



U.S. College Application Training for Teachers



Group Agreements

- What helps you feel comfortable to participate, share your thoughts, and to ask questions?
- What helps you learn?
- How will we interact and learn?



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Group Agreements

- Take responsibility for your own learning
 - Time management
 - Active participation
 - Ask questions
 - Take turns
- Respectful communication
- Photo consent



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Admissions Essentials



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Understanding the Admissions Timeline

- General intakes (start dates):
 - Fall (August/September) – Beginning of academic year
 - Spring (mid-January)
 - Summer (June) – shorter; six-to-eight week long
- Deadlines vary according to colleges (might have separate deadline for financial aid and scholarships)
 - Early decision (November 1 or 15): **Binding** (If admitted, you are committing to attending and withdrawing any other applications.)
 - Early action (November): Non-binding
 - Regular (Starts in December)
 - Rolling



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Key Components

- Academic Transcripts
- Standardized Test – SAT, SAT II, TOEFL and their roles (Some colleges have test-optional policy)
- Personal essays and writing supplements: To learn more about the student as a person
- Recommendation letters
- Extra-curricular activities



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Critical Elements



Critical and analytical skills



Ability to communicate ideas clearly: Writing and Presentation



Commitment and pattern of activities over time



Problem solving skills



Leadership and team player



Idea of interests beyond academics



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Personal Essays and Supplemental Writings

- Can the student communicate clearly?
- Gives college unique information: beyond grades, CVs, and test scores
- An insight into the student as a person (helps with taking a holistic approach)
 - The essays/writing requirements as a whole – together they need to paint a picture of who the student is, what they want, and why a college should accept them.
- Assessment of the student's analytical and critical thinking skills
- The reader is a mixed team of admissions team staff, professors, and students (US and international) - may or may not know about Nepal and the local context



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Extra-Curricular Activities

- Develop values such as commitment, discipline, leadership, hard work, perseverance.
- What is their life like outside of the classroom?
- Have they developed strong interests over time?
- Gives an idea of the kinds of activities they are curious about and at which might excel.
- Differentiate student from the rest of the applicant pool and make them stand out as an exceptional candidate
- Quantity vs. Quality

(<https://blog.collegevine.com/how-to-fill-out-the-common-app-activities-section/>)



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