

Highly Selective College Night

Presented by D214 College/Career Counselors



Let's talk Gabby!

Admissions is tough! Especially when we are applying to some of the most competitive colleges out there.

BIG TAKEAWAYS:

- There are no guarantees.
- It's tough to know who you're applying against.
- Have options!



Please reference your handout for the reading

Defining the Best

Let's play a quick game, I want everyone to close their eyes and think about the best car out there right now.



What comes to
mind?

What did you visualize?



Audi A8?



Tesla model S?



Honda Passport?



Range Rover?



Mazda 3?

The reality is that they all appeared on "best car" lists for 2019

The reason is because when car shopping everyone has different needs/wants?

- Size of the vehicle? Family needs?
- Weather needs?
- Environmental impacts?
- Safety?
- Cost?
- etc.

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Your personal HEALTH is more important than a college decision

Remember that you should challenge yourself, but never at the cost of your or your students' health. You should always challenge but challenge with BALANCE.

We are ALL different

As different people we have different needs and wants. So I'm sure in a room of this many people we probably had just as many ideas as to what is "the best car". But how do we understand what our (our students') needs are

RESEARCH

VISIT

BE ENGAGED

So what makes a college Highly Selective?

Typically it's a college/university that admits a low number of the those who applied.



20,371
Applied

17%
Admitted



40,425
Applied

8%
Admitted



32,282
Applied

7%
Admitted



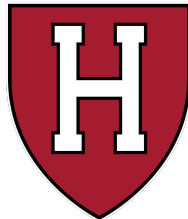
31,320
Applied

15%
Admitted



47,451
Applied

5%
Admitted



42,794
Applied

5%
Admitted



35,306
Applied

6%
Admitted



7,095
Applied

19%
Admitted

Things students should consider!



Your grades matter!

But so does the strength of your schedule.

Take the most challenging curriculum possible but also maintaining balance in your life and activities.



Some Highly Selectives will consider test optional, but many have averages well above national averages:

TARGET NUMBERS:

1400 SAT
33 ACT



Community Matters!

Joining clubs/sports isn't enough. Really show why it's important to you by becoming a leader.

You should make your HS yours!

More things students should consider



Strong relationships with your teachers are incredibly important!

Build those relationships by being a strong positive student in your class.



Your essays matter!

- 1) Answer the question.
- 2) Be thoughtful in your response.
- 3) Give the team an insight into who you are as a person!



Every one of these schools have a different personality. The only way to really understand that personality is by seeing it in action.

YOU NEED TO VISIT!

Other things

Every school is different and will obviously require different things. Here are some other things you/your student might come across.



Interviews with liaison, alumni, or admission reps.



Demonstrated interest. By visiting, talking to reps, and opening & replying to messages!



Remember colleges will look at you through the context of your community.

Other terminology you might hear

CSS Profile/Institutional FA Applications: Often these schools will use a more detailed resource for offering Financial Aid.

Holistic Review: most of these students will review a student as an entire person

Early Decision Vs. Early Action: Decision means you ARE GOING THERE if you get in. Early Action is usually just an earlier application. You might see some universities including a ED1 and ED2.

- This is a great question to ask colleges at visits or during fairs. “Is there an advantage to me applying ED?”

Let's take some time to hear from our admissions reps



The big questions to answer, “Describe your school's personality?” and “What common mistakes do you notice in the application process?”

Some sample questions

- Do you offer ED1/2? What are some of the benefits and struggles with those applications over regular decision?
- How do you handle financial aid? Do you have any unique forms that we'd have to complete as a family?
- What are some ways we can experience your campus to understand if it's a good fit?
- What are some tips you can provide us as we enter the college research season or the application process?
- Where else do you see students applying as they apply to your institution?
- What is one of your favorite traditions on campus? Tell us about it.
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