

KEY ASPECTS OF US COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

NAVIGATING THE US COLLEGE ADMISSIONS PROCESS

- US College admissions cycle instills Fall intake, Spring intake, Summer intake
- College wise deadlines for scholarships may also vary, make sure to get updated
- Fall Semester - start of new academic year, begins in August or September
- Spring Semester – usually begins mid-way of January, somewhere around second week of January
- Summer Session – Short term that spans six to eight weeks, starting from June.

UNDERSTANDING THE ADMISSIONS TIMELINE

- Colleges have their specific dates for applications to be submitted
- Keep track of key dates and deadlines
- Deadlines include: Early decision – November 1 or November 15
- Early Action – Starting November or mid- November
- Regular Decision – December, January or further
- Most important tip : **PLAN AHEAD**
- Manage deadlines for multiple applications

ESSENTIAL COMPONENTS OF YOUR APPLICATION

- Academic Transcripts – Showcasing your academic rigor and performance down the years
- Standardized Test – Understanding SAT, ACT, TOEFL and their roles. Most colleges have test-optional policy
- Personal essays and writing supplements – The window of your personality and your values reflection
- Recommendation letters – External perspective on your capabilities
- Activities list – Preparing your extracurricular activities, volunteering's, internships as part of activities list apart from your academic achievement

CRAFTING COMPELLING ESSAYS

- Simple tips to stand out among number of applicants:
 1. Authenticity
 2. Storytelling
 3. Relevance
- Supplement essays: Addressing specific questions and schools present your point of view
- What Admissions Officers look for ?
- Originality, Depth and Clarity
- Give ample time reading multiple essay samples to get an idea about how to shape your one

THE ROLE OF EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Demonstrates your vested interest beyond academics
- Platform to express your leadership, passion and commitment
- FAQ from students – Quality or Quantity ?
- Ans: Include activities that reflect your true interests
- Go through number of websites on how to present your activities in the application to give the best reflection of your interest
- List only the ones you've done sincerely, don't BRAG to fancy your list

THE POWER OF RECOMMENDATION LETTERS

- Selecting the right Recommenders matters a lot
- Select teacher who know you very well, Guidance Counselors, Mentors who you are familiar with
- Guidance for Recommenders: Highlighting strengths, Potential and character. Present examples rather than adjectives
- Coordinating with recommenders regarding deadlines and submission processes

WRAPPING UP AND ADDRESSING QUERIES

- Recap – Key strategies for a successful US College Application
- OPEN FLOOR : Clarifying Doubts, Sharing insights
- What Next?
- Preparing students for the Application Journey with proper guidance

THANK YOU!