



What Colleges Are
Looking For In a Student
The Basics of The Holistic Review

What is a Holistic Review?

Considers the applicant as a whole individual, not merely select parts, such as GPA or test scores. This helps schools build their class.

*****GPA, Curriculum, & Test Scores are Primary Aspects of the Holistic Review*****

<https://app.playpos.it/go/share/1072000/414479/0/0/Holistic-Review-Process>

Today's Goal

Our Goal is that you gain an awareness of the many factors colleges consider when reviewing applicants and specific steps you can take to positively impact those factors

Transcript

- a. GPA
- b. Rigor
- c. Trends
- d. Pursuit of Interests

****Senior Year Scheduling Meeting****

12/23 Last Day to Make Level Changes

Standardized Tests

a. SAT/ACT

b. Test Optional - Test Blind (See Link)

c. Other Tests - AP & Subject Tests

i. Student May Self Report

ii. Does the college recommend Subject Tests?

<https://www.fairtest.org/two-thirds-of-us-colleges-and-universities-are-test-optional?referringSource=articleShare>

Activities

Opportunity to Demonstrate *“Impact & Engagement”*

- a. Sports**
- b. Clubs**
- c. Musical Activities**
- d. Community Service**
- e. Family Commitment**
- f. Religious Commitment**

*****Quality OVER Quantity*****

Academic Honors

- a. Honor Roll / High Honor Roll**
- b. Honor Societies**
- c. AP Scholar**
- d. National Merit Scholar**
- e. Local, Regional, State, or National Recognition**

Letters of Recommendation

- a. School Counselor**
- b. Teacher**
 - i. Two Teachers**
 - ii. Core Subjects**
 - iii. Jr or Sr Year**
- c. Outside Recommender**
 - i. Add a Different Perspective**
 - ii. Submit via Common App**

Writing Sample

a. Personal Statement

- i. <https://www.commonapp.org/apply/essay-prompts>

b. Supplemental Essays

- i. Will Vary Per School

c. Covid Essay

- i. <https://www.commonapp.org/blog/COVID-19-question-common-app>

Demonstrated Interest

Some Schools May Track a Students Level of Interest in an effort to predict which applicants will enroll if admitted.

Examples of Interest Include: Visiting website, campus, virtual tours, interview, meeting admission counselors, and type of application (Early Decision)

Special Talents

a. Athletics

i. NCAA Eligibility

1. www.CoreCourseGPA.com
2. https://www.csh.k12.ny.us/cms/lib/NY02214132/Centricity/Domain/77/QR_flyer_331437.pdf

b. Art & Music

i. Portfolio Submission (SlideRoom.com)

c. Dance

Interviews

- a. Alumni / Student / Admissions Counselor
- b. Optional vs Mandatory
- c. Be prepared for an “Interview” look forward to a “conversation”

DEFINITIONS OF ADMISSION OPTIONS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

STUDENTS: WHICH COLLEGE ADMISSION PROCESS BEST *SUITS YOU?*

Regular Decision	Rolling Admission	Early Action (EA)	Early Decision (ED)	Restrictive Early Action (REA)
<p>DEFINITION:</p> <p>Students submit an application by a specified date and receive a decision in a clearly stated period of time.</p> <p>COMMITMENT:</p> <p>NON-BINDING</p>	<p>DEFINITION:</p> <p>Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render admission decisions throughout the admission cycle.</p> <p>COMMITMENT:</p> <p>NON-BINDING</p>	<p>DEFINITION:</p> <p>Students apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular response date.</p> <p>COMMITMENT:</p> <p>NON-BINDING</p>	<p>DEFINITION:</p> <p>Students make a commitment to a first-choice institution where, if admitted they definitely will enroll and withdraw all other applications. The application deadline and decision deadline occur early.</p> <p>COMMITMENT:</p> <p>BINDING</p>	<p>DEFINITION:</p> <p>Students apply to an institution of preference and receive a decision early. They may be restricted from applying ED or EA or REA to other institutions. If offered enrollment, they have until May 1 to confirm.</p> <p>COMMITMENT:</p> <p>NON-BINDING</p>
<p>Students are not restricted from applying to other institutions and have until May 1 to consider their options and confirm enrollment.</p>			<p>Students are responsible for determining and following restrictions.</p>	