How to Navigate the College Admissions Process Without Losing Your Mind

Plus
60 Programs That Prepare You for College
The college search can feel like a long, dark tunnel.

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Together we’ll reach the light at the end of that tunnel!

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Published by:
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A lot has changed since today’s parents went through the college application process.

Start with the delivery and availability of information.

“It used to be that you needed to be on a school’s mailing list to get any kind of information at all,” said Ann McDermott, admissions director at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass. “Now, there’s just an explosion of information everywhere. The depth and breadth of information is wonderful, but it can also be overwhelming.”

Another shift is that today’s parents tend to be much more involved.

“It’s become more of a communal event,” McDermott said. “There’s stress that builds up with that sharing.”

With college applicants and their families dealing with more information, complication, and competition than ever before, how do you get through the process without pulling out your hair?

“Start early, work on your project consistently, and be open-minded in your process,” said Stephanie Kennedy, an independent educational consultant and Founder of My College Planning Team.

INFORMATION OVERLOAD?

There may be a ton of it to sort through, but getting information is a good thing.

“We read everything, and we went to about eight colleges and took tours,” said Julia Ziobro of Bellevue, Wash., a documentation manager and mother of two.
Stephanie Kennedy, an educational consultant, and Debbie Zugates, an admissions officer at Duquesne University, offered the following timeline to prepare for the application process:

**FRESHMAN YEAR:** This is when planning begins. Work with your guidance counselor to ensure you’re taking the right courses and developing your academic portfolio.

**SOPHOMORE YEAR:** This is a reasonable time to start with personal reflection of who you are and what you want in a college. Do some research online before you invest loads of time and money into college visits, but get yourself on a few campuses.

**SUMMER BEFORE JUNIOR YEAR:** Do some serious research on yourself and the colleges, but if you use this time to visit colleges, you’ll find them quiet and mostly without students and faculty – not very true to life.

**JUNIOR YEAR:** Get serious about your search and what you know you want in a college, including your learning style, the environment, and the academic rigor. Meet with college reps and attend college fairs. When you visit colleges, be sure to include a visit with students and faculty from your planned major.

It is best to not get caught up in the rankings and prestige of the college or its name recognition. This is not the same as college fit, and it can really lead you off track to the wrong choices.

**SUMMER AFTER JUNIOR YEAR:** Focus on your applications, particularly your essays, which will be required by most selective colleges. Most colleges are looking for reflective personal writing in the essays, so this is not a last-minute assignment. Consider attending a pre-college program to explore a major.

Her daughter, Joanne Moseley, found a wealth of information at her high school, which held workshops on the application process, financial aid and decision-making.

A college’s website is the best place to get information that’s factual and up to date. For the schools that catch your interest, a visit is essential, so you can really understand the “feel” of the campus.

“When you tour the campus, ask questions of your tour guide: what they do on the weekends, what is the food like, housing, etc.” said Carrie Thompson, Associate Director of Admissions at Clarion University of Pennsylvania. “The more questions you ask during your college process, the better you get to know each university and the more comfortable you will be with your final choice.”

**OUTSIDE ADVICE?**

Some families choose to hire education consultants to help find the college that’s a best fit academically, socially and financially.

The cost of these services can range from a few hundred to a few thousand dollars, said Kennedy, and many consultants will work with families on a sliding scale or do some pro bono work. “A consultant’s expertise can save a family significant time and stress as well as thousands of dollars as they help a student find a college that values them and where they will thrive,” she said.

Some high schools have counselors who can provide that kind of service, but independent counselors can help fill any gaps. “Local librarians can be very good at helping to track down and navigate resources, McDermott said.

**DON’T WAIT UNTIL YOU’RE A SENIOR**

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THE ROLE OF PARENTS

As tempting as it is to get heavily involved, parents should remember that is the student's process, said McDermott.

“The student should be filling out the forms and, whenever possible, they should schedule appointments and make travel arrangements,” she said. “Parents need to learn how to sit in the backseat and give up the steering wheel.”

Ziobro looks back and can think of one thing she’d change. Her daughter applied to 20 colleges. “I wish that she’d gotten serious about her dream schools and had narrowed her applications down to ten or fewer schools,” Ziobro said. “As it was, she got accepted to 12, waitlisted for four, and rejected by four and still struggled to decide on Smith – where she is very happy, thank goodness!”

One way parents can help ratchet down the stress is to limit the number of conversations about the process. McDermott recommends picking one day a week for family talk about colleges. “Otherwise it can become an all-consuming conversation, and fatigue and irritation will set in,” she said.

STRESS REDUCTION

Having a plan is a key part of the process, said Debbie Zugates, assistant vice president for undergraduate admissions at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. “Knowing deadlines can help make the process feel more manageable,” she said.

And knowing what to expect can help considerably, she said. “Admissions and financial aid counselors can walk you through the process so you can feel well-informed,” Zugates advised. “Talk to friends and family who have recently been through the process to get their insight.”

Stay organized throughout the process, said Barry N. Liebowitz, managing partner of International College Counselors. “Between multiple classes, homework, extracurricular activities and other responsibilities, life can get stressful,” he said. “So, find a system that works for you, including a calendar or planner and binders.

But stay balanced by finding some time to relax. “Whether it’s doing yoga, going to a movie or listening to music, it’s important to unwind,” said Liebowitz.

A final tip from McDermott: “I think keeping a sense of humor always helps.”
Want the perfect job offer before you’ve even crossed the stage at graduation? That’s every student’s dream — and it’s possible. These majors will prepare you for well-paying careers with steady growth or constant demand. Let’s take a look at each one — and the doors they’ll open for you.

**NURSING**

Nursing puts you on the front lines of health care. You should be comfortable with the sciences since you’ll take courses like anatomy, chemistry, microbiology, and nutrition. Your major will also include hands-on experience through supervised clinical internships. After you pass a national exam, you’ll be ready to practice in any setting. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing predicts nursing shortages over the next few years, so employers will be eager to hire. And it’s not uncommon for health care employers to offer sign-on bonuses, so you shouldn’t have to wait long for a well-paying job offer.

**ACCOUNTING OR FINANCE**

A career in accounting or finance will always be a safe bet. In fact, the National Association of Colleges and Employers, or NACE, named these two fields the top two in-demand degrees for 2018. Every organization needs an accounting department. Plus, with the complexity of financial investing, analysts and advisers are in high demand. You’ll take classes like accounting, financial markets and investing, microeconomics, macroeconomics, and economic theory. Your degree could also position you for a job as an actuary, a well-paying role in the insurance industry where you analyze the cost of risk.
COMPUTER SCIENCE

You'll be in hot demand by choosing computer science or a related major. Whether you want to be a software engineer, app developer, or systems administrator, computer science will give you the right foundation. In fact, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that jobs in this field are projected to grow 13 percent in the next decade, faster than most occupations. To make yourself extra marketable, take classes on cloud computing, big data, and information security.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Business administration offers highly practical skills students can apply in many different industries. This adaptability makes it easier for graduates to find work after college. Business administration was even the third most in-demand major among employers in 2018, according to NACE. You'll learn how to analyze a business' strengths, manage operations, and improve profits. Add an accounting or marketing minor to boost your resume. There are also majors that combine business administration with a growing industry, like construction or health care.

AMERICAN STUDIES

Surprised? This liberal arts degree focuses on American history, society, and culture. An American Studies major is attractive to many employers because it requires students to do in-depth research and analyze critical issues. Developing these skills prepares you for work in law, journalism, academics, government, business, and other industries. Business publisher Kiplinger even identified the field as a top major for career success. Pair this major with an internship in your desired field and you'll have a strong edge in the job market.

Above all, it's important to consider your natural skills and personality. Will you enjoy a career in this field for many years? Be sure to balance practical concerns with your quality of life.

Consider taking electives in other areas of interest or add a minor to give you more flexibility. That way, you've got a solid major to ensure great job prospects, but you've still opened the door to other opportunities that interest you. Choose wisely and good luck!
More and more students are applying early to college. Applying early is appealing to students who get to ease the agony of waiting, but also to colleges, which can take more time to evaluate individual applications and provide each student focused attention.

If your student is ready to apply to college and is confident they have met or exceeded all college requirements, applying early should be a consideration. Early decision (ED) and early action (EA) can be beneficial to your student. But before your student considers submitting an application early, they should understand the benefits and risks of applying.

WHAT IS EARLY DECISION?

Applying ED means less competition for admission slots. It also means your student receives a decision early, before regular decision offers. However, more students have elected to apply early decision, which means your student’s application must be stellar to compete with the other strong applicants.

That said, students who have decided firmly on their dream college should consider applying early decision. If your student applies ED, they can be assured their application is at the top of the applicant pool. ED application deadlines are around November 1 with decisions from the college in early to mid-December.

Early decision students have a significant advantage at many colleges. For instance, data collected from a 2018 study by the Independent Educational Consultants Association show that overall 22% of Brown University applicants were admitted. But 42% of ED applicants were admitted, as compared to only 7% admitted on regular decision.

• Early Decision: Applying ED is serious business. A student should only apply ED to a college when they are absolutely love with it and cannot picture themselves going anywhere else. Once offered admission, a student is obligated to attend and cannot apply to any other colleges during regular admission.

• Early Decision II: Early Decision II offers students the option to apply in early January and receive a binding offer of admission by February. The application deadline for this option is the same as for regular decision applicants, but these students receive admission offers sooner than regular decision applicants and must commit on acceptance.

The greatest disadvantage to applying ED is that if your student is admitted, they are obligated to accept the offer. This means if they change their mind between the time they apply and the time they receive an offer of admission, your student must discount any other colleges of interest. The offer is binding and early decision locks your student into a college choice.
Another disadvantage is the inability to compare financial aid offers. If your student requires financial aid, early decision might be a poor choice. Most ED applicants apply knowing they are prepared to pay for college without financial aid assistance. This does not mean the college won’t offer financial aid, but the aid they offer will be your only option. Applying early decision could mean your student might miss out on scholarships and merit aid opportunities at other colleges.

If an early decision applicant is deferred, the college will review the application again with the regular decision applicants. Since the odds of being admitted from a deferral are slim, your student should regroup and start looking at other colleges. They may only have a few weeks to apply by the January 1 regular decision application deadline.

**WHAT IS EARLY ACTION?**

Early action offers students the flexibility to receive a decision early in the process even if they are not comfortable committing to one college. If your student’s application is already top-notch, applying EA to a desirable college would mean they wouldn’t be competing with the droves of applicants who apply regular decision. Early action affords your student the luxury of more time to decide on a college and evaluate financial aid offers if they apply to multiple schools. EA deadlines are around November 1 with decisions arriving early to mid-December.

Early action programs vary widely. Some restrict participants from simultaneously applying early to other schools. Other programs allow students to apply early to other colleges that interest them. Still, other programs have complex rules. It’s crucial to understand the types of early action programs available:

- **Early Action:** Colleges that offer this option promise a quick response if your student submits a completed application by their early deadline. Students admitted EA don’t have to promise to matriculate; they just want to hear back sooner than usual.
- **Restricted Early Action:** Sometimes known as Early Action Single Choice, this option works much like standard EA admissions, but students are limited in the number of other colleges where they can submit early applications — and that number is often zero.

Colleges do this for a number of reasons, but they most often want the student to show a special commitment to their college.

The obvious benefits to applying early action are the student is not obligated to attend that college and they have the freedom to wait until May 1 to make a final decision. Since students can usually apply to other colleges when applying early action, they have the luxury of weighing their options when offers of admission arrive. Applying EA also offers your student the flexibility to compare financial aid offers from other colleges before committing.

If your student is interested in one college but also wants to keep their options open, applying early action is a wise choice. It has the benefits of ED without the risks of a binding commitment. The only risk your student may be taking is a time crunch. If your student applies EA to only one college and is not offered admission, there are only a few weeks left to submit other applications before the January regular decision deadline.

**THE BENEFITS AND RISKS OF APPLYING EARLY DECISION AND EARLY ACTION**

In college admissions, the early bird gets the worm. If your student is set on one school, then applying early makes sense. Focusing all efforts on one college can make the application process easier. In addition, early applicants receive notification of acceptance before the winter break, allowing your student to enjoy the balance of their senior year.

When choosing which application path is right for your student, be informed of the options available at each college. If they are ready and have considered all the possible outcomes, apply early. There are benefits and disadvantages to choosing the early application path; but if your student understands the risks and evaluates carefully the benefits, applying early decision or early action could be the perfect choice.

Don’t forget that even though your student may be declined early admission, there are always other options available. Regular admission and rolling admission will give your student the opportunity to apply to college and receive other offers of admission. It’s never too late to readjust the college course.
BEYOND THE SCORE:
Five Factors Admissions Officers Really Care About

BY LISA MEYERS

Everyone knows that grades are key in college admissions, and at most schools, scores on the SAT or ACT play an important role as well. But beyond these basics — and if you’re not an athletic star or the child of an alumnus or bigtime donor — what is it that sets some students apart? Here are five factors admissions officers consider:

EXTRACURRICULARS: It would be a mistake to stuff your resume with as many extracurricular activities as you can jam into your schedule, says Bonnie Rabin, college admissions adviser and founder of College Career Consulting in Florida. “Only do what you’re interested in,” she said. “Look for connections to your academics or intended areas of study.”

Extracurricular activities might connect to your interests in obvious ways; maybe you’re a future environmental sciences major leading a campaign to reduce reliance on single-use plastic. But don’t be afraid to look at activities that might bring unexpected depth to your story.

Rabin recalls a future pre-med student who wrote his successful essay about how his work as a supermarket clerk would help him be a better doctor because he had learned how to deal kindly with difficult customers.

COURSE SELECTION: It’s well known that students should show that they’re not afraid of taking the most challenging courses at their schools. But be selective, Rabin counsels, taking the more difficult classes that are either of interest to you or that will help make your case.

Future engineering majors won’t get a major boost by taking AP U.S. History, she said; colleges care more about whether they take calculus.

ESSAYS: When admissions officers are looking at a slew of equally qualified candidates, it’s often the essay that will make the difference, Rabin says. Remember that the college wants to get a sense of you and what kind of contribution you will make to the campus community.

Write about things that sincerely matter to you, not what you think will matter to an admissions officer. Go deep: Be prepared to reflect on your experiences or the book you love most. Tell about what you learned and how you changed from that experience.

TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS: Try for a letter that will mark you as special. How? College consulting company Ivy Coach recommends writing the letter yourself, or at least sections of it, detailing some of the special things you accomplished and what stood out about you. Teachers who have more than 100 students a year are unlikely to remember many specifics, so you can offer your version by calling it notes that you hope will be useful to them.

In many cases, teachers will pick up the ideas, or even adopt sections verbatim, if they feel it is an accurate reflection of your work.

COMPETITIONS: Entering competitions can set you apart from other applicants, Rabin says. It shows you’re willing to bring your interests into the outside world, and test your accomplishments — whether they’re in rocketry, writing, art, or inventing — against those of others.
It can be fun to daydream about college: the ivy-draped campus, making new friends in the dorm, long intellectual discussions with like-minded classmates. Thinking about paying for it all, however, is far less fun.

For the 2018-19 school year, the average cost for an in-state student at a four-year public college was $9,716, according to U.S. News & World Report. Want to attend a private school? The average price tag rockets to more than $35,600. And the numbers keep inching up every year.

So what are educationally ambitious students — and their parents — to do? Fear not: You have options beyond buying a lottery ticket and crossing your fingers. Here are seven of our favorite strategies to get that final college bill down to a manageable number:

**LET'S MAKE A DEAL!**
Sure, you can negotiate with car dealers and flea market vendors, but colleges? Absolutely. Many colleges are willing to do a little haggling on the price of an education.

To make it work, marshal your numbers and then make your case. Don't just rely on the school’s estimates of what a year will cost and what you should be able to afford. Do the math yourself so you have a crystal clear idea how much money you need to receive in financial aid or scholarships to make the school a viable option.

Then, write a letter to the school outlining your request and the logical reasons you need more assistance. Perhaps you have unexpected expenses, or your family is in a precarious financial position. If other colleges have offered better aid packages, mention that too. Schools have more incentive to help out if they know they might lose you to the competition. Follow up your letter with a phone call to the financial aid office and always be persistent, but pleasant.

**SERVE YOUR COUNTRY.**
Some of the most generous scholarships available come
from the U.S. Armed Services. Join the Reserve Officer Training Corps — you probably know it as ROTC — and the military will pay for as much as 100% of your tuition, plus an additional sum for living expenses. The Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marines all have ROTC options; the Coast Guard’s College Student Pre-Commissioning Initiative offers a similar program.

The trade-off is significant. To qualify for the scholarship, you have to commit to some combination of active duty and reserve military service for several years, generally from four to eight. If a military career intrigues you, however, these programs offer an outstanding and affordable way to pursue both your educational and your service goals.

**CHOOSE A CO-OP.**
Not all colleges approach education and career preparation the same way. Some schools offer co-op programs, in which students spend a semester or more working paid jobs in their fields instead of taking classes.

Taking this route requires some careful research to make sure you are not stuck in unpaid internships. Just about every college promises enticing internship opportunities for students. A true co-op experience, however, integrates the work experience thoroughly into the curriculum, only connects students with paid work, and offers significant assistance in finding a relevant gig.

**PURSUE PRIVATE SCHOLARSHIPS.**
You don't have to be valedictorian or a star athlete to score a scholarship. There are scholarships out there for golf caddies, vegetarians, aspiring funeral services professionals, left-handed applicants, and outstanding amateur duck-callers (no, really). Whoever you are, there is probably a scholarship for you.

You can also look for scholarships that you can enter by answering a question, writing an essay, or completing a small task. For its Easy Scholarships, DoSomething.org asks applicants to do a small service project then enters them to win scholarships of $2,500 or more. Or, write 250 words explaining how you’d survive the zombie apocalypse and enter to win a $1,500 scholarship from Unigo.

And if you really dedicate yourself to the search, Debit.com offers a $500 scholarship for the student who applies to the most scholarships.

**CONSIDER COMMUNITY COLLEGE.**
Don’t turn up your nose at your local community college. Spending a year or two at a public two-year school can make the difference between owing thousands and graduating debt-free.

According to the American Association of Community Colleges, a year of community college costs less than $3,700 on average. By spending two years at community college, then transferring to a four-year school, you could easily save more than $12,000. Living at home during those years can amplify your savings.

To make the most of this plan, focus on core courses during your time at community college so you can delve into your major once you reach your dream school.

**GIVE YOURSELF SOME CREDITS.**
If you arrive at school with college credits already earned, you will have to take fewer classes to graduate. And fewer classes often translates into lower bills.

How do you earn those college credits? The most common route is taking Advanced Placement (AP) classes in high school and scoring well on the year-end test. So consider taking as many AP classes as your workload (and sanity) allow.

Another option is a dual enrollment program, in which high school students take classes at a local community college. These classes count toward high school graduation requirements and earn students college credit. As a bonus, the programs often let you explore subjects not offered by your high school. Be careful though — make sure your credits will transfer to most colleges.

**GET A JOB. BUT NOT JUST ANY JOB.**
Working to pay your tuition bill is a time-honored tradition. But score a job at the right place and you can get even more help with your college costs. Many major companies offer programs that pay for some or all of their employees’ college educations.

Work part time at Home Depot and get up to $1,500 towards your college costs. Starbucks covers 100% of employees’ tuition when they enroll in an online degree program through Arizona State University. Even more companies offer tuition benefits when employees pursue a degree in a field related to the company.
It’s time to start thinking about the big college admissions test. So which one will it be: the SAT or the ACT? Let us help you figure it out.

**What are the differences in the format?**
Both the ACT and SAT include four multiple-choice sections presented in the same order every time. The SAT includes reading, writing and language, math with a calculator, and math without a calculator. The ACT includes English, math, reading, and science. Both include an optional essay.

With essay, the SAT lasts 3 hours and 50 minutes, and the ACT takes 3 hours and 35 minutes.

**So the timing is about the same?**
Kind of. The time you will spend in the room is very similar between the two tests. But the SAT contains a total of 154 questions, giving you about 1 minute 10 seconds per question, while the ACT has 215 questions, for a rate of about 49 seconds per question – and that 20 second gap can make a significant difference in the time stress you feel, especially if you are prone to test anxiety.

**How do the scores work?**
The SAT combines the reading section with the writing and language section to create one verbal score (technically called the “evidence-based reading and writing” score) and adds up the math sections to get an overall math score. Each score runs from 200 to 800, for a total between 400 and 1600.

Then median score among SAT test-takers in 2017 was 1055; to score better than 80 percent of your peers, you’d have needed a 1230. (Way more details available from the College Board.)
The ACT gives you a score between 1 and 36 on each section, then averages the four numbers to get your composite score. From 2015 to 2107, the median ACT score was roughly 20; a 26 would outscore 82 percent of test-takers. (Check out the ACT numbers.)

Wait a minute ... the ACT includes science? How much science do I need to know?
The short answer is: not much. The science section is less about knowing the parts of a cell or the rules of thermodynamics, and more about how well you know the overarching principles and skills needed to understand science. The test asks you to read charts and graphs, draw conclusions from data, identify experimental variables and controls, and occasionally apply given formulas to new information.

It can absolutely look a bit overwhelming the first time you tackle it, but, with practice and familiarity, the science section is no more complex or challenging that any other parts of the test.

What’s the deal with the math? Which one is easier?
It depends on your particular math strengths and weaknesses.

Compared to the SAT, the ACT definitely includes some more advanced math concepts, such as basic trigonometry and more challenging geometry. ACT problems are presented in a very straightforward, almost textbooky way.

The SAT, on the other hand, focuses more on mastering and applying linear algebra and understanding data. The problems often describe real-world situations and ask students to use their math knowledge to draw conclusions.

The SAT has a section that does not allow a calculator; calculators are welcome for the entirety of the ACT math test.

What about reading and writing?
The English section of the ACT and the writing and language section of the SAT are nearly identical. You read a passage and, as you go, answer questions about grammar, word choice, style and punctuation. The major difference: The SAT includes occasional graphs to read and interpret in the writing section. I know, it’s weird.

The reading is a bit more variable. The ACT always presents four passages with 10 questions each. The questions don’t generally come in the same order the answers appear in the reading – the final question could be about the first paragraph. In the SAT, the questions are ordered to follow the passage. The SAT also includes some questions in a unique format: Paired problems first ask you a question about content, then ask you to choose the line that best supports your previous answer.

Are the essay sections the same?
Not at all. The SAT asks you to read a passage and write an essay analyzing the persuasive techniques – word choice, tone, literary devices – the author uses to create a compelling argument. The ACT describes an issue – artificial intelligence or funding for the arts, for example – then provides three possible perspectives on the matter. You are asked to evaluate the three points of view and come to your own conclusion about the question.

Most test-takers find they have a decided preference for one essay format over the other. Remember, however, the essay score is not wrapped into your overall score, and many schools don’t even require an essay score.

Do colleges prefer one test to the other?
Nope.

OK, but how do I decide which one to take?
Generally speaking, the SAT may be right for you if you have concerns about timing, prefer math problems that apply concepts to real situations, or feel you need a little more guidance in reading comprehension. The ACT might be a better choice if you are comfortable with scientific principles and advanced math, not totally comfortable with vocabulary questions, or really want to have your calculator by your side.

In reality, though, the best way to pick the right test is to take a practice test (here’s the SAT and here’s the ACT), determine your initial scores, and decide which one feels better to you. It is hard to overstate the value of going into the test a little more relaxed and confident. So try them both out, then go with your instincts.
Teachers know it, guidance counselors know it, and even colleges know it: High school students dread writing the personal college essay.

The pressure is high, the word count is low and it can be next to impossible to know where to start. While there are dozens of resources online telling you what you should include, knowing what you shouldn't include can be just as helpful. Luckily for you, admissions counselors tend to be vocal about how to avoid a swift kick into the rejection pile.

College admissions counselors are always on the lookout for unique, memorable essays to give them a better picture of the applicant’s personality. It’s extremely important for them to feel they know applicants beyond their GPA and SAT scores. With thousands of qualified applicants vying for the same slots at major universities, an exceptional college essay can be the difference between being accepted or rejected.

So how can you set yourself apart from thousands of other high school seniors? It may be simpler than you think. Find a unique subject, a story only you can tell, and be sure to avoid the following cliché personal essay topics:

**HOW SEEING OTHER PEOPLE’S SUFFERING MADE YOU APPRECIATE YOUR OWN PRIVILEGE.**  
This is perhaps the most egregious of all college essay topics. Admissions counselors cringe when these essays come across their desks, and with good reason. While your mission trip or high school volunteer work may have indeed changed your perspective,
framing another’s suffering as a way to propel yourself to greater happiness comes across as out of touch and condescending. Universities are leery of accepting students who lack the empathy to realize the issue with this perspective. Be careful not to use the less fortunate to highlight your relative privilege.

YOUR FIRST EXPERIENCE WITH DEATH.
Dealing with death, especially the death of a loved one, is certainly a formative experience. While admissions counselors understand and appreciate the impact death can have on a student’s life, this topic rarely sheds new light on an applicant. The purpose of the personal essay is to provide a more nuanced picture of the student in question. While writing about dealing with the death of a loved one may be touching, grief is typically too universal a topic to set an applicant apart. (Typically, stories about divorce fall under this same umbrella.)

TELL A STORY IN WHICH YOU’RE THE TRIUMPHANT HERO.
In college admissions essays (and in life), there is nothing less flattering than someone droning on about their own virtue. Universities are much more interested in accepting humble, hard-working students than self-aggrandizing egomaniacs. There’s a reason why we root for the underdog in movies, or why superheroes have personal challenges despite their physical advantages. Perfection is boring, and it makes for painfully dull essays. Instead of the story of how you made the game-winning shot, tell the story of how you went from ball-hog to team player and how it positively impacted your life.

WHAT YOU LEARNED FROM YOUR SPORTS WIN/LOSS.
Almost every young athlete has a story of a sports loss or victory that helped define them. Unfortunately, that’s precisely the problem with picking this topic for your college essay. Admissions counselors read several variations of the same sports story several times a day. There’s nothing particularly notable about a student athlete scoring a winning goal or missing an important pass. Sure, there are moral lessons to be learned from victory and failure, but these lessons are familiar and predictable. Unless you’re confident that your experience with high school sports was so unique that no one else could possibly write a similar essay, try to find a different topic.

THE PRESSURE IS HIGH, THE WORD COUNT IS LOW AND IT CAN BE NEXT TO IMPOSSIBLE TO KNOW WHERE TO START. WHILE THERE ARE DOZENS OF RESOURCES ONLINE TELLING YOU WHAT YOU SHOULD INCLUDE, KNOWING WHAT YOU SHOULDN’T INCLUDE CAN BE JUST AS HELPFUL.

WHAT YOU LEARNED FROM FAILURE … WHEN YOU DIDN’T REALLY FAIL.
When people are asked to discuss a personal weakness in a job interview, they’ll often provide a weakness that can also be interpreted as a strength. They might say they take on too many responsibilities or struggle with perfectionism, for fear of appearing too flawed to earn the position. In the same way, students are often wary of admitting their faults and failures to admissions counselors. They fear judgement and ultimately, rejection. However, admissions counselors know their prospective students are human and prone to error. Honesty and humility are far more important than perfection. Don’t be afraid to discuss how true failure shaped you.

If this list contained college essay topic you planned to write about, don’t despair. Admissions counselors are quick to mention that the right “angle” can make many of these topics acceptable. If you have a truly one-of-a-kind perspective on any of these issues that no one else could write, then feel free to use it! The key to composing the best college essay possible is to tell a unique story that reveals something important about who you are as an individual.

We all have stories that only we can tell. Tell yours with confidence!
Get a taste of college life, explore possible majors, or challenge your comfort zone in a foreign country. A summer program is the perfect way to learn more about your interests – and yourself – while boosting your college application and maybe even earning college credit. Your college essay will write itself after an experience like any of these!

**INTOPREP SAT/ACT TEST PREP CAMPS**
Everything is ready but your SAT/ACT score is short for your dream college? Please join us at our Bryn Mawr Residential Camp or one of our day camps. INTO PREP offers the unbeatable Score Guarantee: Improve your SAT/ACT Score by 270/6 points, or earn a score of at least 1500/33 points. We also offer fall and spring classes.
Location: Bryn Mawr, PA
intoprep.net/courses/sat-psat-prep

**LIFELAUNCHR**
LifeLaunchr provides expert, personalized college admissions coaching to help students find their best-fit college and get in. Starting as early as freshman year, LifeLaunchr helps students with all aspects of the admissions process: essays, college selection, application assistance, financial aid, and scholarships.
Location: Online
www.lifelaunchr.com/schedule-your-free-consultation/

**ABBEEK ROAD PROGRAMS**
Stanford alumni founded Abbey Road’s study abroad summer programs to provide quality academic programs that facilitate cross-cultural understanding, personal growth, and academic enrichment. Teens get to see some of the most beautiful sites in Europe and North America, learn foreign languages, experience true language and cultural immersion while having the time of your life!
Location(s): Multiple Locations
www.goabbeyroad.com

**ACADIA INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY**
Acadia Institute of Oceanography’s Advanced Sessions are pre-college summer courses offered to students ages 15-19 who have completed one year of high school science, preferably biology or chemistry. These 2-week sessions are of an analytical nature, and students are expected to prepare laboratory reports and analysis of their field work. We also offer students the chance to explore their collegiate options with college tours and the opportunity to receive 4 credits from the University of Maine Machias.
Location: Seal Harbor, ME
www.acadiainstitute.com

**AMERICAN UNIVERSITY - DISCOVER THE WORLD OF COMMUNICATIONS**
Discover the World of Communication at American University offers interactive workshops for students entering grades 9-12. You will learn to build a digital portfolio, write a script, shoot and edit a film, write a news story like a pro, speak with confidence, persuade, inform, educate and entertain.
Location: Washington, DC
www.american.edu/soc/discover

**ALFRED UNIVERSITY SUMMER PROGRAMS**
Alfred University offers summer programs in Astronomy, Art, Creative Writing, Computers, Ceramic & Glass Engineering, Robotics, Equestrian and Swimming. Students enjoy learning, making friends, and experiencing life on a college campus. With our dynamic, engaging, talented and caring faculty; terrific facilities; and lovely surroundings, an Alfred University summer program could make this your best summer ever!
Location: Alfred, NY
www.alfred.edu/about/community/summer-programs

**AMDA SUMMER CONSERVATORY NYC+LA**
AMDA’s High School Summer Conservatory provides world-class performing arts training - changing the lives of young performers. Choose between campuses in New York City or Hollywood for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to live and train in the heart of the entertainment capitals of the world.
Location(s): Los Angeles, CA; New York, NY
www.amda.edu

**BOSTON ARCHITECTURAL COLLEGE: SUMMER PROGRAMS**
Summer Academy at the Boston Architectural College (BAC) is a design exploration program for high school students entering grades 10 and above. Students explore both fundamental design skills and critical thinking skills through drawing, collage, photography, model-making and mapping complex systems. They learn to use laser cutters, 3D printers, CNC routers, and design virtual reality environments. Visit design firms and museums. Scholarships available.
Location: Boston, MA
thebascalsummeracademy.wordpress.com

**BOSTON LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE**
Take part in our award-winning summer STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) teen programs. Students will engage in experimental research & take exciting field trips. Options include Biology, Chemistry,
Biomedical Research, Engineering, Psychology, Neuroscience, and STEM Entrepreneurship.
Location: Wellesley, MA
bostonleadershipinstitute.com

BOSTON UNIVERSITY SUMMER TERM
This summer, prepare for your college future with exciting and challenging summer programs for high school students at Boston University Summer Term. With five programs to choose from, you can earn college credit, discover new subject areas, perform cutting-edge research in university labs, or immerse yourself in hands-on learning.
Location: Boston, MA
www.bu.edu/summer/high-school-programs

BROWN UNIVERSITY PRE-COLLEGE PROGRAMS
Each summer, talented high school students from around the world enroll in Brown PreCollege Programs to experience Ivy League academics and prepare for a successful transition to college. There are more than 300 courses, in one to seven week sessions, on campus, online, or around the world, to choose from.
Location: Providence, RI
precollege.brown.edu

CENTER FOR STUDY ABROAD
For over 20 years, CSA has offered non profit, low cost study abroad opportunities for students and worldwide. High quality, accredited programs that are affordable, open to all worldwide, have easy registration and are flexible. Participants can earn college/academic credits. Locations include Australia, Central and Latin America, Asia, Europe and the Caribbean.
Location(s): Multiple Locations
www.centerforstudyabroad.com

CENTRO MUNDOLENGUA
Are you a Middle or High School student wanting an adventure? If you can’t wait until college to study abroad, then don’t worry, we’ve got you covered! At Centro MundoLengua we offer a large variety of programs for teenagers wanting to study in Spain! In fact, we even offer volunteering opportunities too! Location(s): Multiple Destinations
www.centromundolengua.com

CLOSE UP FOUNDATION (ACLU SUMMER INSTITUTE)
The ACLU Summer Institute will bring together a diverse group of students to participate in a firsthand learning experience for the next generation of social justice advocates. Students will learn directly from lawyers, lobbyists and community activists working to defend civil rights and liberties critical to a free and open society.
Location: Washington, DC
www.aclu.org/issues/aclu-summer-institute

COLLEGE OF WILLIAM & MARY: PRE-COLLEGE SUMMER PROGRAM IN EARLY AMERICAN HISTORY
The William & Mary Pre-College Program in Early American History immerses rising high school juniors in seniors in history through visits to historic sites and museums in Virginia. Students earn 4 hours of transferrable college credit for their work during the 3 week residential program.
Location: Williamsburg, VA
www.wm.edu/as/niahd/precollegiatesummer

CONCORDIA LANGUAGE VILLAGES
Our summer language programs immerse teens in one of 15 languages: Arabic, Chinese, Danish, English, Finnish, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Norwegian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish or Swedish. Our programs are a powerful combination of language immersion and summer camp fun.
Location: Moorhead, MN
www.concordialanguagevillages.org

CORNELL UNIVERSITY SUMMER COLLEGE PROGRAMS FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
Cornell University Summer College offers precollege programs for motivated high school students. Experience the excitement of college life, take college courses with renowned faculty, and enjoy an “unforgettable, life-changing summer with around 1,000 other high school students.”
Location: Ithaca, NY
www.sce.cornell.edu/sc

COUNCIL ON INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE (CIEE)
Our immersive programs are 3 to 4 weeks long and offer an ideal balance between interactive coursework, travel adventures and engagement with local students and families. Explore the world and come home with new skills, newfound passion - and maybe even college credits!
Location(s): Multiple Locations
www.ciee.org/go-abroad/high-school-study-abroad/summer/make-next-summer-count

CROSS CULTURAL SOLUTIONS
CCS Summer High School Volunteer Abroad programs are designed for curious, passionate, and adventurous high school students who want to serve others and connect to another culture while traveling abroad.
Location(s): Multiple Locations
www.crossculturalsolutions.org/high-school-volunteer-abroad

DUKE UNIVERSITY YOUTH PROGRAMS
Duke Youth Programs offers a wide range of intellectually stimulating and fun activities for middle and high school students. Participants can choose from a variety of options--writing, STEM, leadership and video production. Held on Duke University’s beautiful campus, participants will have the chance to experience college life.
Location: Raleigh, NC
learnmore.duke.edu/youth
EDU-PAL CHINA
Edu-Pal China is an international cultural exchange program that focuses on teaching English in a home environment while also being fully immersed in Chinese culture. With food and accommodation taken care of, you will also have the option for free Mandarin classes, city tours and travels.
Location: Shenzhen, China
www.edupalchina.org/copy-of

EF INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE CAMPUSES
Learn a language abroad on the adventure of a lifetime. You will see the world, experience a new culture, and make friends from 100 countries as you prepare for your global future. Start any Monday and study from two weeks to a whole year. Ages 13 and up.
Location(s): Multiple Locations
www.ef.edu/iis

ENGINEERING SUMMER ACADEMY AT PENN
The Engineering Summer Academy at Penn offers a unique summer opportunity for a select group of motivated and talented high school students. Experience rigorous and challenging college-level studies at our high-tech, ivy-league program in the heart of Philadelphia!
Location: Philadelphia, PA
esap.seas.upenn.edu

EXPERIENCE AMERICA: PROJECT FASHION AT UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (USC)
Do you dream of being a renowned designer, stylist, or the next Anna Wintour? Then join us at the University of Southern California to see what it takes to pursue a career in fashion. Industry veterans will guide and mentor you during your exploration of the ever-changing fashion scene.
Location: Los Angeles, CA
fashion.experienceamerica.com

GAME EXPERIENCE - GAME DESIGN CAMPS
Calling all gamers, we have the summer program for you! Our Game Experience program will introduce you to the world of game development. Learn from industry experts like professional developers and top-notch animation artists from AAA studios. Pack your laptops, because this summer is going to be epic!
Location: Seattle, WA
game.experienceamerica.com

GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SUMMER & SPECIAL PROGRAMS
The George Washington University’s Pre-College summer programs provide high school students with hands-on learning opportunities in and outside the classroom by taking advantage of GW’s strengths in research, diverse communities, and a vast network of local and global partnerships.
Location: Washington, DC
summer.gwu.edu/precollege

GEORGE TOWN SUMMER PROGRAMS FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
This summer, experience the excitement of college life at Georgetown University. Our Summer High School Programs offer the opportunity to live on campus, explore a range of subjects, and meet classmates from around the world.
Location: Washington, DC
summer.georgetown.edu

GLOBAL ROUTES
Globat Routes pioneers innovative, value-driven, experiential international education. The New York Times calls us “one of the most respected [organizations] in the field.” Over 10,000 students have had transformative experiences through our industry-leading approach to community service, adventure travel and cross-cultural exchange. Locations include Central and South America, Africa, Caribbean and Asia.
Location(s): Multiple Locations
www.globalroutes.org

ID TECH CAMPS
This summer, teens can explore a top campus, make friends as they master new tech skills, and join a community of over 400,000 alumni. At iD Tech Camps, students build in-demand skills in coding, game development, robotics engineering, and design. The top universities on the planet—Stanford, NYU, Caltech—have trusted and hosted our programs for over 20 years, inspiring students to dream BIG.
Location(s): Multiple Locations
www.idtech.com/tech-camps

IDYLLWILD ARTS ACADEMY
Idyllwild Arts has the attention of The Hollywood Reporter, which says “Lenny Kravitz and Paula Abdul have attended the music school, while Steven Spielberg and Annette Bening have sent children.” Writing, music, theatre, film, fashion, dance, and visual arts for teens on the forested campus two hours from L.A.
Location: Idyllwild, CA
www.idyllwildarts.org/summer/teens-kids

INWARD BOUND MINDFULNESS EDUCATION
On iBme teen retreats we practice meditation techniques and mindful movement, connect in small discussion groups, participate in fun workshops and have free time to make lifelong friends. Our programming guides teens in developing self-awareness, compassion, and ethical decision making, and empowers them to apply these skills in improving their lives and communities.
Location(s): USA & Canada
ibme.info/programs/youth

ISSOS AT YALE SUMMER PROGRAM
Our exclusive ISSOS summer schools offer high school students from over 80 nationalities (aged 13-18) the opportunity to combine...
learning, creative enrichment and action-packed adventure in one of three amazing, historic and picturesque university towns of St Andrews, Cambridge and Yale. Location: New Haven, CT www.issos.com

LAUNCH GENERATION
Summer programs for teens focused on financial literacy leadership and entrepreneurship. Structured as a hybrid of a conference and a summer camp, we introduce personal goal setting and finance skills through the lens of entrepreneurship, helping teens successfully launch out of high school into the next chapter of their lives.
Location: San Diego, CA www.launch-generation.com

LOYOLA MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY PRE-COLLEGE SUMMER PROGRAMS (LMU)
LMU offers an engaging opportunity for motivated high school students to get a sneak peek at college life through a unique two week experience designed to challenge students’ critical & creative ways of thinking.
Location: Los Angeles, CA summer.lmu.edu

NATIONAL OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP SCHOOL (NOLS)
Dive in and discover the wonders of the outdoors. NOLS Adventure Courses and Classic Expeditions for teens offer a curriculum specifically designed to focus on their needs. These expeditions provide an opportunity to disconnect from technology and reconnect in the wilderness. Each course introduces lifelong leadership skills to prepare students for leadership roles in school, on teams and beyond.
Location(s): Multiple Destinations www.nols.edu

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR TALENT DEVELOPMENT
Northwestern University’s Center for Talent Development Summer Program has earned global recognition as a premiere learning experience. Academically advanced students enjoy academic challenge through fast-paced enrichment, honors, and Advanced Placement® courses, taught in a highly supportive environment.
Location: Evanston, IL www.ctd.northwestern.edu/summer2019

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE PREP
Experience college life at Northwestern University this summer in the College Prep Program. High school sophomores and juniors can take undergraduate courses for college credit, or enroll in a two-week IN FOCUS seminar in a special topic area.
Location: Evanston, IL sps.northwestern.edu/college-preparation

OTIS COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN COLLEGE PREPARATION PROGRAM
Otis College's four-week, pre-college art & design program is designed to develop your artistic and creative skills. Serious young artists seeking to strengthen and enhance their art and design skills, as well as students with limited art training, are invited to participate.
Location: Los Angeles, CA www.otis.edu/summer-art

OXBOW SUMMER ART CAMP: VISUAL ARTS IMMERSION PROGRAM
Oxbow Summer Art Camp is a unique art-immersion program in Napa, CA, which inspires teens to discover and develop their art practice and sense of self. Each summer we bring together an inspiring group of artists who are passionate teachers, learners and creators. We build an open-minded community in which teens can deeply engage in studios and activities.
Location: Napa, CA www.oxbowschool.org/summer

PATHWAYS TO CELL STEM SCIENCE
Learn cutting-edge science from professional researchers working hands-on with stem cells in a biotech lab? We offer this and more! Pathways to Stem Cell Science is the world’s only biotech-based provider of career education & STEM programs.
Location: Monrovia, CA stemcellpath.com

PHILLIPS ACADEMY SUMMER SESSION
Phillips Academy Summer Session offers a rigorous, engaging academic program for middle and high school students, with day- and boarding programs available on its 500-acre Andover campus. With over 60 courses, including online and hybrid classes, Andover’s summer programs serve students from all over the world.
Location: Andover, MA www.andover.edu/summer

QUARTER ZERO’S ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMS
Quarter Zero’s (QØ) Catapult Incubator is the summer entrepreneurship program for young people with entrepreneurial potential. Our 6-week summer entrepreneurship program offers students hands-on, exclusive insight into the world of entrepreneurship, as they work on a team of peers and industry professionals (not professors) to grow a real company.
Location(s): Multiple Locations www.quarterzero.com/catapult-incubator
SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO (SAIC)
SAIC’s Early College Program is a great way to earn college credit and explore your passion for art at one of the most historically significant accredited independent schools of art and design in the nation, in the heart of Chicago!
Location: Chicago, IL
www.saic.edu/continuing-studies/high-school/summer

SEVILLE ABROAD: SUMMER PROGRAMS IN SPAIN
Seville Abroad is an educational immersion experience that helps you to approach a lifestyle that is different to the one which you are use to, in order for you to learn how to open up to other cultures, to communicate in another language and, in short, to offer you another part of the world that can enrich your personal life experience.
Location: Seville, Spain
sevilleabroad.com/summer-program-in-spain

SOAR WYOMING
SOAR offers high adventure summer camps designed specifically for young adults between diagnosed with ADHD and LD. Each of our summer camp programs promotes friendships, increase self-confidence, and develop life skills.
Location: Dubois, WY
soarnc.org

ST. JOHN’S COLLEGE SUMMER ACADEMY
The Summer Academy provides an authentic, hands-on introduction to the liberal arts, the great books, and to St. John’s unique pedagogy. Off-campus excursions are fun and provide a great introduction to the rich culture and history of the surrounding areas in Annapolis or Santa Fe.
Location(s): Annapolis, MD; Santa Fe, NM
www.sjc.edu/summer-academy

STANFORD UNIVERSITY PRE-COLLEGIATE STUDIES (SPCS)
Stanford Pre-Collegiate Summer Institutes have summer residential programs held on Stanford campus that provides academically talented and intellectually curious students currently in grades 8–11 with intensive study in a single course.
Location: Stanford, CA
summerinstitutes.spcs.stanford.edu

SUMMER SPRINGBOARD
Summer Springboard provides pre-college summer programs on the campuses of UC Berkeley, Yale, Georgetown, Duke, and Northwestern. Our mission is to help students increase their self-awareness so they can make decisions about college selection, academic majors, and careers that reflect their personal vision for success.
Location(s): Multiple Cities, USA
summerspringboard.com

SUMMER STUDIOS AT MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN
Summer Studios is an intensive four-week program for the young artist who is serious about his or her work. Students from around the world come together to experience MassArt and the environment of a higher education institution in the visual arts. Students take three required foundation classes and one elective, and are able to see the development of their work over the program. The program also offers a number of special events, and students participate in a closing exhibition of their work.
Location: Boston, MA
massart.edu/summer-studios

THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY SUMMER PROGRAMS
The College of New Jersey offers Pre-College Programs for high school students that focus on learning through community service, college readiness, career exploration, community-engaged learning, academic and experiential research with TCNJ faculty. Some of the offerings are credit-bearing while other are non-credit. Some programs are residential, while others are daytime. Visit our website to learn more!
Location: Ewing, NJ
precollege.pages.tcnj.edu

THE EXPERIMENTORY AT DEERFIELD ACADEMY FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS
An innovative middle school summer program, the Experimentory at Deerfield Academy allows students to delve into project-based, creative learning. We focus on collaborating and communicating, fostering creativity, and developing how we look at the world. It’s also a chance to try one of a top boarding school.
Location: Deerfield, MA
deerfield.edu/the-experimentory-at-deerfield-academy

TRAVEL FOR TEENS
Travel For Teens believes that summer travel should be both fun and enriching. We offer cultural exploration, community service, language, and photography as well as Younger Teens and Older Teens programs to Europe, Africa, Latin America, Oceania, Asia, and North America for students entering 8th grade through college.
Location(s): Multiple Destinations
www.travelforteens.com
UCONN PRE-COLLEGE SUMMER
UConn Pre-College Summer provides rising high school juniors and seniors the opportunity to live and learn through four challenging and intensive one-week sessions to choose from at UConn Storrs, a nationally ranked public university campus.
Location: Storrs, CT pcs.uconn.edu

UMASS AMHERST SUMMER PRE-COLLEGE
UMass Amherst Summer Pre-College provides an opportunity for motivated high school students to earn college credit in an academic or research based program, live in the premium Honors Residential Community, eat in our award-winning dining hall, and discover what makes Amherst an amazing college town.
Location: Amherst, MA www.umass.edu/summer

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND OFFICE OF EXTENDED STUDIES
The Terp Young Scholars program invites high school students with exceptional ability and promise to an outstanding pre-college experience at the University of Maryland. During three weeks in July, students earn three college credits and learn about university life.
Location: College Park, MD oes.umd.edu/middle-high-school-students/terp-young-scholars

VISIONS SERVICE ADVENTURES
We hold an unfailing belief in the ability of teens to contribute to a better future. Through collaborative service work, community building and cross-cultural living, VISIONS participants develop an enduring sense of purpose and a deeper understanding of themselves and the world.
Location(s): USA, International www.visions-service.com

WAGNER COLLEGE PRE-MED & SCIENCE PRE-COLLEGE PROGRAMS
Experience college life, earn college credit and explore the city that never sleeps. The Wagner College Summer Pre-College Program provides motivated high school students with invaluable opportunities to grow and learn in New York.
Location: Staten Island, NY wagner.edu/pre-college

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY SUMMER IMMERSION PROGRAMS
The Wake Forest Summer Immersion Program is a hands-on learning experience. Students dive deep into a field of study with access to world-class faculty, researchers, and industry professionals.
Location: Winston-Salem, NC immersion.summer.wfu.edu

WASATCH ACADEMY SUMMER PROGRAMS
Experience interactive, personalized academics. The Wasatch Academy summer program gives students from around the world an interactive learning environment in small classes with individualized teaching. For students seeking a truly personalized, one-on-one learning approach coupled with a whole lot of summer fun.
Location: Mt. Pleasant, UT www.wasatchacademy.org/academics/summer-programs

WELLESLEY COLLEGE: SUMMER PROGRAMS
The Wellesley Pre-College Summer Residential Programs are designed for young, ambitious, and driven women who want to prepare for the academic rigors of a top liberal arts college. While advancing students academically, these programs provide the opportunity to gain confidence and build leadership skills beyond the classroom.
Location: Wellesley, MA www.wellesley.edu/summer/precollege
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