College Counseling During a Pandemic
Tips and Resources for Students and Families
Recommend using Google Chrome for BLUE Links Below

Virtual Search Tools
University Virtual Tour Spreadsheet: Virtual Tour Spreadsheet
Website:https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1sO7pVos0EvK0BvXoMbnyg00K6r7hXbOQE0HNXF4N4eM/e
d it#gid=0
Compiled by Rebecca Chabrow, MA College Counselor. *Shared with permission*

NACAC-Covid-19 College Updates: **Search for Each University Admission Process**
Website   https://www.nacacnet.org/news--publications/newsroom/college-admission-status-coronavirus/
"NACAC's (National Association of College Admissions Counseling) College Admission
Status Update is a central resource of information about changes in college admission as a
result of the coronavirus outbreak.

This chart includes information provided to NACAC by colleges and universities worldwide.
You'll find information on each institution's plans and policies for admission events; for
consideration of high school transcripts and standardized test scores; for decision and
deposit dates; for summer and fall semester plans; and more."

Virtual College Visits *Campus*
Virtual Tours:
YouVisit: Access YouVisit HERE
Website: https://www.youvisit.com/collegesearch/

Campus Reel: Access Campus Reel HERE
Website: https://www.campusreel.org/

CHCA Scoir: CHCA Upper School Counseling Page
Choose Scoir Link
If you have not yet activated your CHCA account, reach out to your Counselor. **Website:**
https://www.chca-oh.org/my-upper-school/my-counseling

Virtual College Fairs
National Association of College Admissions Counseling: **List of NACAC Virtual Fairs HERE**

Hosts Regional College Fairs Twice a Year: **CollegeFairsOnline HERE**
Website https://collegefairsonline.com/

Strive Virtual College Exploration: **Recorded College Presentations HERE**
Website: https://www.strivescan.com/virtual/recordings/

**Be sure to check Admissions websites at universities/colleges. There you will often find a virtual
campus tours and opportunities to engage with Admission staff virtually.*

Financial Aid Concerns

Questions to Ask Colleges:

- Will my scholarship(s)/grant(s) be renewable all years of my attendance?
- Where do I find rules/procedures that stipulate the parameters surrounding my renewable scholarship or grant?
- What is the likelihood my scholarship(s)/grants(s) be reduced after my 1st year?
- What is the process, if my family experiences change to our financial situation, for me to appeal my financial aid award?
- If I qualify for Federal College Work Study, what are the steps I must take to secure a job? If I qualify for University-supported College Work Study, what are the steps I must take to secure a job? Am I guaranteed to get a College Work Study job, if I qualify for the program?

FAFSA 4caster: Use the FAFSA 4caster
Website: https://fafsa.ed.gov/spa/fafsa4c/?locale=en_US#/landing

The FAFSA4caster is a free tool from the U.S. Department of Education that provides an early estimate of your federal student aid eligibility.

College Board's EFC Calculator: College Board's EFC Calculator
Website: https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/paying-your-share/expected-family-contributioncalculator?noload=Y

Swift Student: Use Swift Student
 Website: https://formswift.com/swift-student

"Started in 2020, SwiftStudent is the only free, central repository of financial aid appeals / requests letter templates for students. It is a free, foundation-backed resource designed with college students and financial aid officers. SwiftStudent is a solution for students who don't feel empowered with information to advocate for themselves, and financial aid officers with limited capacity to reach all students facing special circumstances that are barriers to their education."

FAFSA Website: TO FAFSA
Website: https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa

Remember, family/student applies for the first time beginning October of senior year.

CSS Profile Website: To CSS Profile
Website: https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/

Not every college/universities require the CSS Profile. Check with individual Financial Aid Offices

Testing
College Board
Website: www.collegeboard.org

Covid-19 Update: General College Board Covid 19 Update
AP: Specific Covid 19 Updates Related to 2020 AP Exams
SAT: Specific Covid 19 Updates Related to SAT Testing
Customer Service: 866-630-9305

ACT
 Website: www.act.org
    Covid-19 Update and General Info: Go to ACT
    Customer Service: 319-337-1270

Test Optional Colleges: Go to Fairtest.org for most comprehensive list.
Website: www.fairtest.org
Test Optional means it is not mandatory for students to submit their SAT or ACT scores as part of their application.

College Application Resources
The Essay Guy: This Way to FREE Stuff
Website: https://www.collegeessayguy.com/college-essay-resources
Common Application: To the Common Application
Website: https://www.commonapp.org/
Coalition Application: To the Coalition Application Site
Website: http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/

Emergency Situation Questions

- What is your school's experience with online learning? How long have you been conducting online learning with your students? Was the Covid-19 Crisis your university's first large scale application of online learning? Prior to the Covid-19 Crisis, how many of your undergraduate students participated in online learning? What have been some of the most frequent classes taught online? How have your faculty been trained in online education delivery? What sort of technical support does your university provide to students who are participating in online learning? What are future plans at your university for making online learning more robust?

- March 2020, how did your university inform students and parents that you were suspending in person learning? How much time were students permitted to vacate? How did your university facilitate the move out process? How did university leadership, academic departments and professors communicate with students about the switch to online learning?

- If a similar situation to the March 2020 shutdown should occur, what will be your school's policy for refund on room/board and fees for services that cannot be used if academics move to an online education delivery format?

- What will be your school's plan for maintaining social distancing in regard to housing assignments, classroom capacity, university transportation systems, dining and recreation facilities?

Some Colleges/Universities with History of Strong Delivery of Online Undergraduate Programs

- ✓ Arizona State University
- ✓ Carnegie Mellon University
- ✓ Case Western Reserve University
- ✓ Clarkson University
- ✓ Columbia University
- ✓ University of Denver
- ✓ Drexel University
- ✓ Duquesne University
- ✓ Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
- ✓ Florida Institute of Technology
- ✓ Grand Canyon University
- ✓ University of Florida
- ✓ Georgia Institute of Technology
- ✓ Illinois University of Technology
- ✓ University of Illinois-Chicago
- ✓ Johns Hopkins University
- ✓ Lehigh University
- ✓ LeTourneau University
- ✓ University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
- ✓ University of North Carolina-Raleigh
- ✓ The Ohio State University
- ✓ Oregon State University
- ✓ Purdue University
- ✓ University of Southern California
- ✓ Southern Methodist University ✓ Southern New Hampshire University

Sources: US News, Best Schools, College Choice Online

Gap Year Resources

HERE is an Article Explaining the Gap Year
Website: https://www.gapyear.com/articles/features/what-is-a-gap-year

Gap Year Association Programs HERE
Website: https://www.gapyearassociation.org/providers.php

List of Extended Deposit Deadlines for Class of 2020

Compiled by Acceptgroup.org: See Current List from Accept Group HERE
Website: https://www.acceptgroup.org/extended-deadlines