

College Admissions Workshop FAQs for Learners

Finding Your Fit

This 4-week workshop will provide the structure and support to research colleges and to build a balanced college list that fits your needs and interests.

You will:

- Learn about different types of colleges and what makes them unique
- Understand how to evaluate colleges based on academic, social, geographic, and financial fit
- Learn and practice strategies for researching colleges both remotely and in-person
- Work alongside other students who are also preparing to apply to college

What's the timeline?

You will attend two 75-minute sessions per week for four weeks. There is occasional homework outside of the sessions.

What's the format?

The workshop will take place on Zoom.

Who will be tutoring me?

Most tutors are current college students. They have gone through training and will be using materials created by the BigFuture and Schoolhouse. The information they'll share about college search comes directly from college planning experts at BigFuture!

What kind of support will I receive?

This workshop is designed to provide you with information, tools, and time to explore colleges and create your balanced college list. Your tutor will be an encouraging voice and provide structure for you to accomplish the work. While you may receive peer feedback from your tutor and from other learners in your session about their own college search experiences, you should expect to make your own decisions about which colleges feel right for you.

Do I have to share my college preferences?

You will choose whether to share your college preferences and interests with the group. While sharing can help you get valuable perspectives from peers and your tutor, you'll only need to share as much as you're comfortable with. The focus is on helping you develop your own criteria for finding colleges that fit your needs and interests.

Does it matter what stage of the college search process I'm in?

No! This workshop is designed to help students at any stage of their college search. Whether you're just starting to think about college or already have some schools in mind, you'll learn valuable strategies for finding and evaluating colleges that match your goals.

The Essay

This 4-week workshop will provide you with the structure and support to write your college essays.

You will:

- Learn the purpose and the must-dos of the personal statement
- Learn and practice strategies for picking a prompt, brainstorming, drafting, and revising your writing
- Understand the role of supplemental questions and strategies for organizing your questions and responses
- Work alongside other students who are also preparing to apply to college.

What's the timeline?

You will attend two 75-minute sessions per week for four weeks. There is occasional homework outside of the sessions.

What's the format?

The workshop will take place on Zoom.

Who will be tutoring me?

Most tutors in our pilot are current college students. They have gone through training and will be using materials created by the Coalition for College and Schoolhouse. Much of the information they'll be sharing about the purpose of the college essay comes directly from admissions counselors.

What kind of support will I receive?

This workshop is designed to provide you with information, tools and time to draft your essay. Your tutor will be an encouraging voice and provide structure for you to accomplish the work. While you may receive peer feedback from your tutor and from other learners in your session, you should not expect others to edit or revise your work.

Do I have to share my writing?

You will choose whether to share your writing for peer review in the group. Peer reviewers will have specific questions to answer about your writing, which you will consider when revising. Receiving outside feedback can be very helpful to improve your writing, but you'll only need to share as much as you're comfortable.

The Application

This 2-week workshop will provide you with information and support to submit your college applications.

You will:

- Learn the purpose of each part of the application
- Understand how and when to apply and strategies to consider when making your plan
- Complete drafts of frequently required parts of the application, such as lists of activities & experiences, and honors & awards
- Work alongside other students who are also preparing to apply to college.

What's the timeline?

You will attend two 60-minute sessions per week for two weeks. There is occasional homework outside of the sessions.

What's the format?

The workshop will take place on Zoom.

Who will be tutoring me?

Most tutors in our pilot are current college students. They have gone through training and will be using materials created by the Coalition for College and Schoolhouse. Much of the information they'll be sharing comes directly from admissions counselors.

What kind of support will I receive?

This workshop is designed to provide you with information, tools and time to create your application plan, draft parts of your application, and feel more confident when it's time to submit. Your tutor will be an encouraging voice and provide structure for you to accomplish the work.

Does it matter which platform I'm using to apply?

This platform will support students using any platform to apply.