

TOP 30 QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR COLLEGE COUNSELOR

COURSE SELECTION

1. What courses do I need to take to be ready for college?
2. Is my current class schedule good enough to satisfy college admission requirements?
3. Which elective courses do you recommend?
4. Which AP courses should I consider taking?

STANDARDIZED TESTING

5. Should I take the ACT or SAT (or both)?
6. Do I need SAT subject tests and AP exams? Which ones should I take?
7. How should I prepare for the SAT or ACT?
8. How high do my test scores need to be?

COLLEGE PLANNING

9. Do you have any college planning sessions scheduled?
10. Are there any college fairs at this school, or nearby?
11. Do you have any college handbooks or other guides that I can borrow or browse?
12. Do you have any information to help me start exploring careers?

FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS

13. How do I apply for financial aid, and when should I start?
14. How does the financial aid application process differ from the admission process?
15. Where can I find scholarships to apply for?
16. Do my PSAT scores qualify me for any scholarships?
17. Will my family's finances affect my scholarship search?

COLLEGE SELECTION

18. How do I find a college or university that is best for me?
19. What should I do when I visit campuses?
20. Can you put me in touch with recent grads who are going to the colleges on my wish list?

ADMISSION TIMELINE

21. When should I start building my target school list?
22. When should I start applying to my target schools?
23. How early can I start asking for letters of recommendation and work on my essay?
24. When can I expect to hear back about my application?

APPLYING TO COLLEGE

25. How do admissions officers view extracurricular and volunteer activities?
26. What do admissions officers look for in an application essay?
27. Who should I ask to write my letters of recommendation?
28. What should I expect in a college interview?
29. Will applying early decision or early action give me a leg up?
30. What are some common application mistakes I can avoid?

