



Application Advising Summary of Services 2008-9

The Deluxe Package includes:

- Meetings with student and parents at your home in the winter and spring of junior year to provide a solid foundation for the year ahead. Major items on the agenda will be to assist with guidance office paperwork, to determine an effective schedule of college tours, and to form a comprehensive plan for how to manage remaining standardized tests and coursework at a high level.
- Meeting summer before the student's senior year to have a frank discussion about the student's college list, educational goals, special talents and recognition, areas of interest, standardized testing scores/academic record, and extra-curricular profile.
- Designing an overall narrative concept for the application and a firm schedule of deadlines during the fall
- Crafting the main application essays in four, 2-hour, 1-on-1 writing tutorials with the student. These sessions are conducted in your home over the course of 4-6 weeks with additional editing done over email on an as-needed basis. The first session will emphasize channeling the student's "voice" in the personal statement and brainstorming topics/writing strategies for the main and supplementary essays. The remaining tutorials will be devoted to revising drafts of the essays. (This feature is beneficial for students who find personal writing to be challenging or who are applying to an array of schools with specialized essay questions in addition to those presented on the Common Application.)
- Determining a strategy for applying: Rolling, Early, Early Decision II or Regular.
- Mandating that students complete a full Common Application before the start of the school year.
- Advice on preparing supplementary materials: in the past, these have included athletic resumés, visual art and creative writing portfolios, and performing arts CDs/DVDs.
- Interview Workshop that will provide the student with the skills to stand out in the personal interview. This feature includes a 60-minute Mock Interview with trained interviewers. I will observe this interview from beginning to end, the student will leave the room while the committee critiques the interview, and we will invite the student back into the room for a discussion about recommendations for how to improve for the real interview.
- A meeting with student and parents in October (prior to the Early application deadline) or in November (prior to the Regular application deadline), to discuss most up-to-date grades and test scores, confirm the final college list, and review all application details.
- Discussions over the phone—throughout the year—to assist student and parents in handling various concerns and questions regarding the application process.
- A December meeting with deferred Early applicants and parents to revisit the college list with regard to Regular Action and/or "Early Decision II" strategies.
- A January mid-year review meeting with Regular Action student and parents to provide appropriate and useful updates about the student to colleges in order to enhance the student's application.
- An early-April meeting to advise a waitlisted student on sending updated information to the college and on other strategies for maximizing chances of admission.
- A late-April meeting with student and parents after college decisions have been received to review acceptances, plan "pre-frosh" visits, and advise on selecting a first-choice school.

The Premium Package includes all aspects of the Deluxe Package, plus:

- Crafting every application essay. This feature is especially useful to students who intend to apply to a vast number of colleges or who require extensive 1-on-1 time to complete their applications.