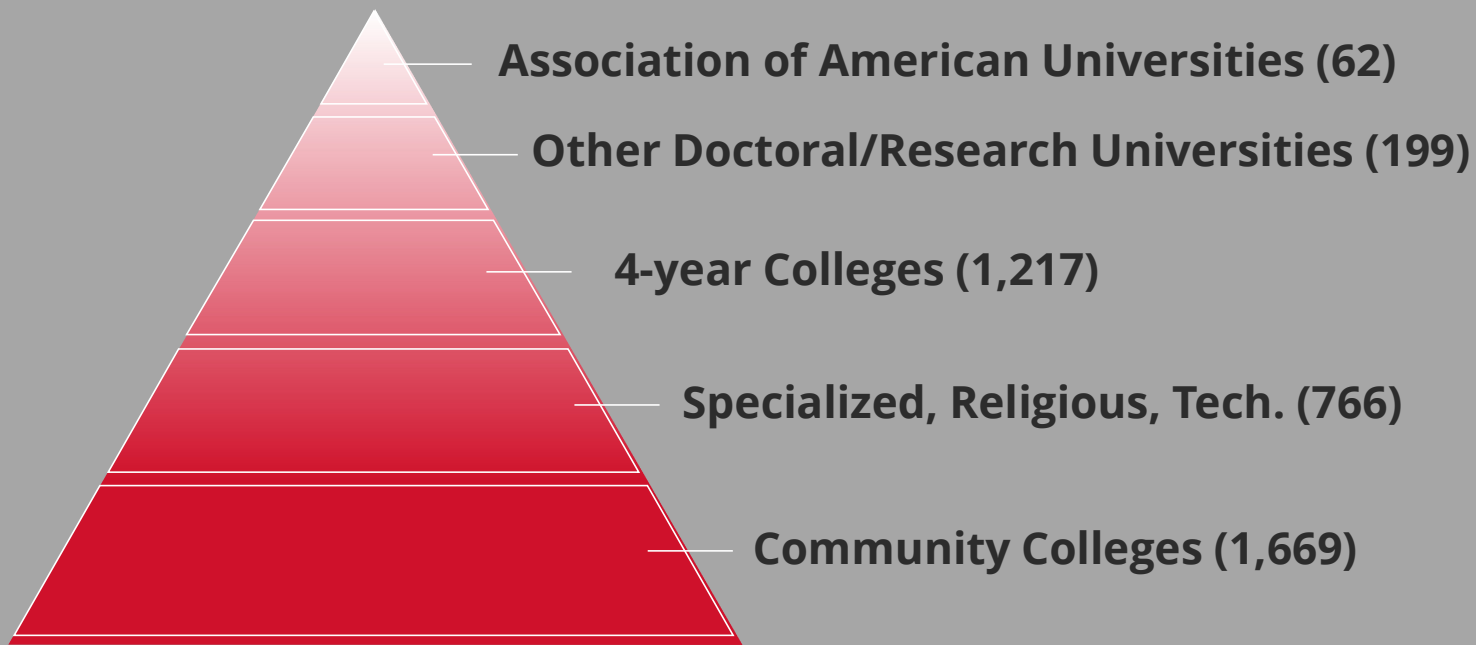




PARK HILL HIGH SCHOOL COLLEGE PLANNING NIGHT

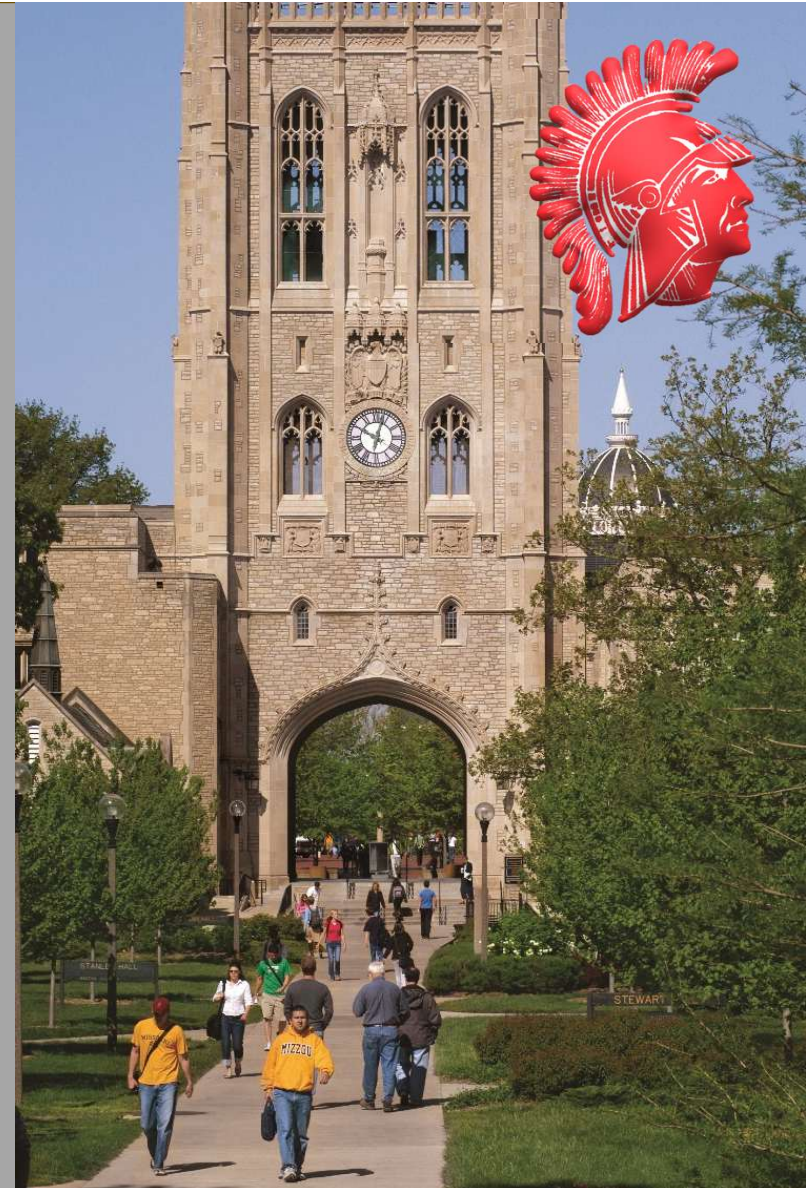
Aaron Cook
Senior Assistant Director
Mizzou Admissions

U.S. HIGHER EDUCATION PYRAMID



INSTITUTIONAL DIFFERENCES

- Private or Public
- Two-year or four-year
- Historically Black Colleges and Universities
- Religious or Secular
- Co-Ed or Single Gender



SELECTION PRIORITIES

Some first thoughts...

- Place (location, atmosphere, etc.)
- Prestige
- Price
- Program
- Personal (selectivity, legacy, friends, etc.)



LEARN THE LINGO

- **Types of Admission**
 - Regular
 - Rolling
 - Early Action
 - Early Decision
- **Deposit**
 - Binding
 - Non-Binding
- **FAFSA**
- **Test-Optional**
- **Composite vs Superscore**
- **Applications**
 - Common Application
 - Institutional
- **Housing Application**



WHAT DO COLLEGES REVIEW?

- **High School Record**
 - Grades and coursework
 - Activities and involvement
- **Performance on the ACT or SAT**
- **Involvement**
- **Subjective criteria**
 - Letters of recommendation
 - Interview
 - Personal statement
 - Essay questions



WHAT IS TEST-OPTIONAL?

- Application
- Transcript
- No test score required
- At least one writing sample
 - Essay(s) or writing sample(s)
- Supplemental info
 - Letters of recommendation
 - Interview



SO NOW WHAT?

- Use calendar or calendar/reminder app
- Practice taking and studying from notes
- Take college prep or honors courses
- Improve your reading, writing and public speaking abilities
- Get involved



VIRTUAL TOOLS

- Request information
- Take a virtual tour
- Visit academic divisions
- View course equivalences

Check out these websites...

collegeispossible.com

actstudent.org

collegeboard.org



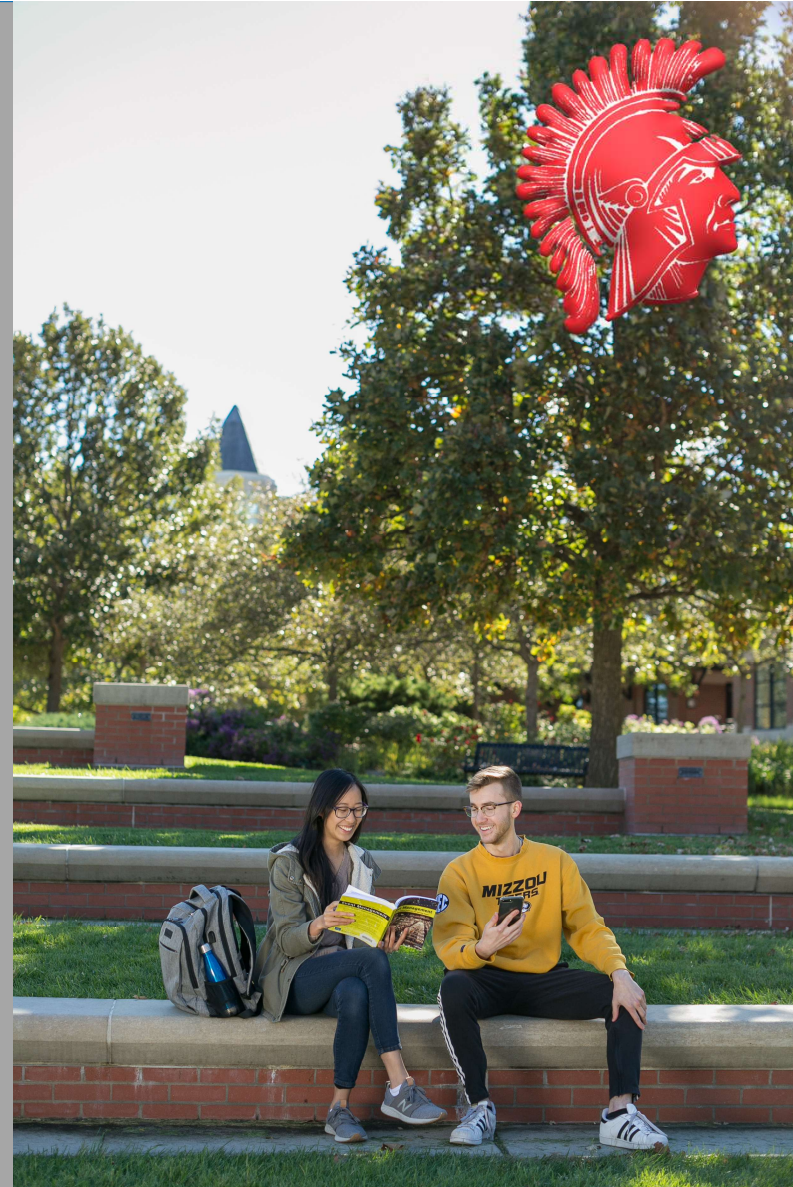
MEET & GREET

Attend College Fairs

- Gather information
- Visit with out-of-area schools

Meet with Admissions Reps

- Fall/Spring visits to high schools
- Ask in-depth questions



VISIT THE CAMPUS

- Come prepared with questions
- Talk to students on campus
- Try to visit more than once
- Weekday, weekend, or overnight visits



CAMPUS VISIT QUESTIONS

- What are the admission requirements and what do they look for in an applicant?
- What majors do they offer?
- What is the school's AP/dual credit policy?
- Class size, student to faculty ratio, graduation rate, research, and other academic opportunities should be considered.
- What is campus life like? City and surrounding area?
- What types of activities and clubs are offered?
- What kind of scholarships are offered (merit, fine arts, athletic, etc.) and are there separate applications? Do they allow outside scholarships?



WHERE TO BEGIN

Junior Year

Winter/Spring

- ☒ Research the college planning process

April/June/July

- ☐ Take the ACT or SAT

Spring/Summer

- ☐ Visit college campuses

Senior Year

August – October

- ☐ Apply for admission
- ☐ Visit top schools again

September/October/December

- ☐ Retake the ACT or SAT

December

- ☐ FAFSA

After application

- ☐ Look for campus housing info
- ☐ Apply for scholarships

Feb 1 (varies for each school)

- ☐ FAFSA Priority Deadline

April

- ☐ Evaluate financial aid package

May 1

- ☐ Submit enrollment fee

June/July

- ☐ Attend student orientation



QUESTIONS? CONTACT ME!



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