

EMERGE

The Road Less Traveled:

Navigating the Selective College Admission Process



The EMERGE Staff Members



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Mission:

EMERGE empowers and prepares **high-performing** students from **underserved communities** to attend and graduate from **selective colleges and universities** across the nation that will offer them the least financial burden and the greatest support

Our History



In Spring Branch

- **Est. 2015**
- **5** High Schools
- **150** High School Fellows

Colleges Students have attended:

- University of Notre Dame
- Rice University
- Emory University
- Cornell College
- Georgetown
- University of Chicago
- Wellesley College

Objectives

PARENTS WILL

Understand what the EMERGE Fellowship is

Identify the criteria for selective schools

Explore best practices for finding best fit and match in the selective process

Obtain tools that will help them navigate the college admission process

Understand the complexities of a holistic process

Selective Colleges



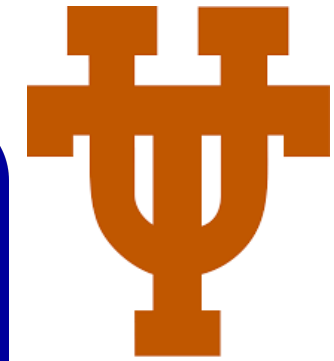
Selectivity



Admission Rates



Selectivity





Prioritization in the Selective Admission Process

Selective Colleges

Truth

There are a lot of benefits to attending a selective college that a lot of students and families don't know about

Myth

College is college. It doesn't really matter where kids go as long as they go.

Long Term Effects:



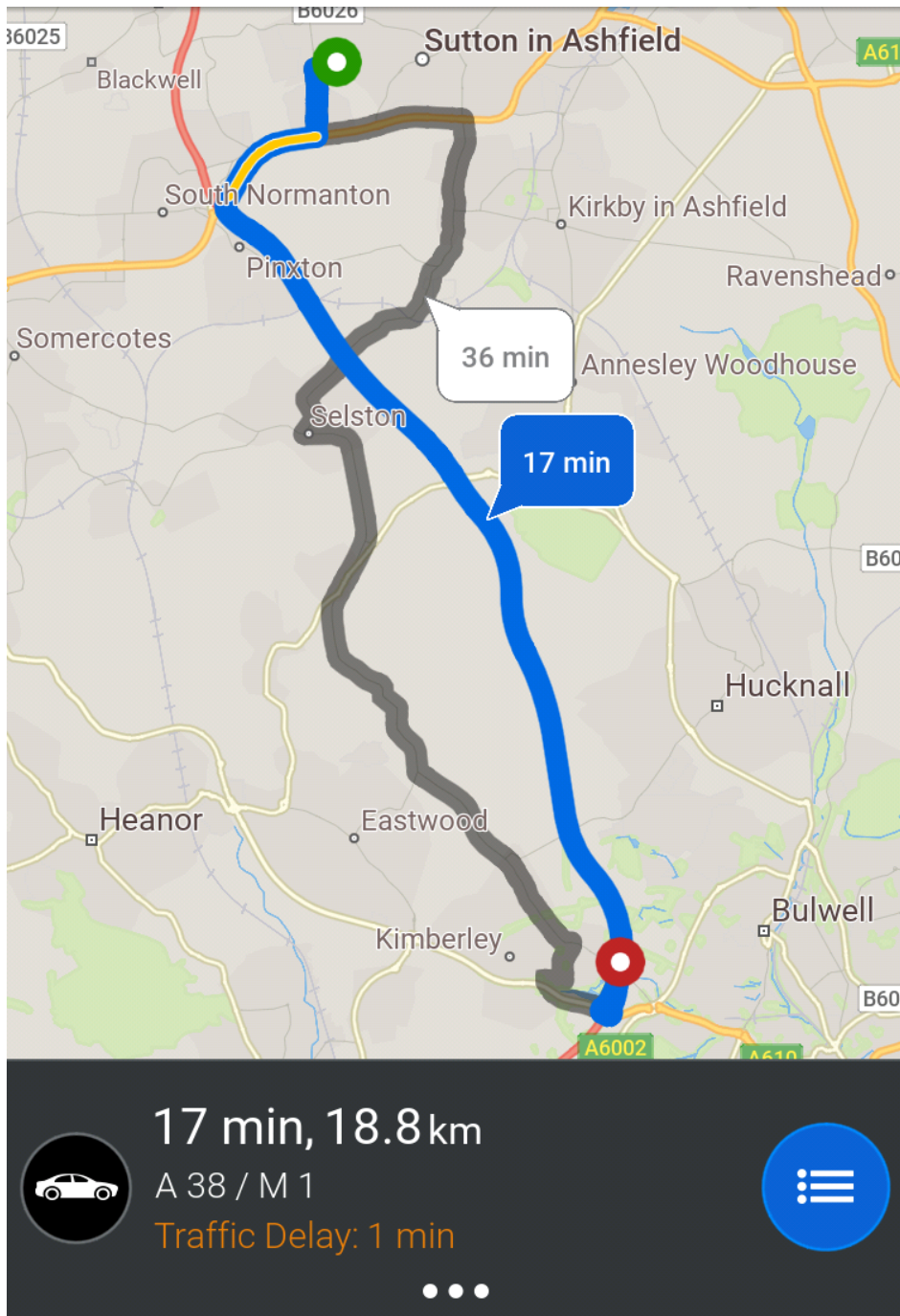
Graduation Rates



Starting Income



Opportunities for
Network
Development



Holistic Process (Selecting Our Route)

What is a Holistic Admission Process?

“A holistic review involves consideration of multiple, intersecting factors— academic, nonacademic, and contextual—that enter the mix and uniquely combine to define each individual applicant. A robust consideration of quantitative and qualitative factors, all considered in context of the applicant’s background and circumstances—and how they relate to one another in a particular applicant’s profile— shape admission decisions.”

College Board- Education Council



Parts of an application:

Leadership (Resume)

Grades (Transcript)

Letters of Recommendation

Personal Statement

Standardized Tests



Prioritizing the Components (Step by Step Routing)

**At your tables
arrange the
following
components:**

Most to least weight in the
selective admission
process:

- Personal Statement
- Recommendation Letter
- Transcript (GPA/Rank)
- Test Scores (SAT/ACT)
- Supplements
- Resume

What did folks come up with?

Ideal Prioritization:

Transcript (GPA/Rank)

Test Scores (SAT/ACT)

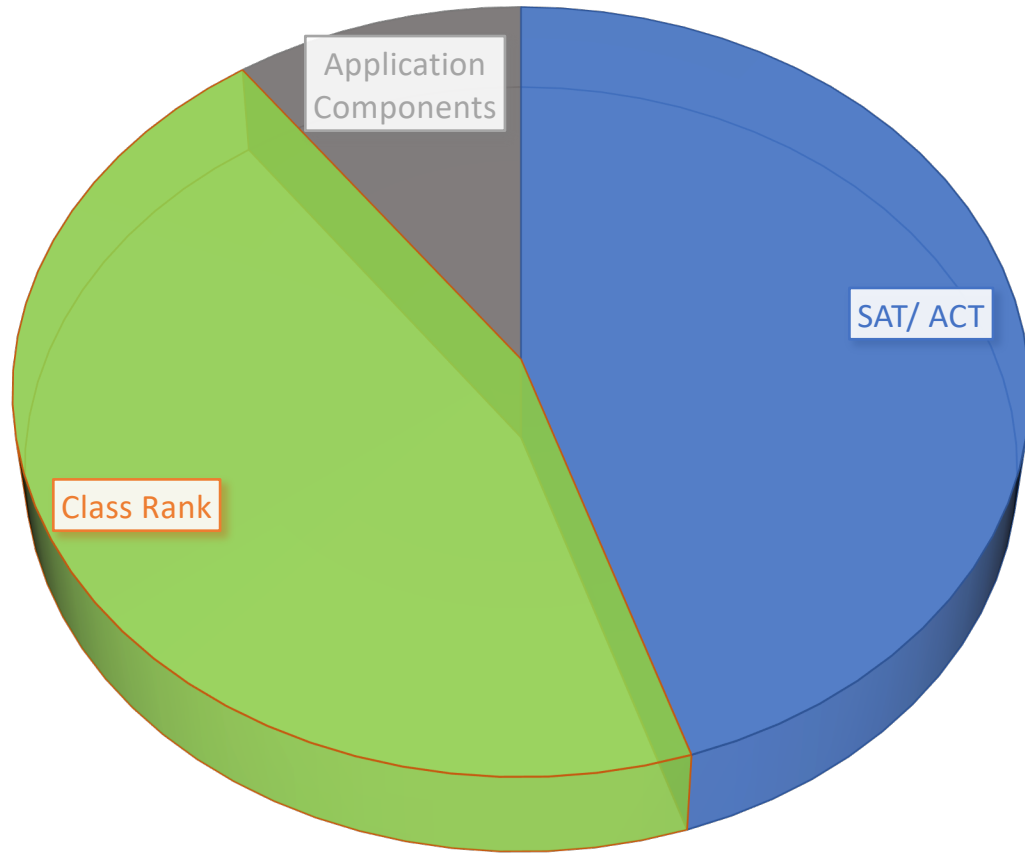
Personal Statement/ Supplements

Resume

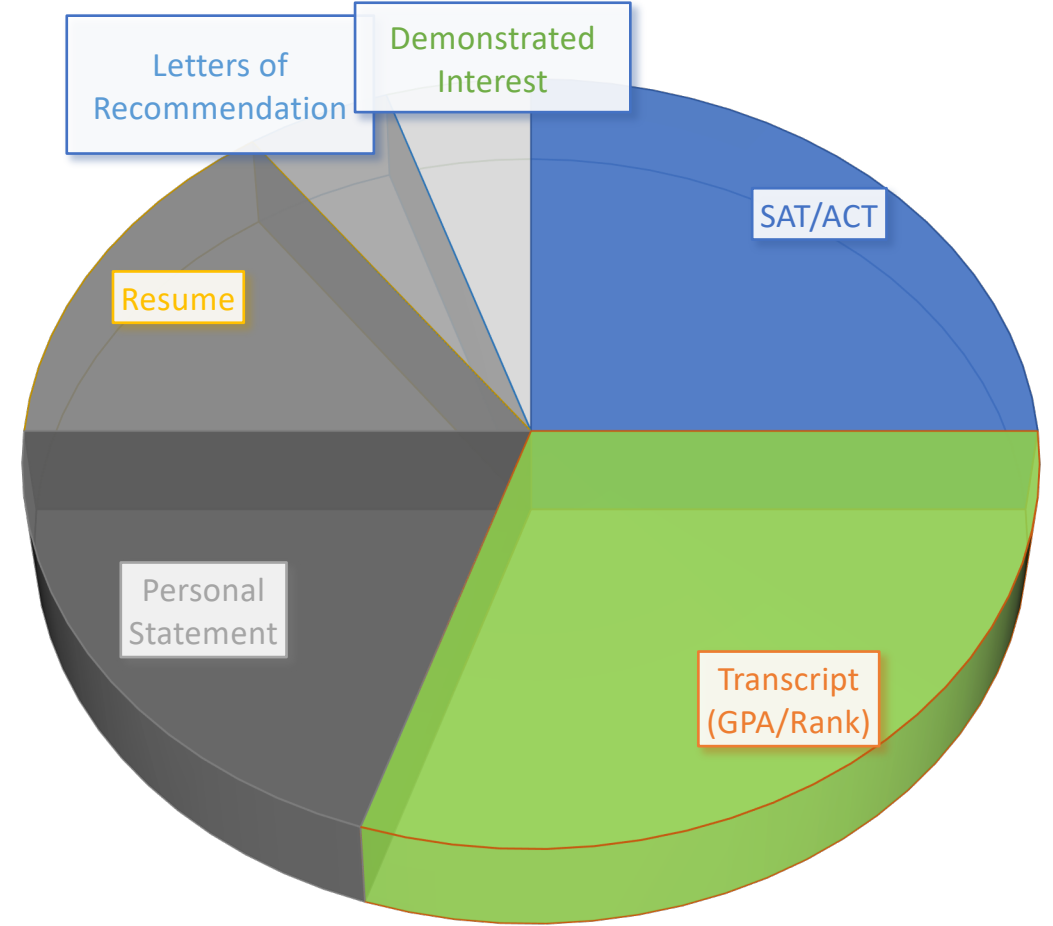
Recommendation Letter

Demonstrated Interest

Traditional Distribution



Holistic Distribution



Strategy Development (Re-Routing)



New-Routes

Test Optional:

- Students with great grades and maybe don't shine best in standardized exams
- Schools are just as competitive
- Acceptance Rates for some selective test optional schools include:
 - **Williams College: 17.5%**
 - **University of Chicago: 7.9%**
 - **American University: 25.9%**
 - **Wake Forest University: 30.3%**

College Fit + Match

- The college you choose should reflect your **values, interests, and personality**
- It should “fit” **who you are** and “match” **your needs**
- EMERGE believes that you should seek colleges that are both a “**good fit**” and a “**right match**”

Defining College Fit:



Finding a school that is a good "fit" means finding a school where you feel socially and academically comfortable and can be successful.

"Do I like this school?"

"Do I like this car?"

Defining College Match:



Finding a college that is the “right match” means that you meet the typical academic standard for entry into a particular college or university.

“Can I get admitted?”

“Can I afford the car?”

Major Categories

Large Research Institution

Vs.

Small Liberal Arts Institution

STEM Focused

Religious Campus

Artistic and Creative
Space

Lecture vs. Discussion Based

Politically
Engaged Campus

Urban vs. Suburban vs. Rural

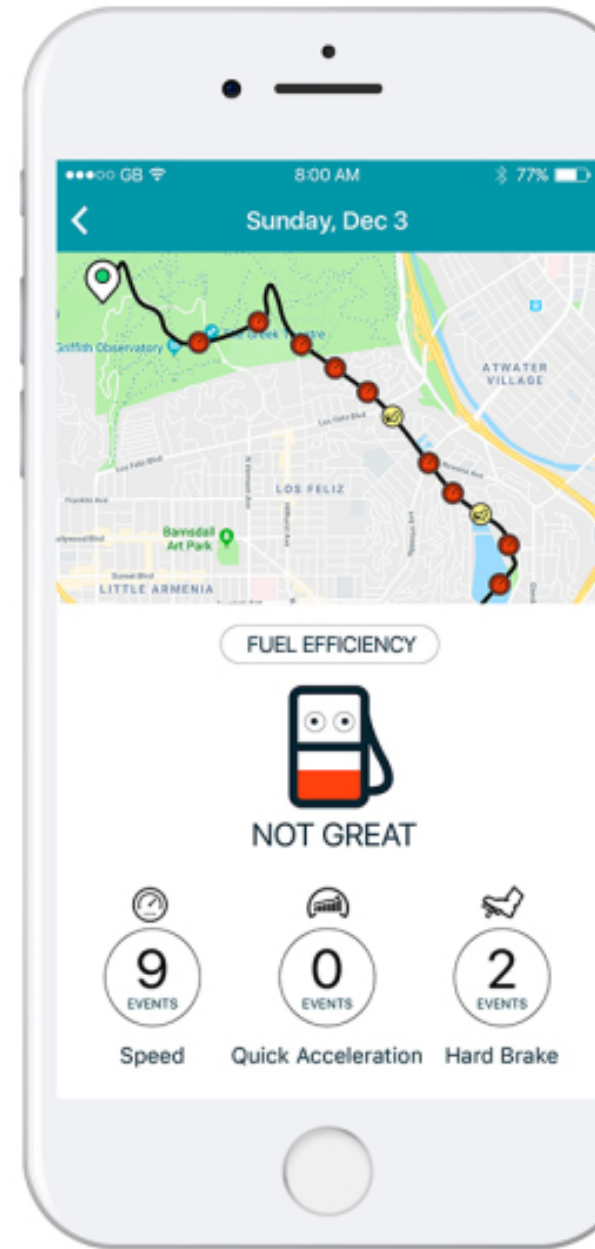
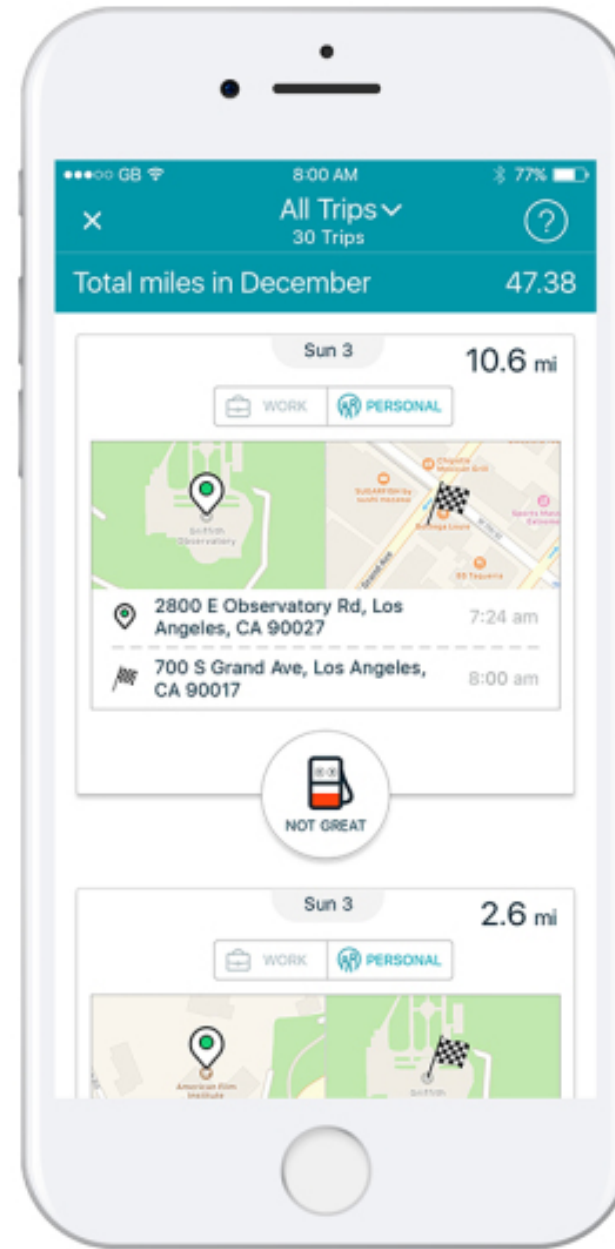
Historically
Women's College Best
location

Historically Black
College or University

*Involvement
Opportunities*

Demonstrated Interest (Smooth Arrival)

you
have
arrived



Demonstrated Interest

Fly-In Opportunities

Interviews

Early Action

Early Decision

Campus Visits



Resources:



COLLEGE
GREENLIGHT



CTCCL.ORG
COLLEGES THAT CHANGE LIVES



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QUESTIONS