



11th Grade College Forum Class of 2024

Questions You Might Have Now

- ★ Initial Family Meeting?
- ★ Why isn't my student on board with my plan?
- ★ Quota on contact with the College Office?
- ★ Testing?
- ★ Financial Aid?
- ★ Does Urban know how special my kid is?
- ★ Everyone else knows _____. Am I missing something?

The background of the slide is a photograph of a college campus. In the foreground, two young women are sitting on a green lawn, looking at a book or document together. Behind them is a large, leafy tree on the left and a multi-story white building with many windows on the right. The entire image has a blue color overlay.

The College Process



Reminder Yourself to...

Stay Informed

Read our bulletins, peruse the resources on our website

Go to the Source

Be wary of misinformation, rumors, and “I heard...”

Be Open Minded

Your student may want a different experience than you expect

Keep Your Student's Integrity at the Center

What's right for your student/family will not necessarily align with what others are doing...and that's OK!

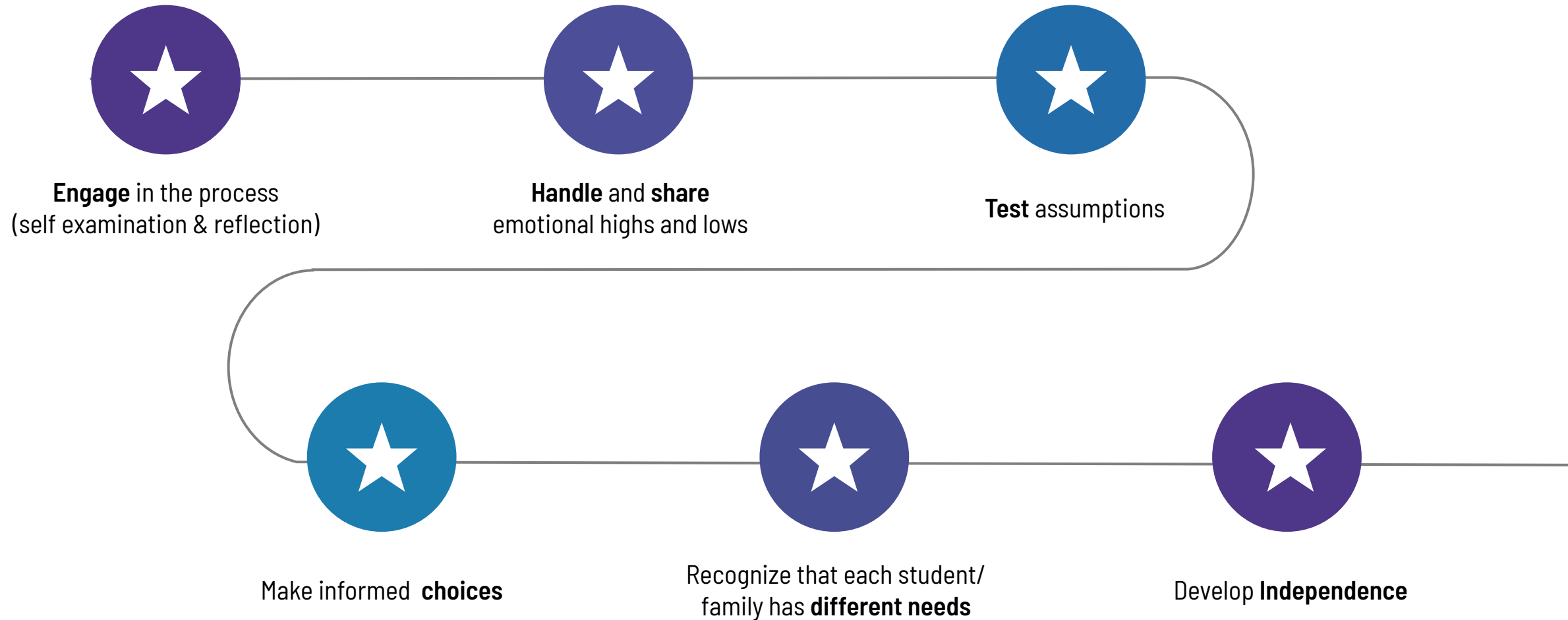
Allow Your Student to Take Ownership

This is their journey, their process, and their college to attend!

Remember That This Is a *Process*

And we are here to guide your student every step of the way

Skills Students Cultivate (with our support!)



What Happens at Urban in 11th Grade

- ★ Initial family meeting**
- ★ Individual student meetings
- ★ Class/advising meetings
- ★ College Counseling Bulletins**
- ★ MaiaLearning tutorials
- ★ Compass ACT Prep class
- ★ Parent/Guardian evening meetings*
- ★ Morning Coffees/Afternoon Teas*

** for parents/guardians only*

*** for students & parents*

What Happens at Urban in Senior Year

- ★ August application workshops
- ★ College rep visits
- ★ Individual student meetings
- ★ Class/advising meetings
- ★ College Counseling Bulletins**
- ★ Essay support and guidance
- ★ Application & decision making support
- ★ Afternoon open work hours in Fall Term
- ★ U and T Period class (**required**)
- ★ Morning Coffees/Afternoon Teas*

** for parents/guardians only*

*** for students & parents*

Standardized Testing

The background image shows two young women sitting on a green lawn, looking at a book or document together. They are in front of a large, light-colored building with many windows, likely a university or school building. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue and purple gradient, and the title 'Standardized Testing' is centered in a white box.

What to Know: PreACT and PSAT

- ★ PreACT (May 2022)
- ★ PSAT (October 2022)
- ★ Scores are visible in MaiaLearning





SAT or ACT?

1

There is no “right answer” when it comes to which test to take. It’s truly a matter of personal preference.

2

Most students do equally well on both exams.

3

SAT: Trickier questions but more time to answer each one
ACT: More straightforward questions but faster paced



SAT Exam

1

Sections: EBRW and Math Sections

2

Scoring: 1600 Scale

3

Writing?: There is no longer an essay

4

Registration: Students sign up on College Board's website

** NOTE: SAT Subject Tests no longer exist!*

SAT Test Dates



JUNIOR YEAR

- March 11 (Saturday at the end of Interterm Break)
- May 6
- June 3 (Saturday before final week)



SENIOR YEAR

- August, October, November, December



ACT Exam

1

Sections: English, Reading, Math & Science

2

Scoring: 36 Scale

3

Writing?: No writing necessary

4

Registration: Students sign up on ACT's website

ACT Test Dates



JUNIOR YEAR

- April 15
- June 10 (Saturday after final week)
- July 15



SENIOR YEAR

- September, October, December



Sending Scores to Colleges

1

Do **not** send scores to colleges now

2

Be attentive to timing in Senior Year: testing vs. application deadlines

3

Plan optimal time to take tests but do not strategize about sending scores (different colleges have different policies)

Test Prep

- ★ No Guarantees!
- ★ No one size fits all!
- ★ Many successful testers do no/little prep!
- ★ It is time consuming!



ACT Prep At Urban

COMPASS ACT PREP COURSE

10-Week Virtual Course

with 2 in-person practice exams

Prep for the April 15 ACT
Registration closes January 17
Begins January 25



AP Testing

1

Colleges will talk about “*most rigorous courses available*” at a high school.

2

AP exam offerings happen by discipline and are primarily used to issue college credit.

3

AP exam scores are **not** an evaluative part of the college application process.

A background image of a college campus with a large tree in the foreground and a multi-story building in the background. Two students are sitting on the grass in the foreground, looking at papers. The entire image has a blue tint and a white rectangular box in the center containing the text.

College Search



Starting the Search Process

Student needs to take an active/lead role

Remember, this is *their* process

Every student is different

It's all about finding the right school for *your* student

Research yourself, research schools

Part of this process involves looking outward and part of this process involves looking inward

Cast a wide net and have fun!

Explore different regions, urban vs. rural campuses, school sizes, etc.

Identify and talk about limitations, expectations & non-negotiables

This includes money!

Later: Make matches, balance the list

Counselors will help students do this in 1-1 meetings

Consider:

How do you define a “*good college*?”
Reframe the question!



What are your important factors? What matters to you?

- Academics, Extracurriculars, Campus Life, Financial Aid...
- Student GPA, Student Learning Style, Culture



This is a process with a lot of SELF REFLECTION

The Options:



CALIFORNIA PUBLIC SYSTEMS

- Community Colleges
- CSU
- UC



OUT OF STATE PUBLIC COLLEGES/ UNIVERSITIES



PRIVATE COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES



Community Colleges

- ★ 107 Campuses throughout CA
- ★ Specialized programs available
- ★ Very cost-effective way of approaching college admissions
- ★ Admissions:
 - Must be a high school graduate
 - Transfer possibilities–articulation agreement with UC/CSU
 - Apply in Spring of Senior Year

TAG: Transfer Admission Guarantee Program

- ★ As a California Community College applicant, the TAG program guarantees admission to one of six UCs: Davis, Irvine, Merced, Riverside, Santa Barbara, or Santa Cruz

UC Berkeley, UCA and UC San Diego do **not** offer **TAG** and **some programs do not participate**

- ★ To Apply: submit TAG application between Sep 1 and Oct 15 and your UC Undergrad application between Nov 1-30

- Admission guarantee only applicable into the major you indicate on your application
- That UC is bound to you, but you are not bound to it; you can apply to other UCs
- Create a UC TAG Admission Planner (TAP) account for guidance through the process

admissions.uci.edu/apply/transfer-students/guaranteed-admissions.php

California State University



*Regional preference
given for SFSU*

MORE INFO: calstate.edu/apply

ELIGIBILITY



SUBJECT REQUIREMENT

A-G courses



SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENT

Grades in A-G courses



EXAM REQUIREMENT

Test Free as of 2020

University of California



ELIGIBILITY



SUBJECT REQUIREMENT

A-G courses



SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENT

Grades in A-G courses (10/11)
3.0 minimum GPA



EXAM REQUIREMENT

Test Free as of 2020

MORE INFO: admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply-now

University of California: Comprehensive Review

1. GPA
2. Courses beyond minimum requirements
3. Number of UAS courses
4. ELC
5. Senior Year program
6. Performance/opportunities
7. Outstanding performance in one or more academic subject area
8. Outstanding work in one or more special project(s) in any academic field
9. Improvement
10. Special talents, achievements and awards
11. Completion of special projects
12. Academic accomplishments in light of the student's life experience and special circumstances
13. Location of secondary school and residence

Out of State Public Colleges

Examples:



University of Michigan



University of Arizona



University of Oregon



Indiana University



University of Virginia



University of Colorado, Boulder

Private Colleges

Each private college is different

- Selectivity/competitiveness
- Programs/majors offered
- Size of student body & campus
- Cost
- Etc...

The background image shows a university campus scene. In the foreground, two students are sitting on a grassy lawn, looking at a book or document together. Behind them, a large, leafy tree is partially visible, and in the background, a multi-story university building with many windows is visible. The entire image has a blue color overlay.

What to Do Now: Explore

Urban Website: College Counseling Section

urbanschool.org/college-counseling

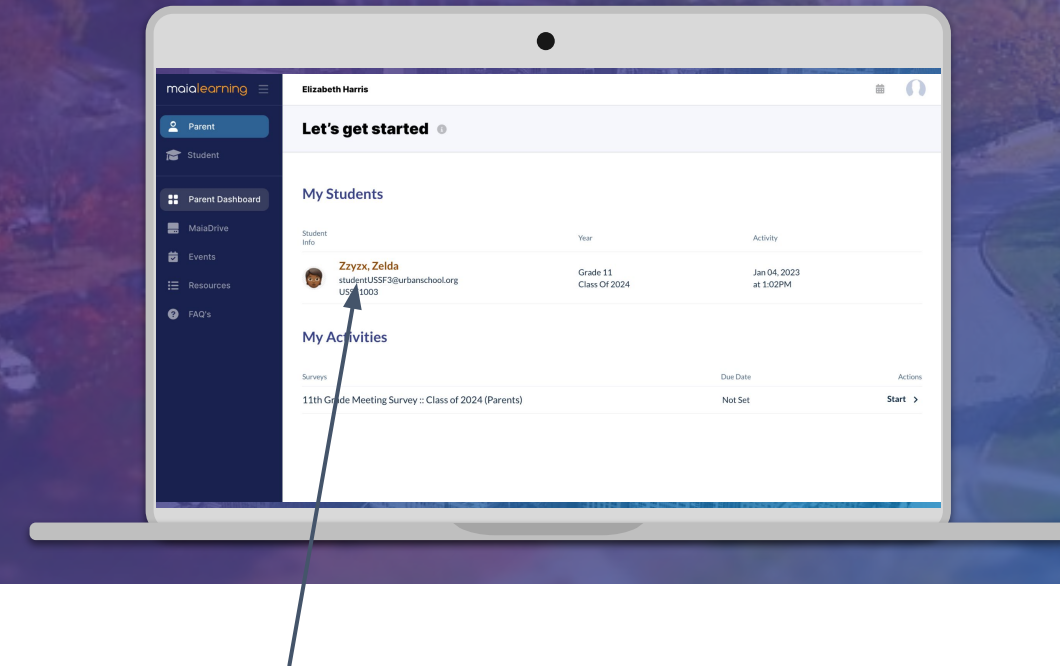
- Planning for College by Grade
- College Testing
- Financial Aid for College
- Frequently Asked Questions
- College Events Calendar

To navigate from Urban's Home page, click on the **Academics** section

MaiaLearning: Comprehensive College Platform

maialearning.com

- College Search Features
- List-building tools for students
- College Rep Visit Schedules (Senior Year)
- Application Document Tracking (Senior Year)
- Scholarship Opportunities



Click on your student's name to access their data and college search information

Make sure to **complete the survey at the bottom of your Dashboard** one week before your family meeting!

Ways to Explore Colleges

- ★ Read college catalogs/brochures
- ★ Research colleges
 - Fiske Guide
 - Colleges That Change Lives
 - MaiaLearning maialearning.com
 - Niche niche.com
 - Unigo unigo.com
 - Big Future bigfuture.collegeboard.org
 - NSSE survey nsse.indiana.edu
 - I'm First imfirst.org
 - US DOE College Score Board collegescorecard.ed.gov
- ★ Request info directly from colleges
- ★ Talk to College Alumni / Seniors
- ★ Talk to College Counselor
- ★ Visit Campus
 - Interterm Break
 - Spring Break
 - Local campuses



Create an Initial College List

Your College Counselor will get you started with suggestions

After your initial family meeting, you will receive a list of colleges to get the conversation started

Lists *should* and *will* evolve over time

Your student's list will change based on student research and feedback. The list your counselor provides is NOT your final list!

Be discerning about "Best Colleges" lists

There are many ways to organize/think about "Best Colleges" lists. Look at criteria for each list. Which aspects of institutions are most important to your student (research? teaching? environmental ethos? service programs? cost vs. salary potential?)

US News & World Report: “Best” National Universities



- Harvard
- Princeton
- Yale
- Columbia
- Stanford
- University of Pennsylvania
- California Institute of Technology
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Dartmouth
- Duke
- University of Chicago

Washington Monthly: Contribution to the Common Good

Washington[®]
MONTHLY

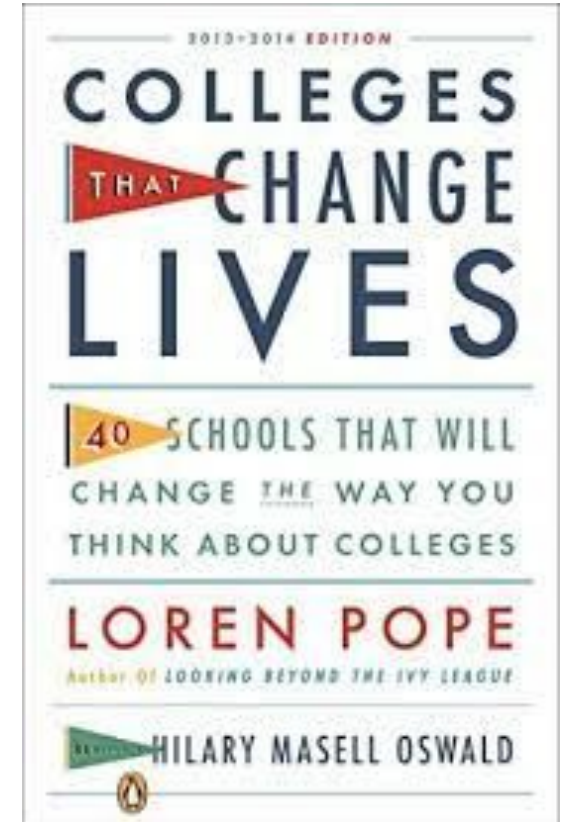
sort	Institution <div>sort a-z sort by state</div>		Social Mobility <div>sort</div>					Research <div>sort</div>			Service <div>sort</div>									
		Overall Score	Students receiving Pell grants	Net price	Predicted grad rate		Actual grad rate	Rank	Research expenditures, in millions	Rank	Bachelor's to PhD rank	Peace Corps Rank	ROTC Rank	Federal work-study funds spent on service		Rank	Community service participation and hours served	Rank	Service staff, courses and financial aid support	Rank
1	Bryn Mawr College (PA)	100	21%	19316	86%	87%	99	7.48	8		13	27	118	66%	1		12		19	
2	Swarthmore College (PA)	90	16%	19979	91%	93%	111	2.98	29		1	64	118	8%	202		4		68	
3	Berea College (KY)	88	90%	0	50%	64%	1	0.00	105		43	188	118	7%	209		19		45	
4	Carleton College (MN)	88	14%	27036	94%	93%	223	4.58	15		3	7	118	12%	144		68		31	
5	Harvey Mudd College (CA)	79	12%	28946	95%	87%	244	3.21	25		2	20	118	20%	64		91		93	
6	New College of Florida (FL)*	79	25%	9519	73%	68%	21	0.66	77		8	121	118	64%	2		91		93	
7	Williams College (MA)	76	18%	16791	91%	95%	55	4.69	13		5	48	118	18%	83		91		93	
8	Macalester College (MN)	73	14%	22225	89%	88%	163	4.39	16		21	12	96	21%	59		42		17	
9	Wellesley College (MA)	72	15%	18315	91%	90%	92	8.42	3		15	18	80	24%	37		91		93	
10	Amherst College (MA)	70	20%	13805	94%	95%	40	3.63	20		9	148	118	24%	35		91		93	
11	Knox College (IL)	70	22%	22487	85%	76%	222	0.00	105		30	10	118	44%	4		32		92	
12	Oberlin College (OH)	69	10%	32567	92%	88%	246	1.99	45		12	17	118	25%	31		25		51	
13	Wesleyan University (CT)	69	17%	20705	91%	94%	115	8.40	4		18	58	116	19%	71		88		82	

Colleges That Change Lives

"A familial sense of communal enterprise that gets students heavily involved in cooperative rather than competitive learning, and a faculty of scholars devoted to helping young people develop their powers, mentors who often become their valued friends."

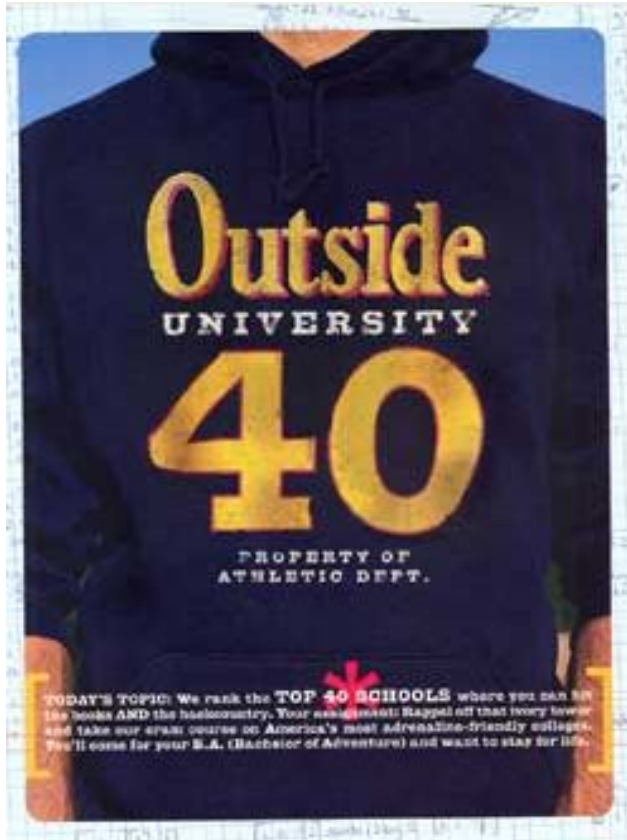
- Clark University
- Denison University
- Evergreen
- Goucher College
- Hampshire College
- Lawrence University
- Reed College
- St. John's
- University of Puget Sound
- Wheaton College
- Whitman College

* Not a complete list



ctcl.com

Outside Magazine



Top-notch academic credentials, a healthy environmental ethos, and an A+ sense of adventure

- UC Santa Cruz
- University of Colorado
- Middlebury
- Warren Wilson
- Montana State
- Simon Fraser
- Dartmouth
- University of Virginia
- Northern Arizona University
- University of Iowa

U.S. Dept of Education College Scorecard



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION College Scorecard

NEW YORK, NY

New York University



Year



Private
Nonprofit



City



Large

Graduation Rate ⓘ

84%

Average Annual Cost ⓘ

\$39k

Median Earnings ⓘ

\$76k

[View More Details »](#)

BOSTON, MA

Northeastern University



Year



Private
Nonprofit



City



Large

Graduation Rate ⓘ

88%

Average Annual Cost ⓘ

\$30k

Median Earnings ⓘ

\$80k

[View More Details »](#)

LOS ANGELES, CA

University of Southern California



Year



Private
Nonprofit



City



Large

Graduation Rate ⓘ

93%

Average Annual Cost ⓘ

\$33k

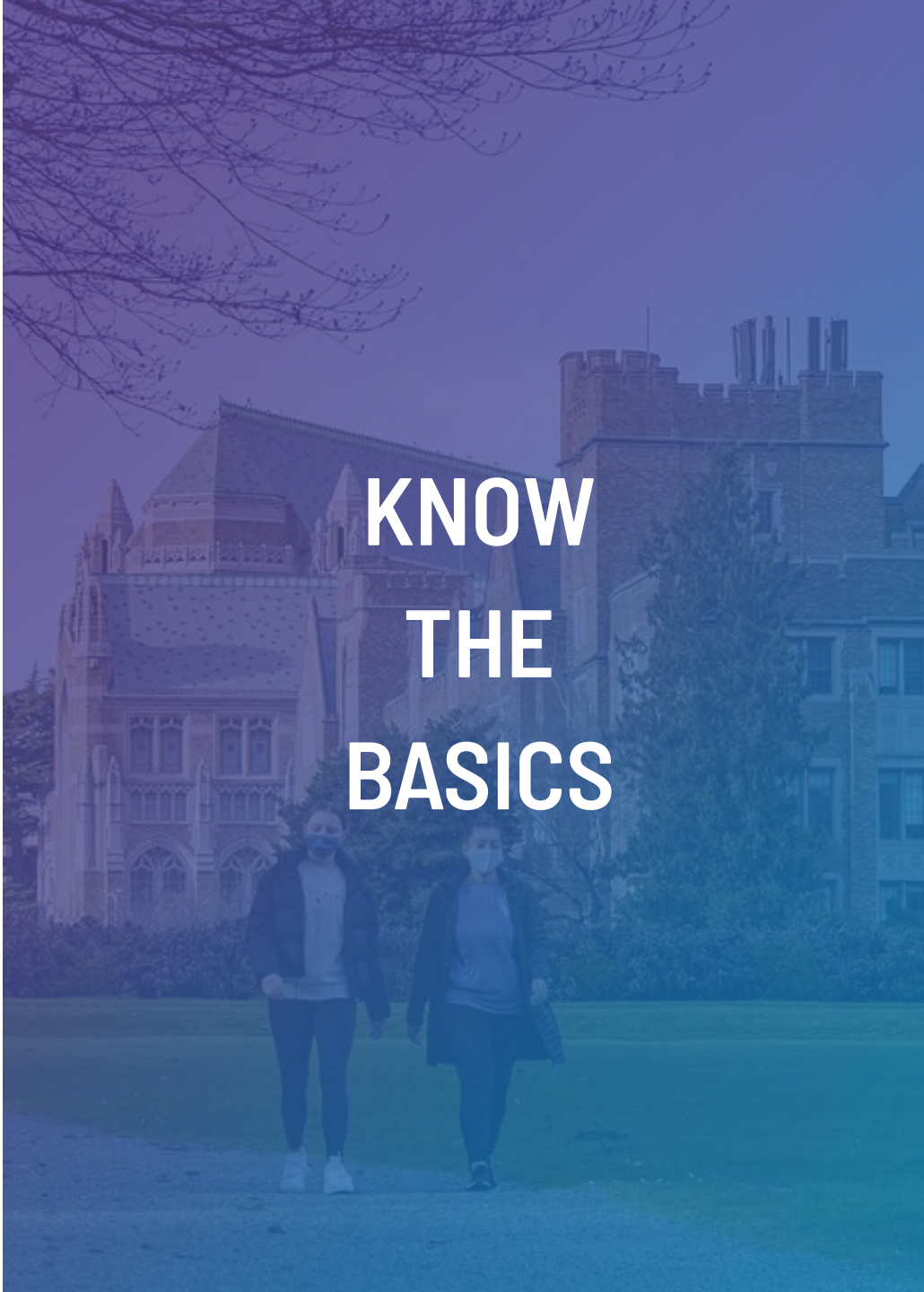
Median Earnings ⓘ

\$83k

[View More Details »](#)

Financial Aid

- ★ Calculate Student Aid Index/EFC at finaid.org
- ★ Go to Net Price Calculator on college websites
- ★ More info: fafsa.gov and cssprofile.collegeboard.org
- ★ Meetings at Urban in Spring and Fall
- ★ Conversations in individual meetings: you should always ask if a college meets need and HOW packages are structured



**KNOW
THE
BASICS**



Upcoming Events

Case Studies Program and College Fair

When: April 23 (usually in the afternoon)

Where: Sacred Heart Cathedral

College Counseling Tea: Financial Aid for College

When: March 28, 4pm

Where: Arcadia

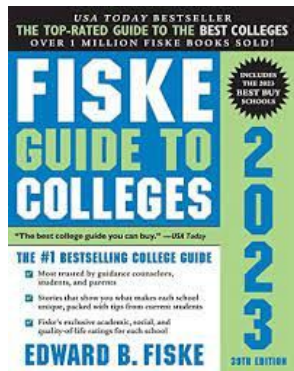
College Counseling Coffees

When: January 31, April 6, May 11, all from 8am-9am

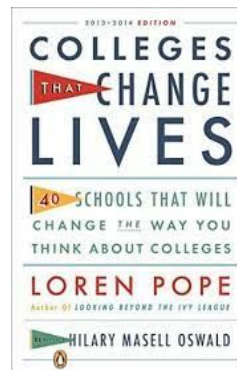
Where: Page Campus Conference Room

Note: Be sure to check emails from the College Counseling Office AND from individual colleges

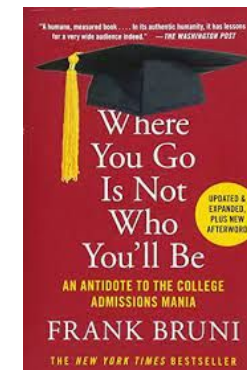
Recommended Reading



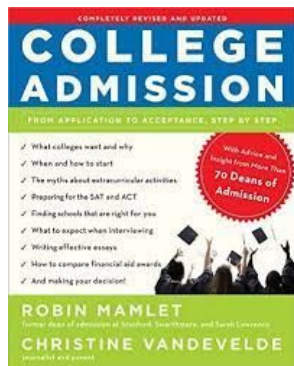
Fiske Guide
to Colleges
Edward B. Fiske



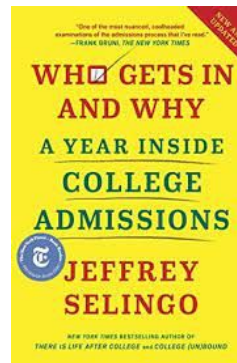
Colleges That
Change Lives
Loren Pope



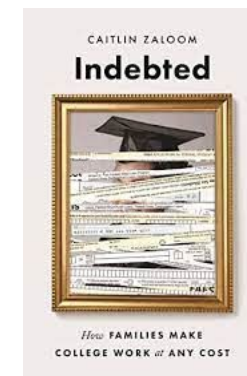
Where You Go Is
Not Who You'll Be
Frank Bruni



Colleges Admissions:
From Application to
Acceptance
Rober Mamlet &
Christine VanDeVelde



Who Gets In
and Why
Jeffrey Selingo



Indebted: How
Families Make College
Work at Any Cost
Caitlin Zaloom

And Finally...

- ★ There is time, even if it feels busy
- ★ Remember they are teenagers
- ★ There is a learning curve for everyone in this process



CONTACT US

Feel free to reach out! We're always here to help.

Lauren Gersick, Co Director of College Counseling
lgersick@urbanschool.org 415 593 9512

Elizabeth Harris, Co Director of College Counseling
eharris@urbanschool.org 415 593 9521

Leslie Schaffer, College Counseling Associate
lschaffer@urbanschool.org 415 593 9519

Andy Schine, College Counselor
aschine@urbanschool.org 415 593 9511

