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## Ethiraj college application form online

The year leading up to your first semester of college is an exciting time. It can also be hectic and stressful, especially if you're not sure how to apply. Although the requirements for an application vary widely between schools, there are certain common aspects – and there are also certain pitfalls you should try to avoid. Application form The school-specific application form can be as short as two pages or much longer. Most schools accept online applications as well as paper forms. However, keep in mind that an application form is only part of the entire packet, so even if you submit an online application, you should still send the rest of the documents requested. Another option is to use the online Common Application, which is currently accepted by more than 300 schools. The advantage is that you don't need to complete a separate application for every college you're considering. Not every university or college accepts the Common Application, however, and even those who do can still require a short supplemental application. You cannot be penalized for using the General Application; colleges that have agreed to accept it are obliged to give the same consideration to prospective students who submit the Common Application, as they give to those who submit a school-specific application form. Pitfalls: • Each school sets a deadline for applications, and generally, the more competitive the admission process, the earlier the deadline. Allow yourself plenty of time to assemble your application package and submit it before the deadline. • Check your application form to ensure that there is no missing information. An incomplete application form can lead to you missing the opportunity to attend the school of your choice for the year you need. Test scores Some universities accept both SAT and ACT test scores, but others accept only one or the other. When you take down the tests, you have the option to list the schools you want to receive your scores. Since 2009, students have had the option to choose whether prospective schools receive everything, some or even just one of their SAT scores, but you need to register for this option by phone or online, or else all of your scores will be submitted. Pitfalls: • It takes time for your test to be processed and your scores sent to the schools. Be sure to schedule the test session that allows sufficient time for the school to receive your scores before the application deadline. • Verify which test the university accepts of your dreams early enough to schedule the appropriate test. Letters of recommendation Each school determines how many letters of recommendation you should submit and who they should prepare. Usually, you need a minimum of two letters written by your high school guidance counselor or teachers. Pitfalls: • Choose people who can attest to your strengths. This means that you need to choose teachers or counselors that you know pretty well. • Ask for letters of early enough for the teacher or counselor to have sufficient time to prepare a well thought-out letter. Personal essay Most colleges will ask you to prepare a personal essay or statement as part of your application package. For many, this is the most difficult piece of the application process. The length depends on the school's specific requirements, but most ask for 300 to 500 words although longer essays may be required by some universities. The topic also varies by school. Pitfalls: • Carefully proofread your essay to make sure there are no errors in spelling or grammar. If necessary, ask one of your teachers to edit or revise your setup. • Do not wait until the last minute to start your essay. You'll probably need to prepare multiple concepts, and so that yourself some time between drafts helps make uncomfortable sense structure or flaws you can miss if you're jittery. Transcript Your application packet is not complete until the college receives an official transcript from your high school. Some schools will only accept transcripts sent to them directly from your high school. Others will allow you to pick up a sealed envelope with your transcript and mail to them. Pitfalls: • If you pick up your transcript, make sure you don't open the envelope. If you break the seal, the school may refuse to accept it. • Do not wait until the day you need to have your application packet in the mail to ask for your transcript. Depending on your high school, it may take a few days for an official transcript. Students can get a lot more help these days than decades ago with the college application process. And they may just need it. This year, about 19 million students registered for college, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, and that number is on the rise, meaning there could be some fierce competition for seats at the best schools next year. Traditionally, students have applied to five to eight different colleges, according to The College Board. But increasing competition may just be why some students are now applying to 20 or more schools (which The College Board is considering too much.) As students and parents ramp up their college application efforts, here are some tools, some free and some for a fee, that could help. Photo Credit: tostie14 What looks good on a college application? That's the question almost every high school student will ask at some point while applying to college. But is there a clear answer? Fortunately, the answer is yes! Read on to learn what colleges are watching for in applicants, who look really good at a college application, and what kind of myths there are about good things to put on a college application. What are colleges looking for in applicants? Everyone applying to college wondered, What exactly are colleges looking for in applicants? In other words, what looks good on a college application? While all colleges are of course, with some appreciation certain traits or skills more or less Other schools, all colleges generally seek smart, studious, ambitious and passionate students. Therefore, your college application should highlight your best, most impressive qualities. For example, if you play the violin and want to study music in college, you'd want to touch on this interest you have in different areas of your application. A good college application will also showcase your sincere interest in school. You wouldn't apply to a college unless you had a reason to want to go there, right? Be sure to explain (especially if you should write a Why this college essay) exactly how you are interested in school and why you think it's a good fit for you and your goals. You don't have to be the next Marie Curie or Stephen Hawking (though it certainly doesn't hurt if you are!), but you have to be open to new opportunities and willing to challenge yourself. Overall, the basic point of a college application is to stand you out from other applicants in a positive, memorable, and unique way. This fact is especially important in light of how many first-year applications colleges receive each year. According to the 2019 report by the National Association for College Admissions Counseling (NACAC), the number of first-year applications received by U.S. colleges increased by 6% from fall 2017 to fall 2018. The report found that the average number of applications for each admissions office staff member (excluding administrative staff) for the Fall 2017 admission cycle was 1,035 for public institutions and 461 for private institutions. These trends suggest your application will certainly have to leave a lasting impression on the admissions committee if you hope to get into that school. The degree by which you have to stand out from other applicants will depend on how selective a particular school is. In general, the more selective a college is, the more impressive and unique your application will have to be. Finally, what looks good on an application will vary depending on college and what the college values. For example, at colleges that don't place a big emphasis on standardized tests, a high SAT score probably won't be much of a factor in admissions. This is just a general overview of what colleges are looking for in applicants. So what looks really good on a college application? Next, we look at the specific features you should strive to include on your application, so you can increase your chances of being accepted. What looks good on a college application? 7 Key elements in addition to key personality traits, such as ambition, passion, genuine interest and academic curiosity, what looks really good on a college application? In general, a large application will have the most or all of the following elements: A high GPA (relative to what designated students have) and a strict curriculum Strong test scores (relative to what designated students have) A specific, honest and well-written Declaration A Unique Unique interest or passion (a spike,As we like to call it) Volunteer experience with measurable impact Compelling letters of recommendation written on behalf of your work experience, especially with your academic or professional interests It's OK if you don't listed every single quality above, but if you do, your chances of being accepted to college of your dreams will go up! Then let's look at each of these features in more detail. #1: Excellent grades in challenging courses The first important part of the college application is the transcript, which consists of your GPA and the names and types of classes you took in high school. Most people believe a high GPA (the definition of which can vary at different colleges) will make an application stronger. And that's true! According to NACAC, 75% of colleges ranked grades in high school classes significantly important. In fact, this factor is the most important of any ranked in the report. What's truly important, though, isn't that you're simply high GPA overall, but rather that you're a GPA that's higher than the average GPA of allied students at college that you apply to. To find a college's average GPA, [School Name] PrepScholar seeks admission requirements on Google and then clicks on our database link to that school. This page will show you what the school's average GPA is, in addition to other admission requirements. For example, if you want to apply to Notre Dame, you'll search for Notre Dame PrepScholar admission requirements and click on the link to our Notre Dame admissions reqs page, which looks like this: As you can see, Notre Dame's average (weighted) GPA for allied applicants is 4.06. If you apply here, you want a GPA of at least 4.06, preferably higher, so you'll be an above-average applicant. However, getting a high GPA isn't just about getting a high; you also need to take a variety of challenging courses throughout high school if you really want to impress an admissions committee. That means you want to take not only basic-level classes, but also some AP, honors and/or IB courses, especially in subjects you're good at and maybe want to continue studying in college or large. The 2019 NACAC report found that a whopping 84% of colleges ranked an applicant's rigor from curriculum moderately or significantly important. Think about it: though a perfect 4.0 might look good at an initial glance, if you have this high GPA by just taking the easiest classes available and haven't challenged yourself with higher-level coursework, your transcripts probably won't impress college admissions officers that much. Even if you start high school with lower grades, an upward grade trend is a good point to emphasize on your application. This suggests you are able to bounce back from any problems you may face and are willing to put into work needed for excelling in college. #2: High test scores Test scores, SAT/ACT scores, are another key part of college applications (unless, of course, you apply to colleges that don't require test scores). On the NACAC report, 83% of colleges believe admission test scores are at least moderately important. That's why it's imperative that you try to get as high a SAT/ACT score as you can, ideally one in at least the 75th percentile for your colleges. The 75th percentile means that 75% of allocated students at a particular school achieved this score or lower. Reaching (or surpassing) this threshold means you score higher than most other all-time applicants are—and well above that college's average score. To find the middle 50% (that is, the 25th and 75th percentile SAT/ACT scores) for a school, search on Google for [School Name] PrepScholar admission requirements. Click on the link to our page for the school to see its requirements, including its average SAT/ACT scores. For example, say you plan to apply to NYU. Here's what the SAT scores section on NYU's PrepScholar admission reqs page looks like: Here, we can see the average SAT score for NYU is 1440—it's pretty high, in the 96th percentile! To really stand out as an applicant, though, you'll want to aim for at least the 75th percentile. For NYU, it's 1510, matching the 99th percentile, or the top 1% of test takers. Since you're probably applying to more than just one school, you should set a SAT/ACT goal count, that is, a score high enough to get you into all the colleges you apply to. To set a goal count, start by making a graph of all the schools you apply to. You can create your own chart or download a blank template. Below is a monster SAT goal score chart: School Name 25th Percentile Score 75th Percentile Count Marquette University University of Wisconsin-Madison Michigan State University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Next, check out the 25th and 75th percentile SAT scores for each of the schools you apply to use our PrepScholar admission requirements pages. (Follow the steps above for NYU to learn how to do it.) Once you have these scores, write them in your chart like so: Now look at all the 75th percentile counts in your chart. The highest score will be your goal score because it's the one that's likely to get you into all the schools you apply to. With our example chart, the highest score is 1480, or the 75th percentile count for the University of Illinois and UW Wisconsin. By getting a 1480 or higher, you get an impressive score not only for these two schools school, but also for Marquette and MSU, thereby increasing your chances of getting into all colleges you apply to. The majority of college applicants are high school seniors, and most of the college application advice out there is aimed at them. But what do you do if you don't narrow category doesn't fit? Our eBook on how to prepare for and apply for college as a nontraditional student will walk you through everything! Need to know, from the coursework you have to have under your belt how to get recommendation letters when you're not a high school senior. #3: Sincere, specific, and well-written essays The personal statement is an important part of your college application because it's one of the only areas where you can really display your personality. According to the 2019 NACAC survey, 56% of schools consider application essays moderately or significantly important. While some colleges don't require essays, those who usually place at least moderate interest on them puts them. So how can you ensure that your essay will impress the admissions committee? Generally speaking, colleges are looking for three most important traits in a personal essay: Honesty. What you're writing about should have actually happened to you and should be how you actually feel. Exaggerated details and outright lies are great no-noes here! Specificity: Using conscript details to effectively convey your thoughts, views and experiences will make you set up much more memorable, personal and — most importantly—unique. Eloquency: Don't expect to be accepted anywhere if your essay is poorly written and full of grammar and spelling mistakes. A great personal statement has a sensible organization, tells a compelling story, and is completely free of technical faults. Here are some steps you can take to guarantee that your setup will have all three properties. Step 1: Brainstorming Significant Moments From your life You write for your college essay will vary depending on the quick(s) you're given from your school or the quick choice you choose (for example, the Common App and Coalition App allows you to choose from under multiple directions for your essay). In general, you want to choose a topic that meets the following criteria: It really happened and was significant to you. If you write about a specific incident, it should be something that actually happened and that had a huge impact on how you define yourself, your goals and/or your interests. This is specific and interesting: Don't write about a broad, universal topic that may also apply to tons of other applicants. Instead, focus on an event, issue, person or struggle that is unique to you and your life. It reveals something important about you. The essay is meant to highlight something you think the admissions committee should know about you, like a personality trait you have, how you overcame across some sort of challenge, or how you became interested in a field of study. It has a positive lean: While you don't need to choose a topic that's too light or cheerful, it should still be an ultimately positive skinnny that reveals something good about you rather than something bad, controversial, or immoral. Step 2: Write your essay The next step is to actually start writing your essay. Don't worry too much about grammar and flow at the point; just get off your ideas and find deciding which and examples can work well in your essay. As you write, remember to your inner voice. This essay should sound like the real you, not an imitation of what you think colleges want to hear. So if you're the sarcastic type, you might want to include a joke or two, for example. Don't forget that setting up is a way for the admissions committee to learn more about you, so don't shy away from your true self! On the same note, it's OK to get creative here. The essay is not an academic essay you would write for English class — it is a story. Feel free to inject your writing with various literary techniques, such as a non-chronological organization, realistic dialogue, and memorable images. Finally, make sure you adequately answer the fast and stay with all technical requirements (such as length). You can check a college's essay requirements by referring to its application requirements page or by reading the instructions on the Common Program, Coalition Application, or Universal College App Sites (if you submit your application through one of these platforms). An essay that is too long can be cut off when you submit it electronically, so make sure it meets all the requirements. Step 3: Edit and proofread multiple times once you draft a rough draft of your college, it's time to polish it up for submission. The best way to edit is to put your essay away for a few days. This will give you some distance away from your writing, so you can look back at your essay later with a fresher perspective. If you reread your setup, mark any areas in it that are unclear, uncomfortable, or irrelevant to the most important point you are trying to make with it. You should also correct any obvious typing errors or errors, such as errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation. Once you've done this process several times, give your essay to someone to read. Ideally, it will be a person you trust, such as a parent, teacher, counselor or tutor. Have the person you choose provide clear feedback about your essay and make sure you have met all requirements. Edit your essay as needed in accordance with the comments you get. Having completed it all, you must now set up a perfect college to file with your application! #4: An increase in your extracurricular almost every college will want to know what kind of extracurricular activities you do or have done in your spare time. Indeed, 49% of colleges surveyed consider students' extracurricular activities moderately or significantly important. Ask yourself: what are your interests outside of school and how do you engage them? The trick here is not to provide a list of all the random activities you've done, but rather a detailed review of one to two of your most passionate interests and any great accomplishments you've made in it. In other words, you have to figure out what your peak is, a concept that PrepScholar co-founded and Harvard-alum Allen Cheng describes in his expert guide on how to get into the Ivy League. To put it simply, a is deep performance in and knowledge of a particular field. Field, an example, say you plan to grow up in biology. You'll stand out as an applicant if you have tons of biology or science-related experiences under your belt. Maybe you're part of your school's biology club, or maybe you volunteered at a local research lab, which taught you the basics of dealing with lab equipment. In addition to a variety of experiences and adequate background knowledge in the field, you want to highlight any relevant great achievements you have. Maybe, for example, you've won a science show your sophomore year of high school; most recently you submitted an award-winning invention idea to a national contest as you can see, this concept of the spike is the opposite of well-rounded, which most students assume they should be (read the next section to learn more about this myth). If you're not sure what your peak is yet, take time to try out new activities and explore any interests you have both in and out of school. Over time, you need to start getting a feel for what you're passionate about and what you can see yourself connecting about in the future. #5: Compelling letters of recommendation Most colleges require at least one recommendation letter from either your high school counselor or a high school teacher (or both). The 2019 NACAC survey suggests that 54% of colleges consider teacher recommendations at least moderately important, while a higher 55% consider counselor recommendations the same. Therefore, we can say it's pretty important to secure good letters of recommendation for your application. If you're asking for a letter from a teacher, make sure you choose someone whose class you have a high grade in (ideally an A) and who is familiar with your abilities, ambitions, and interests. Typically, you must submit at least one letter from a teacher who has taught a core class (so math, English, science or social studies/history). It's a good idea to also get a letter from a teacher working in the field emailing. So if you have an A in AP English and plan to great in English, ask that teacher for a recommendation letter will provide a huge boost to your application. Although you don't have to be the best friends with the teacher you ask, they should definitely know you well, outside of the classroom, so they can effectively explain to admissions committees that make you special, that is, what makes you worth acknowledging. For example, if you did research with a specific teacher, is part of a club that coaches or leads this teacher, or helped this teacher with a project, it would be a good person to ask to write a letter for you. Once you've secured a letter of recommendation, make sure you provide them with any material or information they might need to help them draft a compelling letter. #6: Volunteer experience with measurable impact Colleges love it when a not only volunteered, but also had a measurable impact with their volunteer efforts. What does it mean if you volunteered somewhere or for an organization, your help should have led to a noticeable, positive change to the group, community or area you aimed to help. For example, say you volunteer at a local library. Maybe the library struggled to get funds to keep working, and you came up with the idea of holding a 24-hour reading marathon to raise money. The fundraiser eventually made more than \$5,000, a figure that would be a concrete indicator of the positive impact your service had on the library. With your college application, then, you can specifically mention how your initiative allowed the library to stay open. Note that you don't have to assume a leadership role to make a positive impact through your service. That said, college admissions committees are often very large fans of students who show evidence of their budding leadership skills. #7: (Relevant) Work Experience Although you're definitely not required to work a part-time job in high school, having some working experience on your college applications, especially any work related to what you want to study or do professionally, will help you stand out in a positive way. Even if your job isn't tied to a long-term academic or career goal you have, any (part-time) work experience you have would be great to put down on your application because it emphasizes your sense of responsibility, maturity, and willingness to work for your goals. Key qualities that are usually considered important to success in college. Also, if you have any sports on the application to expand on your work. I suggest explaining why you initially got the job and what values or skills it taught you, such as the importance of responsibility or how to work with certain equipment you are likely to use again in the future. #8: Myths about what looks good on a college application? Many students think they know, but the truth is there are a lot of myths about what to include on your application. Below, we introduce you to the top four myths about what looks good on college applications. Myth 1: Being well-rounded is critical to success One of the most soaking myths out there about what looks good on a college application is the idea of being well-rounded. Many students assume they should have tons of extracurricular activities on their applications; This, they believe, will highlight their diversity interests as well as their knowledge of a variety of fields. But all this really tells admissions committees is that you stretch yourself too thin and (probably) a lack of focus on a specific effort in your life. What colleges actually want to see is a spike, it's a single passion. That allows colleges to get a clearer feel for who you are, what you're interested in, and what your goals are. With a spike you can stand out in a truly meaningful way, while getting rounded will make you forgettable and look too similar to other applicants. Spikes is especially important at highly selective colleges and universities, such as Harvard, Yale, and other Ivy League-level schools. You can read more about how to develop an increase in our guide to get into the Ivy League. Alternatively, if you're interested in pursuing education at a liberal arts school, check out our article on how to figure out what to go to college for. If you're aiming for well-rounded, you'll start to look like everyone else. Myth 2: Essays aren't that important after Time published a 2014 article about why college application essays don't actually matter as much, students began to fear that all their hard work on their statements wouldn't mean much at all, if at all. But while some colleges don't require personal essays, most colleges require at least one or two essays — and will put a decent amount of emphasis on that, especially if used as a deciding factor between two otherwise equally qualified applicants. Even if you need to seriously approach the setup, it's still generally rare for an unusually well-written set-up to make up for tons of low grades and poor test scores. On the other hand, if you have a great application but a badly written essay, that essay alone can reject you! So, make sure to follow all the steps listed above, so you can manufacture the perfect statement for your application. Myth 3: An A in an easy class is better than a B in a Hard Class Many students believe it's better to stick to the classes you know you'll get as in, but this piece of advice is misleading when it comes to college applications. In general, colleges prefer students who challenge themselves by taking a variety of tough classes, such as AP and honors classes. And you don't have to get perfect grades in them. For example, if you get a B in a difficult AP class, it would highlight to the admissions committee that you are willing to tackle new challenges and test your limits, qualities needed to succeed in and after college. On the other hand, being as in all easy classes, although not entirely unimpressive, isn't nearly as interesting for colleges, as it suggests you're unwilling to push yourself and further thresh your higher-level critical thinking skills. All of this said, try to avoid getting very low grades in any classes you take (regular or honors/AP). C and D grades, of course, won't look good for an admissions committee, even if you got these grades while challenged yourself in AP classes. If you can't at least get a B or B+ in a tough class, it would probably be better for you to drop it and switch to either the regular version of that class or a very different class altogether. Myth 4: Only perfect applicants get allotted Many students assume that if they have one small flaw in their application, such as a test score or slightly low grade in a class, their future to be allowed into college will be slim to none. That's just not true. Yes, a very low test score or a very poor transcript can cause you to be rejected from a college, but many colleges use a holistic admissions process, meaning they look at and consider each individual applicant as a whole. So even if your application has a no-so-star component on it, that doesn't necessarily mean you'll be a rejection. In fact, at especially selective colleges, like the Ivy League, you'll often hear about cases in which ostentatious perfect applicants were rejected. That's probably because they didn't have an increase in their applications (i.e. something that made them stand out). Overall, just try your best application you can produce, and then hope for a good result! Takeaways: What looks good on a college application to college is tough, and knowing what to put on your applications to stand yourself out is even harder. What looks really good on a college application? In general, colleges want your passion, intellectual curiosity, willingness to challenge yourself, and see academic achievements. More specifically, though, colleges usually prefer applicants who have the most or all of the following characteristics: Good grades and a challenging course loading Strong test scores Honest, specific, and eloquent essays an increase in your extracurricular activities Compelling letters of recommendation Volunteer experience with clear impact on the groups or places you've helped any relevant or impactful work experience Finally, if you apply to college and try to think of a college and try to think of a college, make sure you're aware of the following truths about the application process: It's better to have a spike than to have well-rounded essays is important! A B in a hard course is more impressive than an A in an easy course You can still get into your dream school, even if your application isn't perfect What's Next? A great college application will have you allowed. Use our college acceptance calculator to get an estimated percentage of your odds of getting into your dream school, based on your SAT or ACT score and GPA. One thing a major college application can have is a high SAT or ACT score. Get expert tips in our guides on how to get a perfect 36 on the ACT and how to get a perfect 1600 on the SAT. Need help finding out which colleges to apply for? Our guide teaches you how to narrow down your college choices so you apply to the best schools for you. Want to build the best possible college application? We can help. PrepScholar Admissions is the world's best admissions consulting service. We combine world-class admission counselors with our data-driven, own admission strategies. We've overseen thousands of students coming into their top choice schools, from state colleges to the Ivy League. We know what kind of colleges. We want to get you admitted to your dream schools. Get. more about PrepScholar Admissions to maximize your odds of coming in.