

Senior College Night

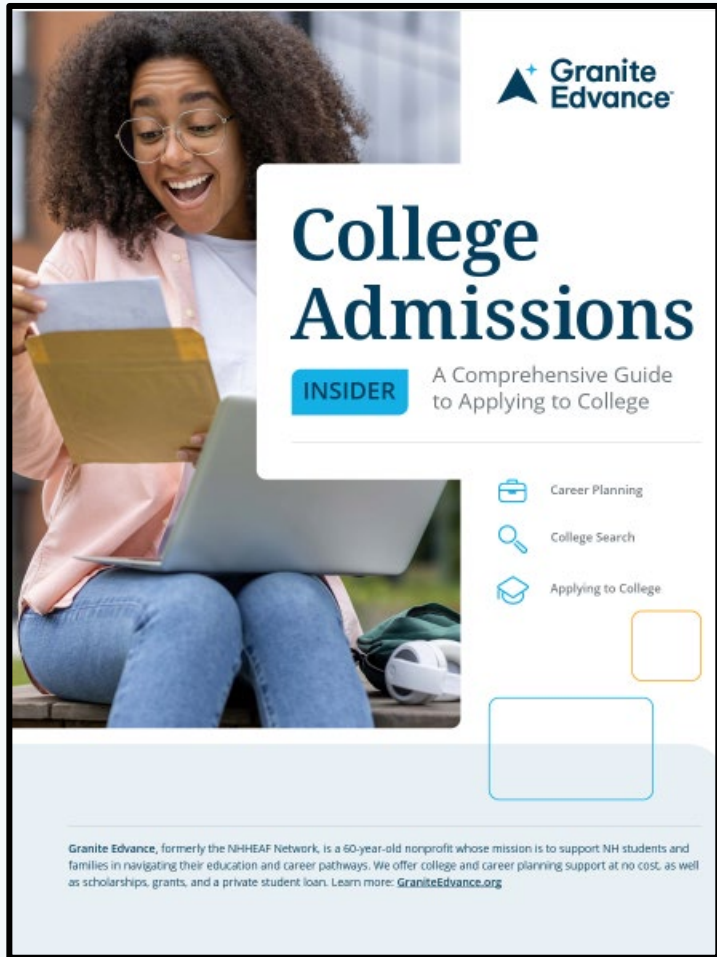
Presenter



Please sign in

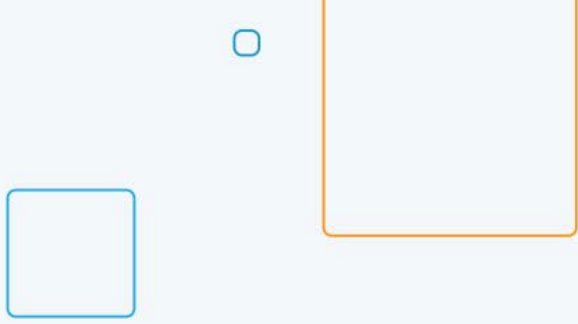
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Admissions Insider- Digital Copy



SCAN ME!

Introducing Granite Edvance



We
Are

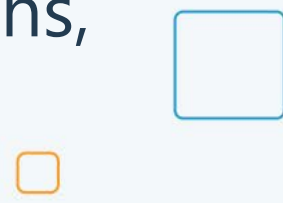
A New Hampshire-based 501c3 nonprofit, established in 1962 (formerly the NH Higher Education Assistance Foundation Network)

Our
Mission

To support New Hampshire students and families in navigating their education and career pathways

We
Offer

Free career and higher-education counseling and resources as well as funding support, including loans, grants and scholarships



Appointments We Offer

Career &
Aptitude
Exploration

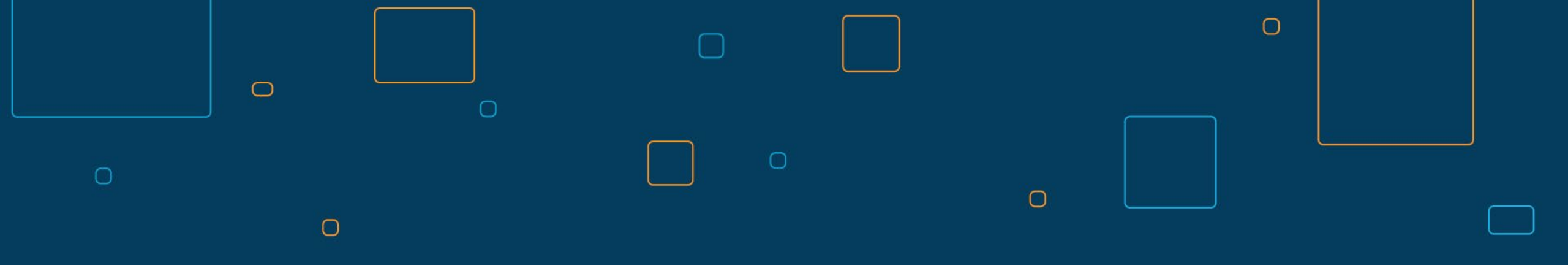
Exploring Future
Options

Financial Aid
Planning

FAFSA
Assistance

Reviewing
Financial Aid
Offers

College Success

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Finalize Your List

Balance Your List

- Average number of applications: **6-10**
- **2-3 specific reasons** for applying
- Understand **likelihood of admission**
 - Reach
 - Target
 - Safety
- Apply to a **variety of school-types**
 - In-state, out-of-state
 - Public, private
 - 2-year, 4-year



Where do I start?

[Bigfuture.org](https://bigfuture.org)

[Petersons.org](https://petersons.org)

Your school's platform

Focus on Fit

Academic

- Major
- Research / internships (consider location)
- Academic support services
- Career center

Social

- Activities / clubs
- Athletics
- Greek life
- Campus events
- Location

Financial

- Merit scholarships
- Need-based aid
- Work study
- Return on Investment (ROI)

Use Net Price Calculators to Estimate Cost

- Sticker price vs. net price
- Will differ from college to college
- Results are an estimate – you still must file the FAFSA and any other required financial aid forms
- [College Financing Calculator](#)
- [Student Loan Calculator](#)



Demonstrate Interest



Connect with Admission Reps

- College fairs
- High school visits
- One-on-one communication



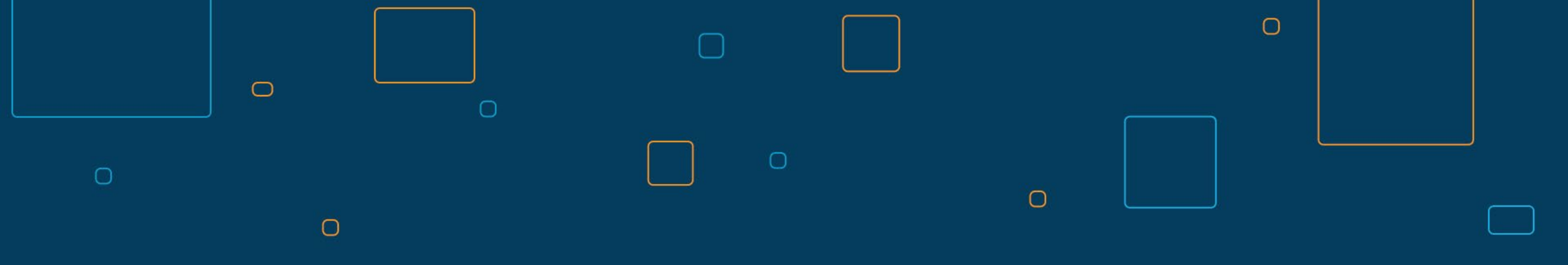
College Visits

- Information sessions & tours
- Open Houses
- Attend classes/stay overnight



Online Engagement

- Follow social media accounts
- Explore website
- Interact with emails

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Apply to College

Choose Your Platform

 common app	 COALITION FOR COLLEGE	School-Specific Application (CCSNH, Plymouth State University, St. Anselm College)
Platform used by 1000+ colleges and universities	Platform used by 170+ colleges and universities (member colleges must meet criteria like affordable tuition, need-based aid, and 6-year 70% grad rate)	Some colleges and universities accept only their own application; others will accept multiple formats
Complete one shared application to send to multiple colleges	Complete one shared application to send to multiple colleges	Apply to one school at a time
Opens August 1 st each year; but can be started earlier	Member schools determine their own opening date	Available on school's website on their own schedule
commonapp.org	coalitionforcollegeaccess.org	College or university website

Decide How to Apply

Admission Type	Details	Commitment
Early Decision (ED)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cannot apply to more than one school ED• If admitted, student agrees to enroll and withdraw all other applications• Student, parent, and school counselor sign contract• Possibility of increased acceptance rates• Only one financial aid offer – no comparison available	Binding
Early Action (EA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can apply to multiple schools EA• Only freshman-junior grades will be considered• School-specific scholarships are based on junior year GPA• Receive admission decision earlier in process• Ability to compare financial aid offers before making decision	Non-binding

Decide How to Apply, continued

Admission Type	Details	Commitment
Regular Decision (RD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All applications reviewed after hard deadline• More time to prepare application• First quarter/semester senior grades considered• Ability to compare financial aid offers before making decision	Non-binding
Rolling Admission	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• First come, first served• Applications reviewed as received• Class may be filled early in cycle, so apply accordingly• Spots in more popular majors may fill quickly	Non-binding
Direct Admission	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acceptance offered (before applying) based on student-reported data (Common App and Niche)• Guaranteed acceptance if minimum criteria are met• Limited application stress• Not every college, not every major	Non-binding

Prepare Required Elements

Transcript

Essay

Activities

**Letters of
Recommendation**

Test Scores

High School Transcript

- Includes GPA, class rank, 9-11 grades and courses
- Colleges require official high school transcript
- Sent electronically
 - Understand the process at your school
 - Sent at time of application, mid-year, final transcript
- School Profile sent with transcript
- Colleges review transcript in context



The College Essay

Essay Should...

- Reflect your voice, values, and experience
- Be authentic
- Capture reader's attention
- Share something about yourself not found elsewhere in your application

Essay Should Not...

- Be forced – do not write what you think admissions wants to hear
- Use words not typically in vocabulary
- Share ideas that don't reflect you
- Just tell a story; should also demonstrate critical thinking and share your "why"

Extracurricular Activities

- Share who you are outside the classroom
- Common App allows up to 10 activities
 - Quality over quantity
 - List in order of preference/passion
- Space to include challenges preventing you from participating in activities
 - Family responsibilities, travel a distance to and from school, work to support family, unreliable internet, family translator, etc.

Letters of Recommendation

- Ask *early* and *in-person*
- Two teachers & your school counselor
 - Colleges determine number of required and optional letters
 - Additional recommendations if college permits (mentor, coach, employer, clergy)
- Share resume or brag sheet
- Write a thank you note



Standardized Testing

Test-optional

You decide whether to submit your scores or not

Test-blind

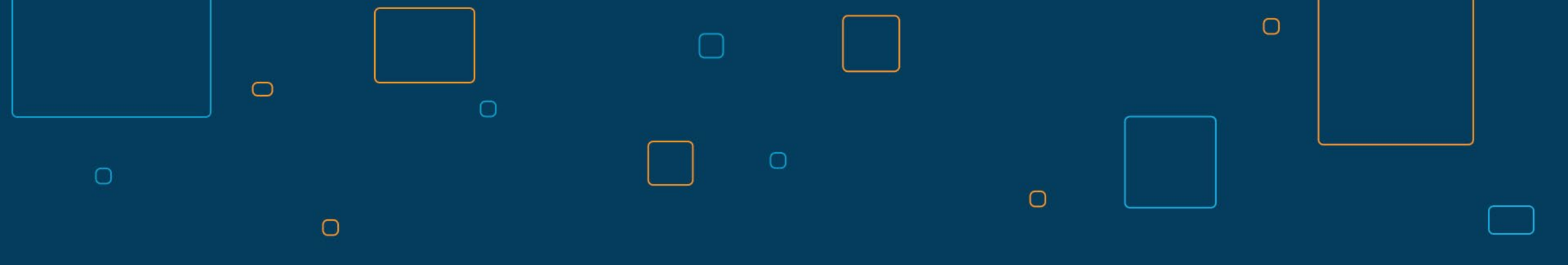
Scores will not be considered even if sent

Test-flexible

ACT, SAT, IB, AP scores accepted

Test Optional Tips

- Consider submitting if:
 - Scores fall in middle 50% or higher range of admitted students
 - Scores strengthen overall application
- Scores may be required for scholarship consideration
- Some majors may require test scores

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What's Next?

Students Take the Lead

- Communicate with college admission representatives and sign up for college tours
- Use social media appropriately
- Create professional email account for college
- Utilize support network
 - Parents, school counseling office, college admission, financial aid
- Make a plan to stay organized



Remaining College Application Timeline

Winter

- Complete regular decision applications
- Check school portals and emails regularly
- Send fall semester grades to colleges
- Apply for scholarships

Spring

- Review admissions decisions
- Attend Accepted Student Days
- Compare financial aid offers
- Continue to apply for scholarships
- Accept admission at your chosen school on or before May 1st

Upcoming Events

ApplyNH

- Date and time

College/Career Fair

- Date and time

Financial Aid 101

- Date and time

FAFSA support

- Date and time



Scan to see our
upcoming events!

Thank you for attending!



Follow us on Instagram!

Stay up-to-date on
all our happenings
and offerings.



Questions?

Contact us by
phone, email, or
schedule an
appointment.



Your feedback matters!

Please let us
know how we did.