



MIAMI UNIVERSITY

THE COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS STARTS NOW

Melissa Ward

Associate Director for Regional Enrollment



GETTING STARTED

THINGS YOU CAN DO IN THE NEXT WEEK

- ❑ Organization
 - Notebook, Excel, Google Sheet
- ❑ College Application Email Address
- ❑ Set up/Edit Voicemail Message
- ❑ Family Conversations
 - How close/far from home? Legacy factors? Financial support?
 - Consider arranging a standing “appointment”
- ❑ Create your Common Application Account



RESEARCH & REFLECTION

THINGS YOU CAN DO IN THE NEXT MONTH(S)

- ❑ Self-Reflection
 - What am I looking for in a college experience? What is most important to me? *(Not your gf/bf/bff/parents)*
- ❑ Institutional Research
 - Deadlines, requirements, scholarships & cost
 - Fit: Academic, Financial, Social/Emotional
- ❑ Building your College List
 - 6-10 colleges



RESEARCH (continued)

THINGS TO ASK TO DETERMINE FIT*

- What's the undergrad population? Graduate? Average class size?
- Location? Public transportation? Accessibility? Weather?
- Do they have my major? Do I have to apply to my major? What if I'm undecided? How easy it is to change my major? What are the admission requirements? Are SAT/ACT required? What's the 4-year graduation rate? Tutoring services? How many students do internships? What do students do in their free time?
- Cost? Scholarships? Average starting salary? Job placement rate? Anticipating future costs?

**Much of this info can be found on college websites*



NOTES ABOUT ACADEMIC FIT

- Average college acceptance rate in the U.S. = 70%
- Around 200/1500 4-year colleges in the U.S. are “selective”
 - < 50% applicants admitted

The Exact Moment You Realize Your GPA Is Good Enough To Get You Into The College Of Your Dreams



GPA	3.62 to 4.22
ACT composite score	25 to 31
SAT combined score (ERW+M)	1220 to 1390

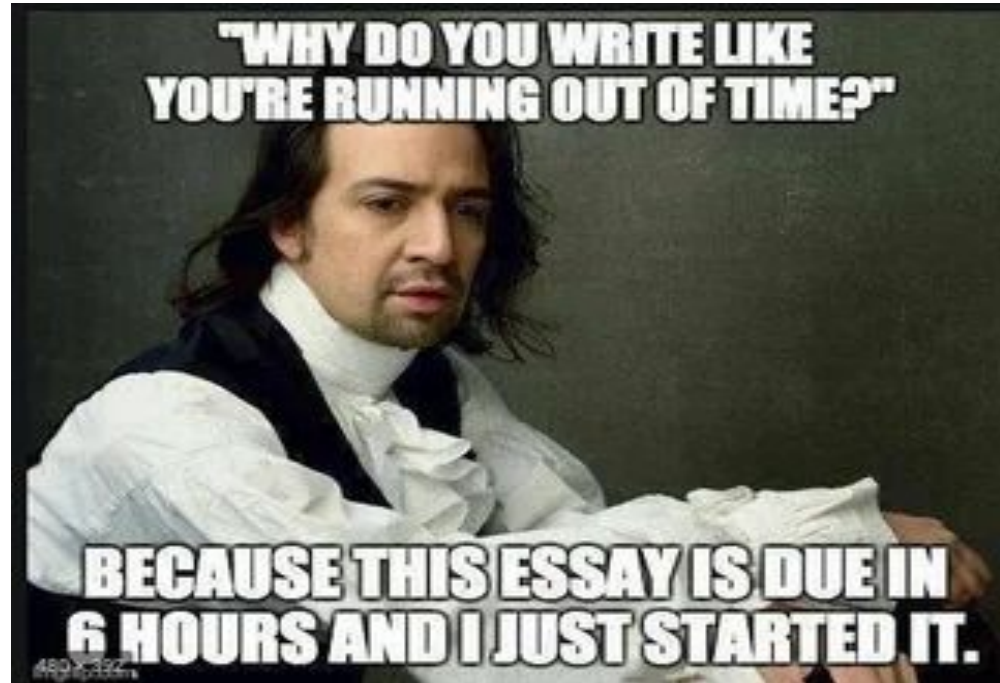
COLLEGE VISITS & ESSAY

THINGS YOU CAN DO OVER THE SUMMER

- Who / What / When / Where / Why?
- Types of visits
 - Info session & campus tour, open house, interview, athletic recruit visit, overnights, virtual visits
- Make the most of your visit
 - What do you want to see? Ask Q's, explore the city/town
- Demonstrated Interest



- Be authentic
- It's a human process
 - No “wrong” topic
- Follow Directions
 - Answer the Q
- Use your own voice
 - Don't use AI, don't have too many people review it
- Don't wait until the last minute!
 - Supplemental essays
- Resources: College Essay Guy, Johns Hopkins “essays that worked”, Harvard, NACAC, College Board, etc



CONNECTING THE DOTS

**When The Deadline For Submitting
The College Application Is
Almost Here**



**Waiting For College Decisions
Be Like...**



MIAMI UNIVERSITY

A nighttime photograph of a college town festival. In the foreground, a crowd of people is gathered on a lawn. In the background, there are trees with autumn lights, a Ferris wheel, and a building. A red banner is overlaid on the image.

OXFORD
OHIO
ULTIMATE
College Town.

Melissa Ward

Associate Director for Regional
Enrollment (DC, DE, MD, VA)

melissa.ward@miamioh.edu

513-529-4895