6

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> George Washington, UW-Madison, UMinnesota, Trinity College (CT), Brandeis - Likely	<i>matches:</i> Northeastern, Wake Forest - Likely Colgate, Emory - Unsure Carleton, Washington and Lee, Michigan - Unlikely	<i>reaches:</i> Tufts, Cornell, Georgetown, UNC - Unsure Duke, Pomona, Harvard, WUSTL, JHU- Unlikely

after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> George Washington (25K/year), UMinnesota, UW-Madison, Trinity College (1/2 Tuition), Brandeis (20.5K/year)- Accepted	<i>matches:</i> Northeastern, Wake Forest, Colgate, Emory - Accepted Washington and Lee, Carleton, Michigan - Waitlisted	<i>reaches:</i> JHU, Tufts - Accepted Harvard, WUSTL, Pomona, Georgetown - Waitlisted UNC, Duke, Cornell - Rejected

13. A N O N Y M O U S: D

Attending a top LAC

advice

- ❖ “just fucking write good passionate essays.”
- ❖ Remember that the AOs are human and write some emotion-evoking essays.

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> Asian Male	<i>high school type:</i> Public IB	<i>state/country:</i> Florida
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 3.79/4+	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 3.92/4	<i>class rank:</i> 30ish/120
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 1520 SAT (800M/720R)	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> 780 Math 2, 730 US History	<i>financial need (optional):</i> Low-Income (QB Finalist, if that means anything)

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Philosophy & Economics	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i> I took a gap year and reapplied to colleges after being devastated by rejections the first time around. Every result other than Amherst's was from last year, as I ED'd Amherst this year. This round, I really focused on my essays and made sure they connected with the Admissions Officers somehow.
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Gap year teaching in India, HS Band Captain, Debate organization country-regional Chief of Staff, regular blog, lacrosse, other small e-board roles. rating: 8	<i>honors:</i> Basically non-existent. Debate & a couple math awards. rating: 1
<i>essays:</i> I really poured my soul into these. Probably wrote around 10 different drafts for my common app and kept polishing so that they elicited some kind of emotional response from readers. rating: 8.5	<i>recommendations:</i> Got recs from two teachers I was really close with in HS. Philosophy & math teachers. rating: 7

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> U of South Florida - Likely	<i>matches:</i> U of Florida, Boston College - Likely Emory University - Unsure	<i>reaches:</i> UVa, UNC CH, Tufts - Unsure Georgetown, Stanford, Yale, Cornell, UPenn, Amherst, USC - Unlikely
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> USF - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> UF - Accepted* BC - Waitlisted Emory - Rejected * Previous committed school	<i>reaches:</i> Amherst - Accepted** UVa, UNC CH, Cornell - Waitlisted Georgetown, Stanford, Yale, UPenn, USC - Rejected ** ED Post Gap Year

14. JOY

attending Cornell University

advice

- ❖ “It takes a lot of time and patience to do research. Ask your teachers, counselors, and friends questions if you have them. Make sure to consult admissions websites first.”
- ❖ “You're going to school to get an education, so consider academics first. If you apply somewhere, make sure you could see yourself going there. Don't be overly confident. Anything could happen.”
- ❖ “I wish I applied to schools I was on the fence about. I decided not to because I didn't feel like paying the fee/writing the essays, but looking back those were pretty dumb reasons, especially because I had the time and money.”

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> Asian, female	<i>high school type:</i> Large public	<i>state/country:</i> Illinois
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 4.76/5.0	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 3.84/4.0	<i>class rank:</i> No ranking, top 10%
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 34 (36E, 35R, 35M, 28S)	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> 730 Math 2, 750 Spanish	<i>financial need (optional):</i>

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Computer Science	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i>
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Web dev, business clubs, art, languages, politics rating: 7	<i>honors:</i> Hackathon, Nat'l Spanish Exam, writing contest rating: 6
<i>essays:</i> CA: languages, supplements: CS/politics rating: 7	<i>recommendations:</i> CS and Spanish. Good student, not favorite rating: 6

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> UMN Twin Cities - Likely	<i>matches:</i> UIUC (CS+Ling), UW Madison, UMD College Park, Purdue - Likely	<i>reaches:</i> Cornell (CAS), Georgia Tech - Unlikely USC - Unsure
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> UMN - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> UIUC - Accepted	<i>reaches:</i> Cornell - Accepted ED

15. J U J U

attending michigan state university (thicc full ride)

advice

❖ “Don't get caught up with prestige, but definitely try for something if that makes sense”
❖ “For undergraduate engineering programs, as long as it's ABET accredited, and it's not on the TIME list of ‘worst engineering schools’ then I think you'll be fine.”
❖ “If you're not getting rejected, you're either vv overpowered, or you're not trying hard enough.”
❖ Don't overlook the advantage of being the top student at a less prestigious college
❖ Don't obsess over the college application so much that your grades drop, I let my grades drop first semester and I submitted that to MIT rip
❖ You don't have to have internships and research to be competitive for admissions
❖ I wish I spent more time on essays, but I wish I didn't over-edit some of my essays

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> Chinese Female	<i>high school type:</i> Large Public HS	<i>state/country:</i> Michigan
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 4.3 I think? Might be 4.2 (out of 5.0)	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 3.83/4.0	<i>class rank:</i> 1/503 but my hs just gives out 1 if your gpa is >4.0
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 1600	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> Math II + Physics 800	<i>financial need (optional):</i> 35k efc

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Mechanical Engineering	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i> flexibility in major is rllly nice
<i>extracurriculars:</i> leader of 3, but I only put a lot of effort into 2 I wish I dropped NHS earlier rating: 7	<i>honors:</i> I have a lot of dumb honors that I didn't rllly care for rating: 3
<i>essays:</i> I thought CA was ok, but supplements were L's rating: 6	<i>recommendations:</i> normal positive recs. Physics teacher rec was probably good rating: 7

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> Michigan State, Wayne State - Likely	<i>matches:</i> U of Michigan, UIUC - Unsure Ohio State - Likely Purdue - Likely (this was rllly false)	<i>reaches:</i> MIT, CMU - Unlikely

after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> Michigan State, Wayne State - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> U of Michigan, UIUC, Ohio State, Purdue - Accepted	<i>reaches:</i> CMU - Accepted MIT - Deferred, then Rejected

16. L E A

attending Brown University

advice

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ “Stay positive! It's definitely really stressful and worrisome in the moment, but I promise, it's going to be okay. It's cheesy, but being yourself really will serve you much better than anything else.” ❖ “I wish that I had put myself out there for Early Action! I felt like it would have helped me develop my essays. I also wish I had cut back on some of the unnecessary extracurriculars first semester senior year to focus on college.”
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demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> Asian American/female	<i>high school type:</i> Public, IB	<i>state/country:</i> Missouri, U.S.A.
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 5.0	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 4.0	<i>class rank:</i> 1/308
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 1590/36	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> 800 Math II, 760 Physics	<i>financial need (optional):</i>

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Undecided, but mostly applied Econ/PoliSci	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i>
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Did a lot of stuff in school with leadership but probably too spread out with no clear direction (speech and debate, key club, school newspaper, science olympiad, math competitions, varsity cross country, FBLA) rating: 6	<i>honors:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ranked nationally in debate (#3 at time of applying), debate team was #1 at time, 12th out of 900 at NSDA nat'l tournament (but in extemp debate, which is a supp event) • State champ in Science Olympiad (Anatomy and Physiology) plus some 2nd and honorable mentions • Math multi-state competitions, ARML team • National merit Got some state/nat'l awards, but again just really spread out and nothing exceptional rating: 5
<i>essays:</i> Common App was generic™, some supps were good, others were bad. Basically, there was a lot of correlation between schools I got in and ones I wrote good supps for. rating: 5	<i>recommendations:</i> Honestly no idea. Asked English and Math teacher, both are awesome and I love them (also my best subjects). Probably my counselor one was good? rating: 5

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> University of Missouri (Columbia) - Likely	<i>matches:</i> Washington and Lee, Boston University - Likely	<i>reaches:</i> Amherst, Brown, Columbia, Harvard, Johns Hopkins, MIT, UChicago, Williams, Yale - Unlikely
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> University of Missouri (Columbia) - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> Washington and Lee, Boston University - Accepted	<i>reaches:</i> Amherst, Brown, Williams - Accepted Columbia, Harvard, Johns Hopkins, UChicago - Waitlisted MIT, Yale - Rejected

17. M E G

attending the University of New Hampshire

advice

- ❖ “Please remember that you're a wonderful person no matter where you go. Don't settle for shit obviously, and make sure you haggle your schools for as much money as is humanly possible, but you will succeed no matter what. Apply where you KNOW you'll be happy, and you know you'll be able to afford/get decent aid. Save your money, take a breather now and then, and know that your setbacks don't define your worth.”

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> White/Female	<i>high school type:</i> Medium, Public	<i>state/country:</i> New Hampshire
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 3.00	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> unknown	<i>class rank:</i> 81/215
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 1250/28	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> n/a	<i>financial need (optional):</i> n/a

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> English/Political Science majors, Russian or Mandarin minor, Pre-Law track	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i> Diagnosed with a mathematical learning disability in freshman year; severely impacted grades for sophomore year. junior/senior years, pulled grades to B/A- range
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Model U.N. Civics Club, Nationally Competitive 50+ volunteer hours w/ children Government Administration Internship Founding Member of Girls' Lacrosse Team History Club Canvassing for State Senate Campaign Actress/Stage Crew for School/Local Theatre Columnist for Regional Newspaper Rating: 7.5/10	<i>honors:</i> Civics Competition, State Champion National History Day, 3rd Place State-Level Essay Award Best Position Paper 2x years, State-Level MUN Competition School-Specific Speech Contest, 1st Place NH Scholars Recipient rating: 6/10
<i>essays:</i> they were pretty good; i wrote about my experiences volunteering and it got published in our school's art collection lol rating: 9/10	<i>recommendations:</i> all from teachers who knew me well/had seen me win awards, but they were sorta lackluster + one of them misspelled my name numerous times (our school allows us to read rec letters) rating: 6/10

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> UNH, Plymouth State, Keene State, Emmanuel College, Merrimack College, UMass Dartmouth - Likely	<i>matches:</i> UMass Amherst, Emerson College - Unsure Saint Anselm College, Drake University - Likely	<i>reaches:</i> Oberlin College - Unsure Boston University, Boston College, Bowdoin College - Unlikely
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> UNH, Plymouth State, Keene State, Emmanuel, Merrimack, UMass Dartmouth - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> Saint Anselm, Drake - Accepted UMass Amherst, Emerson - Rejected	<i>reaches:</i> Boston U., Boston C., Oberlin, Bowdoin - Rejected

18. M I R I

attending Stanford University

advice

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ “Take a breath. ... it can feel like you're ‘on’ 24/7. Find some way of coping with that stress. You need time to yourself where you can be with your thoughts for a while.” ❖ “Trust yourself. If you're like me and have issues with committing to things, then ED might not be right for you - and that's okay. You can still get into places RD.” ❖ On shotgunning: “If you need financial aid, do what you have to do. If you don't, shotgunning isn't worth it; your overall app quality will suffer.”
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demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> White/Asian female	<i>high school type:</i> Private	<i>state/country:</i> California
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> School does not weight	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 3.96/4.0	<i>class rank:</i> School does not rank
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 36 (36 E 35 M 36 R 36 S) and 12/12 essay	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> 750 Math II, 730 Literature, 710 Physics (only sent Physics to Georgetown)	<i>financial need (optional):</i> Did not need financial aid

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Neuroscience	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i>
<i>extracurriculars:</i> I had one very good EC, research, where the professor liked me so much she offered to write me an additional letter of rec. Apart from that, my EC's were decent but basic - varsity sport, club founder, community service, etc. rating: 7	<i>honors:</i> Literally none other than National Merit Commended Scholar. My school does not give academic awards and none of the EC's I participated in offered awards (except varsity sports). rating: 2
<i>essays:</i> Varied from school to school. rating: personal statement: 9 supplements: varied	<i>recommendations:</i> My counselor rec, additional rec, and one teacher rec were excellent. The other teacher didn't know me as well, but he did like me. rating: 9

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> Case-Western, UCSB, UC Davis, UCSC, Wellesley - Likely	<i>matches:</i> UCLA, UC Berkeley, WashU, Georgetown - Likely	<i>reaches:</i> Dartmouth, Johns Hopkins - Unsure Cornell - Likely Harvard, Princeton, Yale, Stanford - Unlikely
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> Case-Western, UCSB, UC Davis, UCSC - Accepted Wellesley - Waitlisted	<i>matches:</i> UCLA, WashU - Accepted Georgetown - Deferred then accepted UC Berkeley - Rejected	<i>reaches:</i> Dartmouth, Cornell, Stanford - Accepted Johns Hopkins - Waitlisted Princeton, Harvard, Yale - Rejected

19. N I K H I

attending Rutgers University

advice

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ “Don't disregard your safeties, show real interest in them! And apply to more matches that you see yourself attending. Also, look at acceptance rates by major, not overall.” ❖ What do you think you did right? “Not ED-ing anywhere -- I'm not a commitment person, I like keeping my options open.” ❖ “Don't be discouraged by the results of the people around you -- it's your 4 years, and all that matters is that you're happy with what you get.”
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demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> Female - Indian	<i>high school type:</i> Very competitive public	<i>state/country:</i> United States
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 3.8 / no max	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 3.1 / 4.0	<i>class rank:</i> no ranking
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 1560 SAT / 34 ACT	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> Math 2: 800, Physics: 710	<i>financial need (optional):</i> Don't qualify for need aid

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Computer science (2nd choice Business)	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i> Applied cybersecurity to Stevens Inst. of Tech
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Did research at Rutgers, volunteered @ same org for 7 years, no leadership rating: 6	<i>honors:</i> Presidential Volunteer Service Award 2 years in a row, NMSC Commended rating: 5
<i>essays:</i> Decent I guess? rating: 7	<i>recommendations:</i> One stellar, one decent rating: 7

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> The College of New Jersey, Rutgers - Likely	<i>matches:</i> Stevens - Likely UIUC, Georgia Tech - Unsure	<i>reaches:</i> MIT, Princeton, UPenn, Columbia, Carnegie Mellon - Unlikely
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> TCNJ - Waitlisted Rutgers - Accepted (Business Honors Program)	<i>matches:</i> Stevens - Waitlisted UIUC, GaTech - Rejected	<i>reaches:</i> MIT, UPenn, Columbia, Carnegie Mellon - Rejected Princeton - Deferred then Rejected

20. N O A H

attending University of Washington-Seattle

advice

- ❖ “Don't compare yourself to others. Do what you know is the next step for you, and do what will make you stand out as someone who is fulfilling their dreams.”
- ❖ “It is much better to be overrealistic and surprised when you get in than unrealistic and bummed about rejection. Believe in yourself and who you are going to be. Put in the work, and then trust yourself and trust the process.”

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> White Male!	<i>high school type:</i> Crappy Public, 1800 students	<i>state/country:</i> Washington, USA
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> Greater than Unweighted idk how much	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 3.814 / 4.0, 3.87 on college transcript (90 credits)	<i>class rank:</i> 51/453
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 1450 (1 attempt)	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> German: 740 (1 attempt)	<i>financial need (optional):</i> None

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Oceanography and English, but I said Journalism on apps Actually have no idea what I want to do, could pick anything, even CS.	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i> I'm a well-rounded hard worker (i know everyone says that how I see myself). Got sick of normal HS so I full-time dual enrolled at a CC which shares campus with a branch of my big state school.
<i>extracurriculars:</i> short description of quality: Swim Captain 2yrs, Search & Rescue Volunteer, Math Tutor at local CC, Varsity Rower 2yrs, I was always busy do what I enjoy. Not a 10, since I went for enjoyment and self-discovery rather than “lets maximize my college potential” ECs rating: 8	<i>honors:</i> short description of quality: 5 in AP German freshman yr, 5 in AP Lang Sophomore, State Seal of Biliteracy for German, A few German test awards, and 3.9+ every quarter at CC (dual enrolled), and a few medals in Rowing. Rating: 5
<i>essays:</i> short description of quality: Absolutely amazing essays, and I know everyone says that. Began Essays in August, turned them in in December. Worked about 16 hours on them each week. No doubt my essays were very strong. rating: 10	<i>recommendations:</i> short description of quality: Fairly Solid. 2 professors from my CC (dual enrolled), the sheriff from my Search and Rescue team, and a few HS teachers. My HS is very ghetto, so nobody has gotten in anywhere good since the 80's. rating: 5

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> Western Washington U (EA) , U of Oregon (EA) - Likely	<i>matches:</i> U of Washington, Whitman College, Lewis & Clark College (EA) - Unsure	<i>Reaches:</i> Yale, Brown, Princeton, Stanford - Unlikely
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> Western Washington U (EA) , U of Oregon (EA) - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> U of Washington - Accepted Whitman College - Accepted Lewis & Clark College (EA) - Accepted	<i>reaches:</i> Yale, Brown, Princeton, Stanford - Rejected

21. R E A P E R

attending UCSD

advice

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ “You should focus more on GPA and Standardized test scores if you are applying for UCs” ❖ What do you wish you did differently? “I wish I applied to privates, because they would give me more aid” ❖ On shotgunning: “Actually, I regret not doing it due to the fact that I only had a few non-realistic reaches.”
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demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> Asian/Male	<i>high school type:</i> Average	<i>state/country:</i> USA
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 4.23 UC GPA	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 3.8 GPA	<i>class rank:</i> 47/400
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 1280/29	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> 660 US History, 680 Math 2	<i>financial need (optional):</i>

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Computer Engineering	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i> 2 of my essays focused on computers, demonstrated passion
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Varsity Track, Captain of Long & Triple Jumps Team, Treasurer of two clubs (volunteering and an academic club), about 150 hours of volunteering rating: 5/10 (average)	<i>honors:</i> CSF life member, Volunteering Award, Track & Field 1st Place Medals in Jumps rating: 3/10 (Below Average)
<i>essays:</i> rating: 5/10 (Average, nothing special)	<i>recommendations:</i> N/A

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> Cal Poly Pomona, CSULB, SJSU, UCR, UCSC - Likely	<i>matches:</i> UCI, UCSB - Unsure UCD, Cal Poly SLO - Likely	<i>reaches:</i> UCLA, UCSD, UCB - Unlikely
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> Cal Poly Pomona, CSULB, SJSU, UCR, UCSC - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> UCI, UCD, Cal Poly SLO - Accepted USCB - Waitlisted	<i>reaches:</i> UCSD - Accepted UCLA, UCB - Rejected

22. RIVEN

attending MIT

advice

- ❖ “Be realistic about your choices and apply to safeties you like.”
- ❖ “I don't personally agree with shotgunning since I think fit is important.”
- ❖ “I had deferred admission so I only applied to reaches this year.”
- ❖ “Cats.”

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> Vietnamese Female	<i>high school type:</i> Early College High School (Public partnered w/ CC)	<i>state/country:</i> California
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 4.63/5.0(?)	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 4.0/4.0	<i>class rank:</i> 1/89
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 36 ACT	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> 760 Bio M, 730 Math 2	<i>financial need (optional):</i> moderate

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Chemistry	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i> Gap year student.
<i>extracurriculars:</i> I worked in the Air Force Research Lab for 7 months during my gap year. I worked full time (40 hr/wk) doing synthetic chemistry research. During my time, I got my name on 2 papers (which should be published soon). I got a lot of experience that many people don't until grad school or post-grad. I also became very capable in the lab. In high school, I was co-president of the robotics team my junior year. I was in NHS, rocketry, scioly (2nd in disease detectives and 4th in anatomy & physiology placed), won a mathletes competition. Pretty normal. rating: 8.5	<i>honors:</i> National Merit Finalist Valedictorian Honors at my Community College Summa Cum Laude on both of my AA's rating: 5
<i>essays:</i> I wrote a lot about my experience working in the chem lab. rating: 5.5?	<i>recommendations:</i> I had my college professor in English write me one. I read hers from last year and it was amazing. Chemistry teacher wrote one. I know her pretty well and was her lab assistant. I think she would write a good one. I had my boss in my research co-op write me one. He knew me incredibly well. He saw me grow and I'm sure wrote an amazing letter.

	rating: English (6.5), Chemistry (5), boss (8.5)
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results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> 2017 UC Irvine - Likely 2018 USC - Likely	<i>matches:</i> 2017 UC Berkeley, UCLA, USC - Likely NYU, Northeastern - Unsure	<i>reaches:</i> 2017 Columbia (ED), Brown, Cornell, UPenn, Duke - Unsure Harvard, Princeton, Yale - Unlikely 2018 Rice - Unsure Stanford, Harvard, Princeton, Columbia, MIT (EA), Caltech - Unlikely
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> 2017 UC Irvine (Regents) - Rejected , then Accepted (along with others from my school? weird) 2018 USC - Accepted (guaranteed deferred enrollment)	<i>matches:</i> 2017 UC Berkeley, UCLA, NYU (Honors), USC (w/Presidential Scholarship) - Accepted Northeastern - Rejected	<i>reaches:</i> 2017 Harvard, Princeton, Yale, Brown, UPenn, Duke - Rejected Columbia (ED) - Deferred , then Rejected Cornell - Waitlisted , then Rejected 2018 Stanford, Harvard, Princeton, Columbia - Rejected MIT - Deferred , then Accepted Caltech, Rice - Accepted

23. S C R A T C H

attending Cornell University

advice

- ❖ “Choose your earlies strategically, don't early your dream school if it doesn't have ED.”
- ❖ “Make sure to have at least 3 very good match schools.”
- ❖ “Be smarter than our class was. Realize what is strong and unique about your portfolio and pound that through every single essay and opportunity you can.”
- ❖ “More than anything, before you even consider where to apply, think about how you plan to ascend. This process isn't about magically finding the place of your dreams, it's about growing up and realizing what steps you need to take in order to satisfy your future goals.”

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> Male	<i>high school type:</i> Private	<i>state/country:</i> Pennsylvania
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 4.2/4.33	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 4.8/5.33	<i>class rank:</i> N/A
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 1570	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> 800 Math II 800 Physics	<i>financial need (optional):</i> N/A

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Computer Science + Classics	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i> Child of two immigrants
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Mix of Classics/CS, outreach and internship rating: 8	<i>honors:</i> Computer Science Comp. and NLE awards rating: 4
<i>essays:</i> Had good content, rushed before deadline rating: 6	<i>recommendations:</i> Personal connection and they wrote well rating: 7

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely) These are my early schools		
<i>safeties:</i> Penn State - Likely	<i>matches:</i> Georgia Tech, UIUC - Likely Schreyer's College - Unsure	<i>reaches:</i> Cornell - Likely MIT - Unlikely Berkeley - Unsure
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> Penn State - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> Georgia Tech, UIUC, Schreyer's - Withdrew	<i>reaches:</i> Cornell - Accepted ED MIT, Berkeley - Withdrew

24. SPIRIT

attending UCLA

advice

- ❖ “Start early, and work hard every day. Don't consider just filling in your personal information as good work for that day.”
- ❖ “When it's time to write essays, don't put it off for 5 days ‘thinking,’ but write whatever shit comes to your mind at the moment and then improve. Rewrite, rewrite, rewrite! Get as many people to look at it as possible until you are happy.”

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> Middle Eastern (considered white) / Male	<i>high school type:</i> Small Private School	<i>state/country:</i> California
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 4.43	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 3.9	<i>class rank:</i> N/A
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 1510 / 1560 superscore	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> 790 Bio, 780 Math 2, 750 Physics	<i>financial need (optional):</i> Sadly none

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Aerospace Engineering	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i>
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Good leadership - Student Body President, Clubs, Sports for 4 years rating: 6	<i>honors:</i> Pretty good. Principal's list, National Merit Finalist rating: 7
<i>essays:</i> Essays were pretty good. Not amazing but they were decent and most got my point across rating: 7	<i>recommendations:</i> Hopefully stellar I didn't really read them rating: 7

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> UCI, UCSB, UCSD, UW - Likely	<i>matches:</i> Purdue, UIUC, USC - Likely UCLA, Georgia Tech, UCB - Unsure	<i>reaches:</i> Stanford, MIT - Unlikely
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> UCI, UCSB, UCSD, UW (alt major) - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> Purdue, UCLA, UIUC, Georgia Tech - Accepted UCB, USC - Rejected	<i>reaches:</i> Stanford, MIT - Rejected

25. § W U L F E

attending Pennsylvania State University

advice

- ❖ "It's much, much harder than you expect. Never stop working, it's better to continue to improve and be safe rather than to settle at a spot you're satisfied with."
- ❖ "I do wish so much that I had been able to talk to more undergraduates or applicants and compared myself to the best who were accepted rather than the medium or bare minimum of people who were accepted. It's okay to be hopeful, but not to be confident in something that is so luck oriented. I wish I hadn't been so naive."

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> Asian American/Male	<i>high school type:</i> Large suburban public	<i>state/country:</i> Pennsylvania, USA
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 4.15ish	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 3.8	<i>class rank: 12/434</i>
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 1580 SAT	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> 780 Bio M, 770 Math II	<i>financial need (optional):</i> EFC 28k~

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Economics/Political Science	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i> Only hook is first gen student.
<i>extracurriculars:</i> FBLA (Treasurer), Model United Nations, Academy Council, Work, Volunteering at book drive Nothing really standing out but solid ECs, I suppose. Largest EC would be working, around 15 hours a week since freshman year. <i>rating:</i> 6-7	<i>honors:</i> National Merit Finalist, 3rd Place FBLA (Accounting II) States/competed at nationals, 1st Place FBLA (Personal Finance) regionals, 4x Consensus Builder Award in MUN as USA in WHO, I'd say pretty strong in respect to my County. <i>rating:</i> 8
<i>essays:</i> Wrote about how my family's status as Asian American entrepreneurs has led me to to pursue econ/polisci to really understand the grasp that business has on politics in our country and how the two fields need to be separated. I think this may have shafted me a lot because when I was writing, my essay had a lot of contradictions. On one hand I was pledging to look at econ and politics in an open minded way, while drawing conclusions from only my experiences probably looked contradicting and naive. <i>rating:</i> 5	<i>recommendations:</i> One from my business teacher, who I'd had for three classes, is the advisor for FBLA, and went to nationals with me last year. I really trust that he wrote a strong letter for me albeit maybe a bit generic because he isn't used to writing LORs. My other was from my Hon English III teacher, I earned 99 avg in her class and participated a lot so I trust that she really wrote a strong LOR too. <i>rating:</i> 8

results

before applying: TBH didn't know what to expect, thought I could maybe get into at least one or two.		
<i>safeties:</i> PSU University Park - Likely	<i>matches:</i> UNC Chapel Hill - Likely	<i>reaches:</i> Schreyer Penn State - Likely?? UVA, Swarthmore - Unsure Wharton UPenn (ED), Cornell , Dartmouth, Columbia, Northwestern, Harvard, Yale, Williams, Amherst - Unlikely
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> PSU University Park - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> UNC - Rejected	<i>reaches:</i> Penn, Cornell, Dartmouth, Columbia, Northwestern, Harvard, Yale, Swarthmore, Williams, Schreyer - Rejected Amherst, UVA - Waitlisted

26. T O R I

attending Carnegie Mellon University

advice

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ “Apply to safeties!!! For CA kids, UCs are not safeties anymore, even if you have amazing stats.” ❖ “Having teachers/peers edit and comment on your essays is tremendously helpful, and allows a new perspective!” ❖ “I wish I had taken subject test/ACT earlier, and started my essays earlier. Also, applied to more schools EA! Takes a lot of the stress out of later applications.”

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> White, female	<i>high school type:</i> public	<i>state/country:</i> California
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 4.35/5, UC GPA: 4.33	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 4.0/4	<i>class rank: 1</i>
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 35 ACT, didn't submit SAT	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> Math 2: 700, Physics: 690	<i>financial need (optional):</i>

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Applied Mathematics	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i>
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Robotics club, pres for 2y/vp for 1, Youth orchestra, 2 years, section leader in band, martial arts 2y +job teaching martial arts Rating: 7	<i>honors:</i> NHS(is this even an honor) rating: 1
<i>essays:</i> Pretty proud of them, showed another side of myself rating: 7	<i>recommendations:</i> 1 very good, she was robotics club advisor for several years and good at writing. The other one was probably generic. rating: 6

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> Case Western - Likely	<i>matches:</i> UCSD, UCD, UCSB - Likely	<i>reaches:</i> UChicago - Unlikely CMU, USNA, UCLA - Unsure
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> Case Western - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> UCSD, UCD, UCSB - Accepted	<i>reaches:</i> UChicago - Deferred, then Rejected RD CMU, UCLA - Accepted USNA - Waitlisted then Rejected

27. T U N G

Attending the University of Richmond

advice

- ❖ “There are some schools I applied to just because they had a free application, and many of them I never visited—don’t do this and do not shotgun schools. Think about whether you would actually go to the school and judge by fit more than anything else, you should be able to see yourself going there. Also, don’t trust naviance graphs, even if you’re confident you’re getting in, the check marks around you could have hooks or your demographic could put you under them. If you want to be less stressed during senior year definitely apply ED to a school you have a chance at.”
- ❖ What do you wish you did differently? “I would apply to less schools and only apply to schools I like, visit more, and go against my parents to apply ED to an LAC like I wanted to.”

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> Asian(Chinese) Male	<i>high school type:</i> Suburban Public, well ranked but not necessarily a top school	<i>state/country:</i> Connecticut/USA
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> School does not have weighted GPA, 7 AP’s total	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 3.5/4.0	<i>class rank:</i> School does not rank
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 1490 (750 Reading 740 Math/33 (36 ELA 30 STEM)	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> 760 US History	<i>financial need (optional):</i> Did not apply for financial aid

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> International Business/International Relations	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i> Kenyon is my safety. I did not apply to any schools where I hold legacy.
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Mostly local leadership, well rounded. Science Olympiad Captain, Cross Country/Track Captain, Swim & Dive Captain, Model UN Secretary General, Stock Trading Club President, Volunteer in library history room, Senior debate team member rating: 8	<i>honors:</i> Best Delegate at UCLA conference, Honorable mention and 2x verbal accommodation at NJ MUN conferences, 2 bronze medals at CT state SciOly competition, Coach’s Award in XC rating: 6
<i>essays:</i> ED2 essays were very good, EA essays were barely edited but decent, RD essays were heavily edited by siblings, myself, and a teacher, common app was read by those people and more. Davidson was 10/10 rating: 7	<i>recommendations:</i> Counselor’s was likely nothing special, I don’t communicate with her much. My APUSH teacher writes incredible recommendations and my physics teacher’s was probably good. rating: 7

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> Kenyon - Unsure UCI, Indiana Bloomington (EA), Wisconsin Madison (EA) - Likely	<i>matches:</i> Northeastern (EA), University of Richmond (EA), UCSD, UCSB, William & Mary - Unsure	<i>reaches:</i> Davidson, Tulane(EA) - Unsure UCLA, UT Austin Mcombs School of Business, Colgate, Colby, Washington & Lee, UVA(EA), UNC Chapel Hill, Tufts(ED2), Carleton, Boston College(EA), Pitzer - Unlikely
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> Kenyon - Waitlisted UCI - Rejected Wisconsin Madison - Deferred , then Rejected Indiana Bloomington - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> UCSD, UCSB, William & Mary - Rejected Northeastern - Deferred , then Rejected Tulane - Deferred , then Waitlisted University of Richmond - Accepted	<i>Reaches:</i> UCLA, UT Austin Mcombs School of Business, Colgate, Colby, Washington & Lee, UVA, UNC Chapel Hill, Tufts, Carleton, Boston College, Pitzer, Davidson - Rejected

28 W E T C E S I U M

attending Cornell University

advice

- ❖ “I had never really thought about my goals and what drove me, but writing essays and being forced to put it into words really made me think about what I value in life.”
- ❖ “Don't spend all your time writing essays for your dream school– at some point, putting more effort into essays will not improve your chances. Also, apply to some scholarships early.”

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> asian+white male	<i>high school type:</i> semi-competitive public	<i>state/country:</i> Washington State
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> ~4.7/4.0	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 4.0/4.0	<i>class rank:</i> 1/499 (valedictorian)
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 1560 (800 M/760 EBRW)	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> M2: 800, BioE: 800	<i>financial need (optional):</i> medium, 16k EFC

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Computer Science + Math	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i> nope
<i>extracurriculars:</i> scioly, captain of trivia team, independent CS projects w/ machine learning, rating: 7	<i>honors:</i> national scioly award, scholarships, various local stuff rating: 7
<i>essays:</i> mostly good, but some rushed supps and mentioned Yale in Penn essay... rip rating: 6 (on avg.)	<i>recommendations:</i> both were very strong(have a good personal relationship with both writers) rating: 8

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> UW - Likely	<i>matches:</i> n/a	<i>reaches:</i> Harvard, Stanford, Caltech, MIT, Carnegie Mellon, Yale, Princeton, Penn, Cornell, Rice - Unlikely
after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> UW - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> n/a	<i>reaches:</i> Stanford, MIT, Caltech, Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Penn - Rejected Carnegie Mellon - Waitlisted , then Accepted Cornell, Rice - Accepted

29. Z E X U

attending University of Southern California

advice

- ❖ “Don't choose universities based on just prestige; research each school in-depth to make sure that if accepted it is a school you would want to go to without any qualms.”
- ❖ “I wish that I hadn't made my essays so formulaic & had asked for LESS peer reviews.”
- ❖ “Shotgunning is almost necessary for most people to get into a ‘top university’ in our time. If you can afford it, I think that you should. Better to apply and not get in than to think back and wonder if you could've made it in for a lifetime.”

demographics

<i>ethnicity/gender (optional):</i> Chinese/Male	<i>high school type:</i> Public	<i>state/country:</i> Oklahoma
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stats

<i>GPA (weighted/scale):</i> 4.3/5	<i>GPA (unweighted/scale):</i> 3.973/4	<i>class rank:</i> 4/~530
<i>SAT/ACT:</i> 1430 SAT, 34 ACT (35 SS)	<i>subject tests (optional):</i> 800 Math II, 750 Physics, 660 US History	<i>financial need (optional):</i> ~30k EFC

academic information

<i>intended major:</i> Computer Science	<i>additional notes/info (optional):</i> 1st gen college-bound
<i>extracurriculars:</i> Research Assistant @ local Uni, Summer Camp Counselor, Work experience @ restaurant, 3 leadership positions in clubs rating: 8	<i>honors:</i> National Merit Finalist, AP Scholar W/ Dist. rating: 7
<i>essays:</i> Formulaic and covered all the points. In hindsight, many lacked emotion and personal connection rating: 6	<i>recommendations:</i> Didn't get to read them, but Research prof wrote one. rating: 6

results

before applying: expectations (likely, unsure, or unlikely)		
<i>safeties:</i> Purdue, U of Tulsa - Likely	<i>matches:</i> Santa Clara U - Likely	<i>reaches:</i> Brown, Cornell (ED), Northeastern - Unsure Columbia, MIT, Princeton, UPenn, USC - Unlikely

after applying: results (accept, waitlist, reject, etc)		
<i>safeties:</i> Purdue, U of Tulsa - Accepted	<i>matches:</i> Santa Clara U - Accepted	<i>reaches:</i> Brown, Cornell (ED), Columbia, Princeton, UPenn - Rejected MIT - Deferred EA, Rejected Northeastern, USC - Accepted

Acknowledgements

This resource could not have been made had it not been for contributions from the [CAH Discord](#) community. We'd like to share our thanks to the many users who submitted profiles as well as all who contributed advice to the Application Reflections document as well. The many minutes you took out of your day to pass on wisdom are indispensable.

There are a few individuals whose contributions to this document have been integral to its creation. Such individuals include Jennifer (JenerallyJenius) and Matthew (Matthew) who designed the wonderful cover images for these documents. Thanks to Mayo (mayomayo1805) and Juju (ninjubub) who created the summary and intro pages and Bucks (BucksIn6) who assisted in editing. Special thanks to Aves (aviary) who organized the collection of profiles and advice and was the mastermind behind this project. Without Aves' hard work, this document would not exist in its wonderful final form.

Finally, we'd like to acknowledge the creators of the original [*Real Safeties, Matches, and Reaches from the Class of 2021*](#) and all that they've done to help countless applicants.