



Holistic Admission Consulting

College Counseling Support Services

Overview

The landscape of college admission is constantly changing. The Covid-19 pandemic accelerated and complicated these changes in every way—from assessment (testing and grading practices), to college search, to intricacies of the application process. The evolving prevalence of Artificial Intelligence and other innovations has also impacted this space. While the Varsity Blues Admission Scandal highlighted unethical practices, the reality is that in many well-resourced communities, families feel compelled to employ high-priced consultants with varying levels of experience. This often has the consequence of undercutting school-based postsecondary planning and calling into question the efficacy of services provided by schools. Increasingly, the value of a college degree and the return on investment (ROI) of higher education is top of mind for families. Likewise, as “consumers” of independent school education, ROI and outcomes are especially relevant in K-12 admission and retention.

It is important that high schools adapt to shifting expectations, community needs, and institutional priorities. This can be difficult in small schools where dedicated educators have many demands on their time and often limited ability to offer the robust programs and services that they would like and that family’s expect. The *Holistic Admission College Counseling Program* is designed to support school staff and leaders as they seek to build on current offerings and best serve their communities.

Our Approach

With over 50 years of combined experience in high school and college admission and counseling we provide a complete menu of college counseling programs and support. Our unique perspective and approach stems from having directed admission and counseling offices at multiple institutions. We have also presented in high schools throughout the country and world, giving us the opportunity to hear from thousands of students and families and gain a comprehensive understanding of their hopes and concerns. This allows us to draw from a deep knowledge of college admission and postsecondary pathways options and best practices for supporting students and their families.

We provide services within the context of each institution, community, demographics, and expectations. You can find more information on our backgrounds and experiences [here](#).

Forest School Proposal:

Admission Overview for High School

Early August, 2023

Evening 1:

This program is open to all Forest School high school students and parents, as well as any prospective students or community members at the invitation of the school. In this hour long program we will help learners consider:

- Why College- or not?
- How do your choices now impact your options later?
- How is the Higher Education landscape shifting?
- Types of colleges, their missions, and thus their admission processes
- What are colleges looking for in an application?
- How can parents and other adults support students in their journey?

Day 2:

- 30-45 minute workshops with juniors and seniors (and optionally their parents) to discuss their goals, their college list, visits, applications, essays.
- Students will direct this session on their goals and questions

*Optional Lunch Program, **Mock Admission***

In this session, we bring four applications from different applicants and allow students to become the admission committee.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand institutional mission and goals impacting decisions
- Appreciate how essays, letters of recommendation, etc. factor into process
- Consider how crafting applications may vary between institutions

Total Cost (inclusive of all travel costs): \$1750