

Getting Started in the College Selection Process

Austin Martin – The Ohio State University
(614) 292 – 4858 Office
martin.4047@osu.edu

Jesse Leary Yeager - Denison University
(740) 587 – 6278 Office
yeagerj@denison.edu

Maegan Longbrake - Dublin Scioto High School
Kevin Patton – Dublin Coffman High School
Andy Zweizig – Dublin Jerome High School

Selecting a College: Develop Criteria

“What is important to me?”

- What is your ideal school like?
 - Class size, campus size, location, distance from home
- What kinds of schools are out there?
 - Liberal arts colleges, large public research universities, arts and music conservatories
- How competitive of an admission process am I looking for?
 - Ultra-selective places draw the most media attention
 - Nationally, the majority of colleges are open enrollment



Researching Colleges: Consider Personal Fit

Find the right fit for YOU!

- Admission policy and guidelines
- Majors and course offerings
- Support and success services
- Campus life and housing
- Location and Distance
- Size
- Private or public
- Religious affiliation
- Physical facilities



Researching Colleges: Where to Start?

- Guidebooks
- Web/internet searches (YouTube Channels, YouVisit, Social Media, etc.)
- Counselors, teachers, professionals, friends, family
- Columbus National College Fair (Spring)
- Sports – be cautious of NCAA rules & regulations



Researching Colleges: Private Colleges

- Diversity in type
 - Liberal arts colleges, conservatories, nursing and fine arts schools
- 24 Liberal Arts schools in Ohio
 - Emphasis on community living/learning
 - Undecided/multi-interested students
 - Strong desire for involvement, personalized attention
- Beware of the sticker price!
 - Same cost for in and out of state students
 - Many schools heavily discount



Researching Colleges: Public Institutions

- 14 in Ohio with 24 regional campuses
- Range in size from 2,000 to 42,000
- Wide variety of academic major options
- Opportunities for research, leadership, internships
- Tuition ranges \$7,065 - \$14,958 {Net Price Calculator}
- Merit and Need-based Financial Aid



Visiting Campus

When: Spring of Junior year is a good time to start visiting on campus and/or virtually

What: A campus visit may be “traditional” and in-person, or virtual

- Many schools offer virtual info sessions and campus tours
- Does the school offer an admission interview?
 - May only be for seniors
- Are there any virtual “campus preview days” or “open houses” for you to put on your calendar

Who: STUDENTS!!

- Be prepared to engage on your visit, even virtually- use the Q/A!!



Visiting Campus

Find the experts

- **Students:** social life, residence halls, classes, professors
- **Faculty:** department strengths, success of graduates, opportunities like internships or research
- **Coaches, band directors, organization advisors:** schedule of activities, what kind of competition can you expect, how to prepare for audition or try-outs
- **Admission/Financial Aid Counselors:** costs, scholarship opportunities, college stats like retention rates, chances of being admitted, special support services, safety issues –things that are a concern to you



Enrollment Management

- Colleges and Universities don't just admit/deny students
- Building a class
- Finite space and resources
- Institutional priorities



Competitive College Admission: What is important?

Most important thing = your high school transcript

- *Based on what was available to you at DSHS, DJHS or DCHS, what did you take advantage of?*
- How competitive is your curriculum? (**rigor**)
- How have you performed in competitive courses? (**GPA**)
- Test scores (if needed)



Competitive College Admission: Test Optional vs Test Flexible vs Test Required

Test Optional

-Your choice

Test Flexible

-Have test scores, highly recommend you send them

Test Required

-In order to complete your application, you must submit test scores

** Pay close attention to each institution's test requirements.

Do not assume one model fits all.



Competitive College Admission: Demonstrated Interest

Demonstrated interest is the way a school attempts to measure how interested a student is in attending their institution, if admitted

Never replaces academic preparation and performance but can be quite important

- Used by some schools, but not all
- You can demonstrate interest by...
 - visiting campus
 - opening emails
 - interviewing
 - ..and many other ways



Competitive College Admission: Leveraging Athletics

- Do your research
- 2% receive a NCAA athletic scholarship
- Be **realistic** with yourself
- Don't be afraid of non-scholarship opportunities
- Utilize your athletic talent
- Find a good fit beyond athletics
- Understand **FREE** vs **FEE** based services
- Get your highlights ready
- Commitment



Competitive College Admission: Music & Arts

- Start Early (junior year)
- Be realistic
- Type of program/school
- Audition Timeline
- Understand scholarships and financial aid processes (talent vs. merit vs. need)



Competitive College Admission: Early Action

Local admission trends

- Students apply earlier
 - Early action (non-binding)
 - Single choice early action (hybrid)
- Students apply more often
 - Impact this has on decision
- Surprise by increasing selectivity
 - Different for current students than siblings and parents
- Increasing use of technology
 - Makes exploration easier but can be overwhelming



Competitive College Admission: Early Decision

- **WHAT:** Early Decision is a *binding* early admission plan offered at most colleges
 - Students can only apply to one institution Early Decision, if they apply to any under this designation
 - Parent, student and School Counselor sign an Early Decision Agreement Form
 - Student agrees to enroll if admitted (sometimes pending aid)
- **WHY:**
 - Most colleges have a higher admission rate under Early Decision plans
 - Find out your admission decision sooner
 - Student-athletes looking to “commit” at the DIII level



Competitive College Admission: Regular Admission

- **WHAT:** Regular Admission is a non-binding admission plan offered at most institutions
 - Usually the latest deadline with later (spring) notification
- **WHY:**
 - Student learned about the college later in the search process
 - Institution does not offer Early Action
 - Student is not ready to/interested in applying Early Decision or Early Action



College Planning Timeline

- **9th Grade:**
 - Develop four year academic plan, set solid foundation for GPA, get involved, PSAT (optional), career exploration, start college research
- **10th Grade:**
 - Challenging classes (different for each student), PSAT (optional), career exploration, seek leadership roles, college research
- **11th Grade:**
 - Challenging classes, PSAT (planned), district administered SAT, take ACT/SAT, career exploration, college selection/visitation process, build resume, research colleges
- **12th Grade:**
 - Challenging classes, career exploration, college visits, college application process, transcript request process, take ACT/SAT (if necessary)

SAT & ACT Test Dates:

SAT (www.collegeboard.org)	ACT (www.act.org)
March 2, 2023*	February 11, 2023
March 11, 2023	April 15, 2023
May 6, 2023	June 10, 2023
June 3, 2023	July 15, 2023

*All DCS Juniors will automatically be registered to take the SAT at their home high school on this date

Please note - registration occurs online and deadlines are approximately a month in advance of the actual test date.

Researching colleges

Favorite college search sites

- www.schoollinks.com
 - Dublin students have a personalized account
 - Login with their @dublinstudents.net email address
- www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org
 - Additional college search tools
- www.petersons.com

College Center & Schoolinks

Home Our School For Students For Parents Academics Clubs Arts

Library Home

Schoolinks

One-to-One Program

Schoolology

College Center

Senior and Graduation Info

Progressbook

Technology Support

Go to your assigned school's homepage and use the links under "For Students"

College Center & Schoolinks

Go to: app.schoollinks.com/login/k12
Students login using your district google account

SchoolLinks

Single Sign On

Log in with Clever

Sign in with Google

Log in with ClassLink

Choose an account to continue to SchoolLinks

All Star 22star_all@dublinstudents.net

Use another account

College Center Resources

AP Testing	>
College Application Tips	>
College Entrance Exams	>
College Fairs	>
Common Application	>
Dublin City Schools Parent University	>
Grade Level Timelines	>
Military/Academy	>
NCAA	>
School Profiles	>
Schoolinks	>
Local Scholarships	>
Scholarships and Financial Aid	>

NCAA Eligibility Center

- College-bound student-athletes preparing to enroll in a Division I or Division II school need to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center (eligibilitycenter.org) **by spring of their Junior year.**
- Take the ACT or SAT and submit your scores to the NCAA by using code 9999.
- Submit your official six-semester transcript at the end of your Junior year.