



THE Baccalaureate School for Global Education COLLEGE MANUAL 2018-2019



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The College Program at BSGE

The Baccalaureate School for Global Education (BSGE) was created to offer an elite credential to a diverse student body in the New York City public school system. BSGE is built on the commitment to high academic standards employing the philosophy and requirements of the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO). The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programs of international education and rigorous assessment. These programs encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

Fostering the necessary academic skills and providing important information regarding universities in order to successfully complete the college admissions process occurs throughout both the Pre-IB Diploma and Diploma Programs. Students' academic performance, standardized test scores (SATs, ACTs and SAT II Subject Tests) and extracurricular experiences and projects (CAS) are the most important determining factors with regard to the college admissions process. Our program currently consists of the following resources:

(1) Individual College Advisement

Students are able to schedule individual appointments with Peter Wilson, BSGE's College Advisor, Tuesday-Thursday, from 2:30-4:30pm, to discuss various aspects of the college admissions and financial aid application process. Graduating seniors and juniors are encouraged to have several appointments each semester with the college advisor.

(2) College Admissions/Financial Aid Workshops for Parents and Students

Throughout the fall and spring, evening workshops facilitated by Peter Wilson are offered to BSGE families, exploring a host of college-related topics including college/university admissions criteria, standardized tests, financial aid, Community and Service/CAS requirements and financial planning for college.

(3) Fall College/University Admissions Sessions

Throughout the fall, seniors will have the opportunity to meet admissions officers from a plethora of colleges and universities during admissions sessions scheduled directly after school from late September through early November. These sessions expose seniors to numerous competitive private institutions as well as city and state public colleges and universities. Participants learn about admissions requirements, special programs, college majors, study abroad opportunities, student life and financial aid offered at these schools. Past participating colleges/universities include Yale, Brown, Columbia, Barnard, Harvard, Boston University, Boston College, Wesleyan, Bard, Skidmore, Sarah Lawrence, Williams, Hobart and William Smith, Binghamton, University at Buffalo, Fairfield, Mount Holyoke, Wellesley, Smith, Bryn Mawr, University of Connecticut, U Chicago, Fordham, Trinity, Carnegie Mellon, New York University, Syracuse University, St. Lawrence, Northwestern, Northeastern, Amherst, Vassar, Binghamton and Macaulay Honors at CUNY.

(4) Summer College Intensive

In preparation for their senior year and the college admissions process, Peter Wilson facilitates a highly focused four-week college application-building intensive course. Participants will:

- Narrow down their college/university search in order to complete their prospective college list.
- Develop and work on drafts of their personal statements and college supplementary essays.
- Write and improve short-answer college application responses.
- Begin working on their common applications.
- Complete student profiles.
- Build their SAT/ACT vocabulary.
- Improve their writing skills.
- Research and assess various colleges and universities.
- Visit local colleges and universities for admissions information sessions and tours.
- Prepare for college interviews.
- Decipher FAFSAs, CSS Profiles and other financial aid applications.
- Participate in Columbia University's Annual Summer College Fair.

All participants are expected to attend the full course which meets daily from Thursday, July 5th to Thursday, August 2nd from 9:00am-12:00pm.

More Information on Reach, Match, and Safety Schools (tweaked from The Princeton Review)

Reach

A reach school is one where your academic credentials fall in the lower end, or even below, the school's average range for the cohort of students accepted the previous year. Dream schools are long-shots, but they should still be possible. Don't let the sticker price of a financial reach school scare you off! Financial need, academic strength, and a college's desire to have you on campus can all influence your financial aid award and make the cost of attendance more manageable.

Match

A match school is one where your academic credentials (grades, SAT or ACT scores, challenging courses, et al) fall well within the school's average range for the most recently accepted class. There are no guarantees, but it's not unreasonable to expect to be accepted to several of your match schools.

Safety

A safety school is one where your academic credentials exceed the school's range for the average freshman. You should be reasonably certain that you will be admitted to your safety schools. Like your reach and match schools, these should also be colleges you'd be happy to attend. In addition to admissions criteria, it's a good idea to think about financial aid when creating your list of safety schools - make sure there is at least one school that you know your family can afford on that list. Send college applications to a few schools from each category (for example, 7-8 reach schools, 5-6 match schools, and 2-3 safety schools). Applying to a range of schools will ensure that you set ambitious goals and give yourself some back-up options where you know you can be happy and successful.

College/University Application Costs (AS OF 05/2018)

CUNY Application: \$65.00

This fee covers the cost of applying to up to six colleges of the City University of New York. A limited number of fee waivers are available through the college office in the fall.

SUNY Application: \$50.00 per school

To apply to a college under the State University of New York, applicants must pay \$50.00 per school. Fee waivers are available on line or from college advisors if families meet prescribed financial need criteria.

Private/Competitive College Application Range: \$50.00-\$80.00

College application costs vary depending upon the academic ranking and tuition fees of the respective institution. For example, Yale University's application fee last year was \$80.00 while Lafayette College's application fee was \$65.00. Other schools such as Mount Holyoke, Fordham and St. John's waive their application fee if you apply early online. Fee waivers are available from college advisors for applicants that received fee waivers for the SATs/SAT II Subject Tests. Applicants can receive a total of four College Board fee waivers for private/out-of-state colleges. Students may also use up to four NACAC fee waivers if they meet criteria as based upon household income.

ACT Registration: \$46.00 (with Writing: \$62.50)

The ACT registration fee is \$46.00; including the Writing component, the cost is \$62.50. The late registration fee is \$29.50 while the change fee is \$26.00. Students are encouraged to apply on-line to receive their scores quickly. Stand-by fee on the day of the examination is \$53.00. If you qualify for an ACT fee waiver, please visit your college office.

SAT Reasoning Test Registration: \$46.00 + \$60.00

The basic SAT registration fee is \$46.00, with essay it is \$60.00. Students are advised to apply on line in order to receive their scores within three weeks of taking the exam. The late registration/change fee is \$29.00. Stand-by fee on the day of the examination is \$49.00.



SAT II Subject Test Registration: \$26.00+ \$22.00 per Subject Test

To register for the Subject Tests, students must pay a \$26.00 registration fee and \$22.00 per SAT II Subject Test. A language exam with listening is \$26.00. The late registration fee is \$29.00. *Note: In order to receive fee waivers for SATs and/or SAT II Subject Tests, please see your college advisor. Student qualification for fee waivers is based on completed lunch forms on file with the Department of Education.*

CSS (College Scholarship Service) Profile: \$25.00 + \$16.00 per additional college

The College Scholarship Service (CSS) Profile is required by many colleges and universities in order to properly evaluate financial aid allotments. The basic registration fee is \$25.00, which includes registration with one college, with an additional \$16.00 charge per college added in the application. CSS Profiles can only be submitted on line. Applicants will learn of their qualifications for a fee waiver for the CSS Profile upon completion of the form via the Internet. Qualified applicants are entitled to a waiver of up to six colleges/universities.

BSGE CEEB CODE: 332903

Note: This code is used to register for standardized examinations such as the SATs, SAT II Subject Tests and ACTs. By entering this code during on-line registration, students will ensure that BSGE receives their official test scores. Students register for the SATs and SAT IIs at www.collegeboard.org and ACTs at www.actstudent.org. Fee waivers are available in the college office. Waivers are in limited supply for students who qualify.

JUNIOR COLLEGE TIMELINE

Friday, July 27, 2018: Last chance to register for the August SATs.

Friday, August 3rd: Final registration for September ACTs.

Saturday, August 25th: SATs

Friday, September 7th: Last chance to register for October SATs.

Saturday, September 8th: ACTs.

Friday, September 21st: Final registration for October ACTs.

Friday, September 28th: Summer CAS Reflections due.

Friday, October 5th: Last chance to register for November SATs.

Saturday, October 6th: SAT/SAT II Subject Tests.

Wednesday, October 18th at 8:00am: PSATs at BSGE (tentative).

Saturday, October 27th: ACTs.

October: Begin identifying CAS opportunities + possible CAS group project ideas. Obtain a copy of your high school transcript. Set up an introductory appointment with your college advisor during your lunch period to discuss your college options.

Friday, November 2nd: Last chance to register for December SATs.

Friday, November 2nd: Final registration for the December ACTs.

Saturday, November 3rd: SAT/SAT II Subject Tests.

Saturday, December 1st: SAT/SAT II Subject Tests.

Saturday, December 8th: ACTs.

December: Review your PSAT results with Peter in order to identify your strengths and areas that need improving. If you haven't already, you may want to enroll in an SAT preparatory course (i.e. Kaplan, Princeton Review, Revolution Prep, et al) for the winter and/or spring. Begin to research colleges you may want to apply to next fall 2019. Check and review the admissions criteria for these schools.

Friday, January 11th: Last time to register for the February ACTs.

Friday, January 18th: Fall CAS Reflections due.

Friday, February 8th: Last chance to register for March SATs.

Saturday, February 9th: ACTs.

February: If you feel prepared, register for the March SAT and/or the April ACT exams. Find out college application deadlines for schools you plan to apply to in the fall and which tests to take. It is recommended that you take the SATs and/or the ACTs in the spring to allow you time to review your results and retake the exams in the fall of your senior year, if necessary. Schedule several appointments throughout the semester with Peter Wilson to review your college options and identify prospective colleges/universities.

Friday, March 8th: Last chance to register for the April ACTs.

Saturday, March 9th: SATs.

Tuesday, March 12th: After-school college advisement appointments officially begin with Peter Wilson for juniors.

March: Begin identifying CAS experiences and group projects for the summer. Apply for summer college preparation programs at respected colleges/universities or register for a summer SAT and/or ACT preparation course. Apply for internships, fellowships and summer programs. Research scholarships.

Friday, April 5th: Last opportunity to register for the May SAT/
SAT II Subject Tests.

Saturday, April 13th: ACTs.

April: Identify and confirm your summer plans: CAS experiences + projects, pre-college programs, internships, SAT/ACT courses and /or summer employment. Sign up for free summer college application-building course for rising seniors with Peter Wilson at BSGE, scheduled in July 2019.



Friday, May 3rd: Last chance to register for the
June SATs/SAT IIs.

Friday, May 3rd: Last chance to register for the June ACTs.

Saturday, May 4th: SATs/SAT IIs.

Thursday, May 16th (tentative): College Night at BSGE for juniors and
their families: 6:00-8:00pm.

May: Plan to take the June SAT/SAT IIs or ACT if necessary. Find a
summer internship or job that will boost your skills or your savings.
Leave enough time to visit at least five private colleges, three CUNYs and
two SUNYs. Begin to identify your college/university selections. Solidify
your CAS experiences + projects for the summer with Peter Wilson.

Saturday, June 1st: SATs/SAT II Subject Tests.

Friday, June 7th: Spring CAS reflections due.

Saturday, June 8th: ACTs.

Friday, June 14th: Last chance to register for the July ACTs.

June: Continue researching scholarships. You will find useful
information in your school and public libraries or on-line. Start working
on your initial college essay drafts and begin thinking about what
teachers you need to request recommendations from in the fall. You
need 2-3 recommendations from teachers.

Saturday, July 13th: ACTs.

July: Compile a student profile of activities, honors, leadership positions,
CAS/Community and Service experiences + projects, internships and
employment. You will need this information for applications,
scholarship forms and when requesting recommendations from
teachers. Begin requesting college applications and working on short
answer responses and personal statement/college essay drafts.

Thursday, August 1st: Common Application is released:
www.commonapp.org.

August: If you haven't visited any college campuses, get going! You need
to finalize a list of colleges and universities that you want to apply to in
the next two to three months. You should enter your senior year with 2-
3 "safety schools", schools you know you will be accepted to, 5-6 schools
that are apt to accept you, "matching schools", and 7-8 "reach schools",
colleges or universities that are difficult to gain admission to but you feel
you have a solid chance. Map an itinerary and set up admissions
interviews. Register for SATs, SAT IIs and/or ACTs for fall 2019.
Complete your student profile and teacher recommendation request
cover letter. Have a near final draft of your personal statement and short
answer response. Begin working on your supplementary college essays.
Continue your CAS experiences + projects and work on your Extended
Essay. Research and apply for scholarships.

SENIOR COLLEGE TIMELINE



August 2018

- Final student profile and teacher recommendation request cover letters completed
- Working draft of personal statement
- Final list of prospective colleges
- Contact prospective colleges and universities; arrange campus visits with tours and info sessions
- Begin filling out common application, CUNY and SUNY applications
- Register for fall SATs, SAT IIs and ACTs
- Continue CAS experiences and plan group projects
- Research and apply for scholarships
- Study for ACTS, SATs & SAT IIs
- Work on Extended Essay

September 2018

- Take ACTs
- Complete draft of short answer response
- Submit recommendation requests with student profiles to teachers and faculty (2-3 as required)
- Work on drafts of college application supplemental essays and personal statement
- Maintain or improve grades
- Revise Extended Essay
- Submit summer CAS experiences reflections + group project proposals by Friday, September 28th
- Continue CAS experiences and group project(s)
- Research and apply for scholarships

- Study for ACTs, SATs & SAT IIs

October 2018

- Take ACTs, SATs and/or SAT IIs
- Request SAT & ACT scores be sent to colleges
- Submit Part I of college applications where applicable
- Complete final drafts of personal statement, college essays and supplemental essays
- Continue CAS experiences and group projects
- Research and apply for scholarships
- Complete final visits to prospective colleges
- Study for ACTs, SATs & SAT IIs
- Complete and submit Extended Essay
- Begin setting up college interviews

November 2018

- Take SATs or SAT IIs
- All teacher recommendations and transcript requests should be submitted by Friday, November 2nd
- Complete and submit all applications by Friday, November 30th
- Proofread everything!
- Leave copies of completed applications, college essays and other college documents with college advisor
- Continue scheduling college interviews
- Continue CAS experiences + group projects
- Research and apply for scholarships

- Study for ACTs, SATs & SAT IIs
Note: Early Action/ Early Decision Applications are due November 1-15th.

December 2018

- Take ACTs, SATs and/or SAT IIs (final time)
- Complete and submit financial aid applications, CSS Profile, FAFSA, TAP and IDOC, by December 14th
- Before winter break, contact schools to check if applications have been received and are complete
- Continue CAS experiences + group projects
- Research and apply for scholarships
- Maintain or improve grades
Note: Macaulay Honors at CUNY application is due on December 1st.

January 2019

- Leave copies of FAFSA, CSS Profile and financial verification forms w/Peter
- Contact all prospective colleges to verify that financial aid info has been received
- Submit formal Mid-Year report requests to Peter
- Submit fall 2018 CAS documentation + reflections for final group projects by Friday, January 18th
- Continue CAS experiences
Note: All final CAS portfolios and projects are due by early April.
- Research and apply for scholarships
- Maintain and improve grades in all courses

- Begin studying/reviewing for IB exams

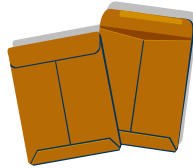
February-June 2019

- Verify through *phone calls* that mid-year reports have been received by your prospective colleges
- Give copies of all of your college acceptances, rejections and wait-list decisions as well as financial aid offers to Peter; meet with him frequently to discuss your best college options
- Review and compare financial aid awards from colleges you were admitted to in order to ensure that you make a sound and affordable choice
- If necessary, submit a formal letter of financial aid appeal to prospective schools
- Visit all colleges you were admitted to before making a final decision
- Research and continue to apply for scholarships
- Maintain strong grades in all courses; remember, all grades are important
- Study for IB exams!
- Submit final CAS reflections and portfolios by Friday, April 12th
- Send in or submit online your final agreement and payment to your college by May 1st to reserve your fall seat
- Submit final school report and transcript requests to Peter by Friday, June 14th



BSGE College Application Process Protocol

- It is recommended that you schedule regular meetings with your college advisor, Peter Wilson, to discuss prospective colleges/ universities; to revise and strengthen your college applications, essays, student profiles supplemental essays and short answer responses; for help with financial aid applications such as the CSS Profile, FAFSA and TAP; to prepare for college and scholarship interviews; and all other questions concerning the college application and financial aid process. Scheduled appointments take place after school, Tuesdays-Thursdays, from 2:30-4:30pm. Juniors and seniors should also use their lunch and advisory periods for walk-in meetings. Parents are encouraged to schedule meetings to discuss college admissions and financial aid. Students and parents are encouraged to use Naviance to track application progress.
- In order to receive a recommendation from a teacher, college advisor, guidance counselor or other school staff, students must submit a formal typed letter of request accompanied by their respective student profile. Colleges require two to three academic letters of recommendation, two from a teacher familiar with the student's academic performance and one from the counselor as part of the school's report. Some colleges, however, require a third teacher academic letter of recommendation as part of a supplement to the basic college application. As students identify teachers to ask for recommendations they should distribute the requests across grades ten through twelve. For example, students may ask any teacher that taught them in both the eleventh and twelfth, tenth or ninth grades.
- Make sure other necessary documentation is included such as school reports or teacher recommendation forms. Allow a minimum of 7-10 business days for recommendations to be processed and granted. If the recommendation cannot be submitted on-line, please include appropriate mailing labels addressed to the necessary recipients. Students are responsible for all mailing costs including labels, envelopes and postage.
- In order to receive an official transcript for college-related programs and internships, please complete a school request form and submit it to the school guidance counselor, Christine Chaputian. For college/university applications, please submit a formal request to Peter or Christine. If a hard copy of a transcript is required, please submit your request accompanied by mailing labels for the respective colleges/universities, scholarship agencies and/or other organizations that will be receiving them. Allow a minimum of 3-5 days for transcripts to be processed and submitted. Students are responsible for all mailing costs.
- Keep hard copies of all college applications, personal statements/college essays, financial aid applications, standardized test scores and college/university correspondence in addition to digital files. Too often students' digital files are mistakenly deleted and thumb drives misplaced. So hard copies serve as a good back up. Also share copies of these same documents with your college advisor who maintains a college file for every student



- It is recommended that you e-mail all final copies of your personal statement, college essays, short answer responses and student profile to yourself. Google Docs is also a good option for these important documents. You may need to access these materials at any given moment during the college application process.
- It is recommended that the college advisor be kept informed of all of your correspondence with your prospective colleges and universities. This includes all college/university acceptances, rejections and wait-list decisions. It also includes financial aid award offers and scholarship decisions. This allows for better advisement, advocacy and follow-up with regard to your college applications and your final college decision. All correspondence regarding the college admissions process should be made to **college@bsge.org**.
- Attending class regularly is important. However, if you need to miss school due to a required college visit, interview, placement examination or university program, please inform your teachers, college advisor and guidance counselor in the attendance office in advance. A note, letter or program verifying your absence is also required.
- Be sure to follow your respective college timeline closely. Deadlines in the college application and financial aid process are strict. In order to allow ample time for review of college applications, essays, short answer responses as well as recommendations and transcripts, school deadlines are scheduled slightly ahead of application deadlines.

The 2018-2019 Common App Essay Prompts:

(www.commonapp.org)

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma - anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

BSGE SCHOOL PROFILE:

Class Rank: BSGE does not rank its students due to our relatively small senior class size.

GPA: BSGE does not calculate grade point averages. We encourage colleges and universities to evaluate our students based on the Pre-IB and IB Diploma Programs grading scale of 1-7. Grade descriptors are provided with our student transcripts.

Courses: The Baccalaureate School for Global Education consists of both a Pre-IB Program (grades 7-10) and the IB Diploma Program (grades 11-12).

The Pre-IB Program prepares students for the IB Diploma Program and New York State Regents Examinations, integrating five areas of interaction: Approaches to Learning, Environment, Community and Service, Health and Social Education and Human Ingenuity. To enhance their academic program, all Pre-IB students are required to perform a minimum of 100 hours of Community and Service. Upon completion of the tenth grade, students must submit a creative personal project, reflecting his/her experience in the Pre-IB Diploma Program as well as demonstrating the skills they have acquired in approaches to learning.

The Diploma Program is an advanced course of study leading to assessments in six academic areas: English, Second Modern Language, Individuals and Societies, Experimental Sciences, Mathematics and Arts. The academic content of the IB Diploma

Important websites you should visit:

commonapp.org, cuny.edu, suny.edu, collegeboard.org, actstudent.org, fastweb.com, scholarships.com, chegg.com, inlikeme.com, collegethispossible.org, theirchoiceschool.edu, allaboutcollege.com, nymmentor.com, collegenet.com, nasfaa.com, collegeprowler.com, nextstepu.com, aworkout.com, finaids.com, hesc.org, fafsa.ed.gov, campustours.com, petersons.com, nycolleges.org, mapping-your-future.org, collegenet.com, college.gov, meritaids.com

Program ensures that students develop mastery in the great traditions of learning: languages, humanities and the sciences. Participants are assessed by external and internal examinations, student portfolios and evaluated projects. IB Diploma candidates must also satisfy three additional components of the program: The Theory of Knowledge course and paper, a minimum of 100 hours of Creativity, Activity and Service experiences and projects as well as an Extended Essay, a research paper of 4,000 words.

Percentage of Graduating Class Attending Four-Year Colleges/Universities in the Class of 2018: 98.6%

Percentage of Eligible Students in Graduating Class that Received the IB Diploma in 2017: 93.5% (73 of 78)

School Ranking: According to *U. S. News and World Report's* annual report, The Baccalaureate School for Global Education ranked as the #9 high school program in the United States and the #1 in New York State (2018). *The Washington Post* ranked BSGE as the 6th most challenging high school program in the Northeast (2016). *The New York Post* ranked BSGE as the #4 public high school in NYC (2016).

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TERMS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Sources: collegeconfidential.com, go4ivy.com, e-how.com, act.org, colleageboard.com, suny.edu, cuny.edu, princetonreview.com/college, sistercolleges.org, nacacnet.org, nycolleges.org

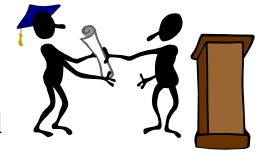
College: A place of higher learning beyond high school that awards degrees. There are different types:

- (1) Four-year colleges (also known as Senior Colleges) award Bachelor degrees. Some four-year colleges also award Associate degrees.
- (2) University colleges award Bachelor degrees and offer some graduate programs as well as Master degrees.
- (3) Two-year colleges (also known as Junior or Community Colleges) award Associate degrees.
- (4) Public colleges receive a great deal of funding from government agencies and cost less than most private colleges. Public colleges can be two-year or four-year schools. Examples of public colleges:
 - (a) The City University of New York (CUNY) is a public college system. It is presently made up of 17 colleges throughout the five boroughs of New York City.
 - (b) The State University of New York (SUNY) is a public college system. It is made up of 60 colleges and 4 university centers located throughout New York State.
- (5) Private colleges do not receive a great deal of funding from government agencies and cost more than public colleges. However, because their endowments are often significantly larger, many private colleges offer substantial financial aid awards, both in merit and need based aid.



University: A place of higher learning, which is made up of an undergraduate division that awards Bachelors degrees (and sometimes Associate Degrees), and a graduate division which awards Master, Professional (e.g. degrees in medicine, dentistry and law) and Doctorate degrees.

Undergraduate Student: A college or university student who has not yet earned a Bachelor degree. Note: A student who completes an Associate degree and transfers to another college to study for an additional two years to earn a Bachelor degree is still an undergraduate.



Graduate Student: A student who has earned a Bachelor degree and is continuing studies for a Master (MA), Professional (e.g. Law, DDS, MD) or Doctorate (PhD) degree. For example, a student who wants to be a lawyer must first complete a Bachelor degree and then applies to Law School to study for a law degree.

Liberal Arts and Sciences: Some colleges and universities refer to the Liberal Arts as general education or their core curriculum. Liberal Arts subjects are intended to provide students with academic knowledge that will help them to grow intellectually. A Liberal Arts curriculum includes courses in Social Science (for example history, economics, sociology, anthropology, political science, Women's Studies, African-American Studies); Humanities (e.g. philosophy, religion, art, music, drama, dance, literature); Mathematics, Science and Foreign Languages.

Rolling Admissions: An admissions policy where a college evaluates student applications throughout the year. Such colleges do not have official application deadlines and will review admission applications as long as space is available for a given semester.

Early Decision: An option that allows you to apply early (usually in Early to Mid-November) to your clear, first-choice college. You pledge to attend if accepted, as it is a binding agreement, often despite the financial aid award offered. If you are a competitive candidate, you stand a statistically better chance to be admitted under Early Decision. However, be sure your application is strong and ready for submission.

Early Action: Similar to Early Decision in timing (Early to Mid-November due date for applications) but non-binding. If accepted, you do not have to enroll and you may take until May 1st to decide. Early Action is fading in its popularity due to the move by colleges to seek an enrollment commitment from their applicants. Acceptance percentage is higher than that of regular-decision pool. However, be sure your application is strong and ready for submission.

Common and Electronic Applications: Simplified approaches to college applications. Most colleges and universities accept them. All you do is fill out one common form and send copies to your other candidate institutions that accept it. It is easier, but it lacks the detail and uniqueness of the institution-specific forms. Electronic applications appear as an online option. Students apply online.



Personal Statement: Also known as the application essay, most competitive schools require at least one major personal statement, many times two or more, along with multiple so-called short-response answers. These schools admit half (or well less) of all who apply. Admission committees use personal statements to learn more about the character of their applicants and they are great opportunities to shine. The personal statement on the Common Application is a maximum of 650 words.

Ivy League: The Ivy League is a group of long-established colleges and universities in the eastern United States having among the highest academic standards and social prestige in the world. It includes Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Columbia, Dartmouth, Cornell, Brown and the University of Pennsylvania. Ivy league institutions are highly selective. Admission to these institutions is ultra-competitive. The Ivy League has traditionally been associated with elitism, in addition to academic excellence.

Sister Schools: The Sister Colleges—Barnard, Bryn Mawr, Mount Holyoke, Smith and Wellesley—are consistently ranked among the top liberal arts schools in the United States. They are renowned for preparing women for careers in the sciences and are among the top producers of science PhDs in the nation. Located in the Northeast, the Sister Colleges are prestigious institutions of higher education known for academic excellence and selective admissions. Each school is part of an impressive consortium that provides students with expanded curricular and co-curricular offerings.

SATs: The SAT is a globally recognized college admission test that lets you show colleges what you know and how well you can apply that knowledge. It tests your knowledge of reading, writing and math — subjects that are taught every day in high school classrooms. Most students take the SAT during their junior and/or senior year of high school, and almost all colleges and universities use the SAT to make admission decisions. It is a required college admissions test for many four-year colleges and universities, including all four-year CUNYs and SUNYs as well as Ivy League institutions. The examination is three hours in length (nearly four hours with the writing section) and is offered seven times a year. Students register on-line for the examination at www.collegeboard.org.



SAT II Subject Tests: Subject Tests are hour-long, content-based tests that allow you to showcase achievement in specific subject areas where you excel. SAT Subject Tests allow you to differentiate yourself in the college admission process or send a strong message regarding your readiness to study specific majors or programs in college. In conjunction with your other admission credentials (your high school record, SAT scores, teacher recommendations, etc.), they provide a more complete picture of your academic background and interests. Some colleges also use Subject Tests to place students into the appropriate courses. Based on your performance on the test(s), you could potentially fulfill basic requirements or receive credit for introductory-level courses. There are 20 SAT Subject Tests in five general subject areas: English, history, languages, mathematics and science. Students register on-line for the examination at www.collegeboard.org.



ACTs: The ACT Test assesses high school students' general educational development and their ability to complete college-level work. The multiple-choice tests cover four skill areas: English, mathematics, reading, and science. The Writing Test, which is optional, measures skill in planning and writing a short essay. The ACT is universally accepted for college admission. Approximately three hours in length (3 hours and 30 minutes with the Writing section), the ACT is curriculum-based. Questions on the ACT are directly related to what students have learned in high school courses in English, mathematics and science. Students register on-line for the examination at www.act.org.



CUNY COMPASS Exam: Entering students to CUNY schools are expected to take an examination in mathematics to demonstrate proficiency in certain core skills, and to provide an aid in initial placement in mathematics courses. The test given is ACT's COMPASS exam. This exam is computer-adaptive. This means that during the exam the next question asked depends on how well you have performed on the previous questions. This is intended to shorten the testing period by only asking just enough questions for the computer to evaluate your skills. It is extremely important to carefully answer the beginning questions as best you can. If you get these beginning questions wrong through carelessness the computer may not allow you to show your skills on the more advanced questions, thereby affecting your placement and proficiency determination.



Transcript: A high school transcript is a record of every class a student took in high school. A transcript includes the title, grade earned and credit awarded for each class taken and the score achieved on every New York State Regents Exam taken as well as standardized test scores (i.e. SATs, SAT IIs and ACTs). The grades on a transcript are usually averaged to produce a single number, which is referred to as a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA). However, BSGE does not calculate GPAs. This promotes the evaluation of BSGE students by college admissions officers on factors in addition to class grades. Though colleges and universities pay close attention to the grades you earned in your junior year and the first semester of your senior year, your freshman grades are also used in establishing an image of you as a potential college student. If you tank freshman year, it will follow you for the next three years. This includes art class, gym class, music class and anything for which you receive a grade. Colleges expect your grades to be consistent or improve. If you received 6s in sophomore year, and 3s in senior year, they may conclude that you are a capable student who became lazy. High school graduation requirements vary from school to school. Most students have the opportunity to take more classes (or credits) then are required to graduate. If you take only the minimum, colleges will conclude that you are doing the least you must do to earn a high school diploma. If you take extra classes (or credits) but they are “soft” classes (like basket-weaving or calisthenics), this looks just as bad. The best high school transcript will show consistent grades in a challenging course program with challenging classes. IB courses, AP classes or advanced/ honors classes impress colleges and tells them that you are ready for college-level work.

Teacher Recommendation: Most college applications request two or three recommendation letters from people who know you in and out of the classroom. It is your responsibility to find appropriate people to write these letters on your behalf. You also need to give them enough time to write a thoughtful letter. Start by discussing the process, and possible candidates, with your counselor and family. More often than not, colleges request letters of recommendation from an academic teacher (sometimes in a specific subject) and your school counselor. If the college requests a letter from an academic teacher, and the subject is not specified, your English, science or math teachers usually make good candidates. Ask one of your teachers from junior year, or a current teacher who has known you long enough to form an opinion of your potential. It is best not to go back too far; colleges want current perspectives on their potential candidates.

Mid-Year/Final Report: The mid-year report is an updated secondary school form and updated transcript that includes the grades from your first semester of senior year. It should be submitted in late January. For Early Decision or Early Action applicants, your mid-year report will not be needed; your college decision has already been made prior to the end of your first semester of senior year. Mid-year report grades are crucial for regular admission applicants. The final report includes all of your high school grades, including your final semester of senior year. It is submitted only after a student graduates from high school. Your final school report with your transcript should only be submitted to the college you plan to attend after graduation from high school.

***Common Interview Mistakes to Avoid
(from USA Today, October 2015)***

1. Showing immaturity: College is about learning to live independently, and your admissions interview is partially about proving that you are prepared to do just that. The interviewers will not see you as self-sufficient if your parents are sitting nearby. If you depend on your parents for transportation or directions, identify alternative methods early so you can get to the interview on your own – a great way to kick off your independence. Interviewers also won't see you as responsible and ready for the next step in your education if you are dressed inappropriately.

2. Acting disrespectful or rude: Whether the interview is for your first choice or safety school, give the interviewer your full attention. Don't check your cellphone, don't check the time and don't do anything else while you speak to the interviewer that could possibly be construed as rude or showing disrespect. Give the interviewer a firm handshake and express your gratitude for the person's time. Purchase and fill out a thank-you card and envelope ahead of time so it's ready to be sent following the interview.

3. Skipping school research: Put aside some time before your interview to research the school and prepare a few questions to ask at the end of the interview not only to show your interest in the school, but also to assess whether or not the college is the right fit for you. They should not be questions that can be easily answered by perusing the school's website for just a few minutes. Think hard about what factors in a university are truly important to you and what you would like to know come your first day on campus. Where do students like to hang out on campus? What are the campus events students look forward to the most?

4. Being shy: It's difficult for an interviewer to get to know you if you don't share enough information. And if you appear timid, it can leave the impression that you might have difficulty adjusting to new social settings in college and actively participating in class discussions. Prepare a few general remarks or comments to help you get the conversation started and overcome your shyness.

Sample College Interview Questions

(adapted from Wellesley College's admissions website)

Introductory questions:

- Have you had any other interviews?
- Have you always lived here?
- What can you tell me about your school?
- What courses are you taking this year? Which is your favorite?
- What out of school experiences have been especially valuable? Are there any educational experiences that have shaped your interests?

Intellectual interest questions:

- Which course has been the most challenging for you? Why?
- Have you completed a paper or project that particularly interested you?
- Have you had a favorite teacher? What made her or him special to you?
- Do you enjoy reading? Writing? Science? Math? Why do you find that interesting (or difficult)?
- Are your grades a reflection of your abilities as a student?
- If you could, are there any changes you would make in your high school?
- How did you first learn about this school? How do you feel about it?
- Aside from academic preparation, what do you hope to gain from going to college? Do you think that college will change you in any way?

Personal interest questions:

- What do you most enjoy doing outside of class? Why?
- How do you like to spend free time at home?
- Have you ever had the opportunity to take a trip that made a special impression on you?
- Have you had a job? What did you learn? Do you think your job changed you in any way?

SAT PREPARATION OPTIONS

- **KAPLAN:** Visit www.kaptest.com/SAT or call (800) KAP-TEST to locate a center that offers courses near you. Their most popular option is the 18-hour course for \$799, including 4 full mock exams and free SAT online services. Unlimited prep and premier tutoring options are \$1,499 and \$3,799 respectively.

- **PRINCETON REVIEW:**
Visit: www.princetonreview.com/college or call (800) 273-8439 to locate a center or find a tutor near you. 18-hour fundamental sessions are \$699 with 4 full mock exams. Special summer courses are often offered at local centers and high schools with a discounted fee of \$499. Semi-private classes are \$1,599 and ultimate courses are \$999.

- **REVOLUTION PREP:**
Visit www.revolutionprep.com or call (877) 738-7737 to arrange on-line sessions with professional private SAT tutor for 60, 90 or 120 minutes. On-line tutoring starts at \$49 per hour. Small on-line group courses are available ranging in cost from \$299 to \$599. On campus group courses are available at select schools with 18 hours of instruction and 5 full practice exams for \$599.

- **THE IVY KEY:** A private, in-home tutoring company located in NYC, the Ivy Key provides one-on-one, 10-week standardized test preparation for the SATs, ACTs and SAT II subject tests throughout the year. For more information, visit www.theivykey.com. Contact at info@theivykey.com or (646) 355-9782.

- **SYLVAN LEARNING CENTERS:**
Visit www.sylvanlearning.com/SAT or call (888) 338-2283 to register for a course or sign up with an individualized tutor. Classes have no more than 8 students with 32 hours of instruction: \$995. A 10% discount is available with downloadable on-line coupon.

- **KWELLER PREP ADVANCED TUTORING AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES:**
Visit: www.KwellerPrep.com or call (800) 631-1757 for information or to arrange tutorial for advanced SAT, ACT, or SAT 2 Subject tests. One-on-one, at-home, in-center, and intimate group tutoring are available. Located in Queens and Manhattan. Test prep options range in cost from \$2,000-\$3,600.

- **SUNNYSIDE COMMUNITY SERVICES COLLEGE READINESS PROGRAM:**
Visit www.scsny.org or call (347) 570-5969 for more information. Fall and spring 10-week courses with 10 full SAT preparation class days and 3 full mock exams, college admissions/financial aid workshops, college roundtables, college trips and individual college advisement. All courses are free. Seats are limited.

BSGE Alumni presently attend or graduated from the following colleges and universities:

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY BEIRUT
AMHERST COLLEGE
BABSON COLLEGE
BARD COLLEGE
BARD COLLEGE BERLIN
BARNARD COLLEGE
BARUCH COLLEGE
BENNINGTON COLLEGE
BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY
BOSTON COLLEGE
BOSTON UNIVERSITY
BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY
BROWN UNIVERSITY
BRYN MAWR COLLEGE
BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY
BUFFALO STATE COLLEGE
BUFFALO UNIVERSITY
CALIFORNIA COLLEGE OF THE ARTS
CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY
CASE WESTERN UNIVERSITY
CITY COLLEGE
CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY
CLARK UNIVERSITY
COLBY COLLEGE
COLGATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF BROCKPORT
COLLEGE OF THE HOLY CROSS
COLLEGE OF NEW ROCHELLE
COLUMBIA COLLEGE
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY (CAN)
CONNECTICUT COLLEGE
THE COOPER UNION
DEPAUW UNIVERSITY
DICKINSON COLLEGE
DREXEL UNIVERSITY
EAST STROUDSBURG UNIVERSITY
ELON UNIVERSITY
EMORY UNIVERSITY: OXFORD COLLEGE
EUGENE LANG COLLEGE
FAIRFIELD UNIVERSITY
FASHION INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
FORDHAM UNIVERSITY
FRANKLIN AND MARSHALL COLLEGE
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
HAMILTON COLLEGE

HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE
HAMPTON UNIVERSITY
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
HOBART AND WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGES
HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY
HOWARD UNIVERSITY
HUNTER COLLEGE
IONA COLLEGE
ITHACA COLLEGE
JOHN JAY COLLEGE
JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY
LAFAYETTE COLLEGE
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY
LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY
MACAULAY HONORS COLLEGE AT CUNY
MANHATTAN COLLEGE
MANHATTANVILLE COLLEGE
MARIST COLLEGE
MARYLAND INSTITUTE COLLEGE OF ART
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE
MOREHOUSE COLLEGE
MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE
NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
NYU-SHANGHAI
NYU-TANDON SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING
NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
OCCIDENTAL COLLEGE
PACE UNIVERSITY
PARSONS NEW SCHOOL FOR DESIGN
PENNSYLVANIA STATE ALTOONA
PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY PARK
PRATT INSTITUTE
QUEENS COLLEGE
REED COLLEGE
RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
RICE UNIVERSITY
ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
RUTGERS UNIVERSITY: NEW BRUNSWICK CAMPUS
ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY
ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY
SALVE REGINA UNIVERSITY
SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY
SARAH LAWRENCE COLLEGE
SKIDMORE COLLEGE
SMITH COLLEGE

SOPHIE DAVIS AT CITY COLLEGE
STANFORD UNIVERSITY
SUNY FREDONIA
SUNY GENESEO
SUNY NEW PALTZ
SUNY OLD WESTBURY
SUNY OSWEGO
SUNY PURCHASE
STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY
TEMPLE UNIVERSITY
TOWSON UNIVERSITY
TRINITY COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF ALBANY
UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SANTA BARBARA
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT
UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII MANOA
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAVEN
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA CHAPEL HILL
UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN MADISON
UTICA COLLEGE
VASSAR COLLEGE
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS
WELLESLEY COLLEGE
WHEATON COLLEGE
WILLIAMS COLLEGE
XAVIER UNIVERSITY
YALE UNIVERSITY
YORK COLLEGE



SENIOR COLLEGE ADMISSIONS CHECKLIST



- Finalize prospective college list (7-8 reach, 5-6 match, 2-3 safety schools)
- Create personal account at www.commonapp.org by August 1st
- Identify and complete college supplements for all prospective colleges found on www.commonapp.org
- Check application deadlines
- Complete student profile
- Complete teacher recommendation cover letters
- Submit teacher recommendation cover letters, student profile and, if necessary, teacher evaluation forms
- Contact colleges/universities for campus tour dates and to schedule interviews at as many of your prospective colleges and universities as possible
- Register for all necessary college admissions examinations (SAT, SAT II subject tests and ACTs)
- Complete personal statement
- Complete supplemental essays/short answers responses
- Complete and submit part one of college applications (SUNYs, ivy league schools and competitive colleges) with application fees or, if applicable, application fee waivers
- Complete and submit college applications (general information, short answers, personal statement, supplements, financial aid verification forms) by late November (or early November if applying Early Decision or Early Action)
- Complete and submit CSS Profile, FAFSA, TAP and, if necessary, IDOC by December 14th
- Formally request counselor report or recommendation from college advisor; request copies of transcript from school manager
- Research, complete and submit at least 20 private and college-based scholarship applications
- Contact all prospective colleges to verify that your application has been received and is complete by late January
- Contact all prospective colleges' financial aid offices to verify that all of your financial aid information has been received by mid-February
- Visit (and revisit) all schools you are admitted to in the spring before making your final decision
- Review financial aid awards from your prospective colleges/universities to compare packages; if necessary, make financial aid appeals where applicable
- If necessary, write a letter to wait-listed schools and update your student profile, showing your continued interest in the college or university and emphasizing your senior CAS experiences + projects, IB Diploma or certificate candidate status and strong senior year academic performance
- Submit payment to commit to your college of choice by May 1st
- Submit final school report request to college advisor by June 14th



The Baccalaureate School for Global Education

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College Advisor/CAS Coordinator: Peter Wilson

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www.bsge.org