

College and Post HS Planning Night

Juanita Counselors: Stefa Chow, Angela Kilkenny, Michelle Bainter, Christina Hunsberger, Ines Bergman

Guest Admissions Counselors—Megan Davis (University of Idaho), Sydney Montgomery (Boise State University), Ruth Schaub (Whitworth University), Mario Orallo-Molinero (Western Washington University), Juan Corona (Washington State University)

Welcome

POST-HIGH SCHOOL PATHWAYS

4-year College
or University

Community or
Technical
College

Career School

Apprenticeship

Military

Gap Year and
Service
Programs

Direct-to-
Work

Agenda

High School and Beyond Plan

Foundation

Search and List

Apply

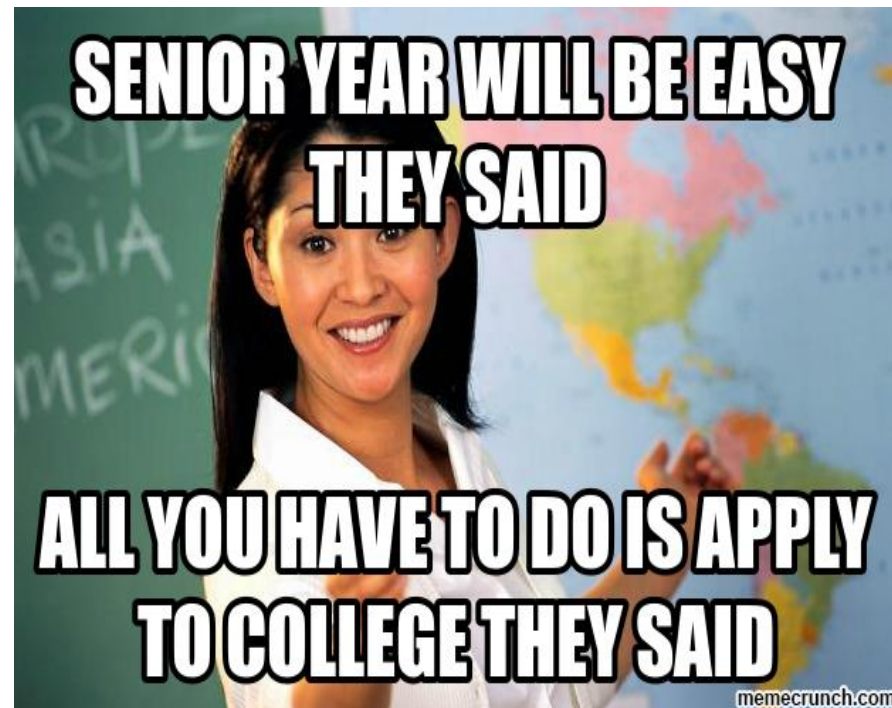
SAT/ACT

Alternatives

Money Matters

Timeline/Roles

Panel Q and A



High School and Beyond Plan

9th Grade

- Personality Styles
- Exploring Career Factors
- Getting Experience

xello

10th Grade

- Work Values
- Careers and Lifestyle Costs
- Workplace Skills and Attitudes

11th Grade

- Choosing a College
- Career Demand
- Entrepreneurial Skills

12th Grade

- Career Backup Plans
- Job Interviews
- Defining Success



Foundation

Have you ever heard these
buzzwords and thought
“What do these mean?”

Student to
Faculty Ratio

**Retention
Rate**

SuperScore

FAFSA

**Acceptance
Rate**

WUE

**Merit
Scholarships**

What are colleges looking for?

- Solid Academic Core (Required classes, rigor, grades, trends)
- Test Scores
- Activities
- Essays
- Recommendations
- Enthusiasm for school
- Perseverance

Foundation

	LWSD Required	Public	Selective
English	4	4	4
Sciences	3	3	4
Math	3	3	4
Social Studies	3	3	3-4
Arts	1-2	0.5-1	1
World Language	2	2-3	2-4

Holistic Review

- Whole applicant vs. Index review
- Differs between institutions
- Often reviewed by territory manager/your admissions counselor and reviewed more than once, possibly by committee

Holistic Review Factors

- Course Rigor/academic trend
- Letters of recommendation
- Essays
- Test scores
- Extracurricular activities
- Demonstrated Interest



- Ask admissions counselors how applications are reviewed
- When choosing high school courses, consider application review process of desired colleges
- Grades are important, but involvement in high school and community is also important!

Search

Factors

- Major/programs
- Location and Size
- Student to Faculty Ratio
- Student Life
- Campus Visit
- School Spirit
- Campus Visit
- Application Process
- Cost of Attendance
- Diversity

What's important to you?



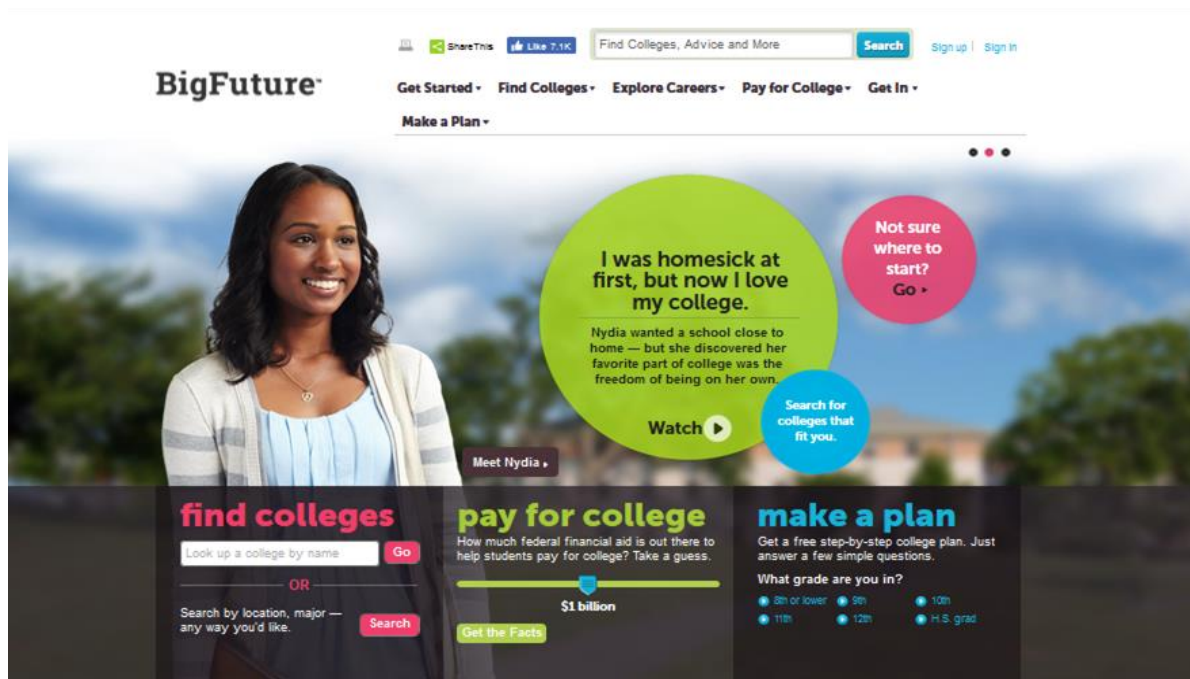
Large Schools	
University of Washington	38k
Oregon State University	30k
University of Alabama	40k
Boise State University	24k
Bellevue College	13k
Arizona State University	50k



Medium and Small Schools

University of Idaho	12k
George Washington University	15k
Gonzaga University	6.5k
University of Montana	12k
Evergreen State University	4k

Find



The image shows the BigFuture website homepage. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the BigFuture logo, social media links (Share This, Like 7.1K), a search bar with the text "Find Colleges, Advice and More", and links for "Sign up" and "Sign in". Below the navigation bar, there's a main banner featuring a smiling woman (Nydia) on the left. To her right, there are three overlapping circles: a large green one with the text "I was homesick at first, but now I love my college." and a "Watch" button; a pink one with "Not sure where to start? Go >"; and a blue one with "Search for colleges that fit you.". Below the banner, there are three main sections: "find colleges" with a search bar and "Go" button; "pay for college" with a progress bar showing "\$1 billion" and a "Get the Facts" button; and "make a plan" with a description and a "What grade are you in?" section with radio button options: "8th or lower", "9th", "10th", "11th", "12th", and "H.S. grad".

BigFuture

Get Started ▾ Find Colleges ▾ Explore Careers ▾ Pay for College ▾ Get In ▾
Make a Plan ▾

Share This Like 7.1K Find Colleges, Advice and More Search Sign up | Sign in

I was homesick at first, but now I love my college.
Nydia wanted a school close to home — but she discovered her favorite part of college was the freedom of being on her own.
Watch ▶

Not sure where to start?
Go >

Search for colleges that fit you.

find colleges
Look up a college by name Go
OR
Search by location, major — any way you'd like. Search

pay for college
How much federal financial aid is out there to help students pay for college? Take a guess.
\$1 billion
Get the Facts

make a plan
Get a free step-by-step college plan. Just answer a few simple questions.
What grade are you in?
8th or lower 9th 10th 11th 12th H.S. grad

College Search

Save Selections

Clear All
Selections

SELECT FILTERS

Test Scores & Selectivity

Type of School

Location

Campus & Housing

Majors & Learning
Environment

Sports & Activities

Academic Credit

Paying

Support Services

Diversity

Save Selections

Clear All Selections

You have
3,760 college
options. Choose a
category on the
left to find the
right ones for you.
We'll help along
the way.

Not sure where to start?
Go to [College Search
Step-by-Step](#), an
interactive guide.

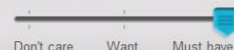
[Save Selections](#)[Clear All Selections](#)

SELECT FILTERS

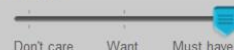
Test Scores & Selectivity

Type of School

4-year school



Large



Location

Location(s)



Campus & Housing

Majors & Learning Environment

Sports & Activities

Academic Credit

Paving

100% Match



100% Match



100% Match



100% Match



Location

[CLOSE AND SEE RESULTS](#)

Find colleges close to home

Within how many miles of home (or any other location) do you want to be?

of

Find colleges in U.S. regions and states

[Clear selections](#)

Choose as many as you like:

- ☒ Mid-Atlantic
- ☒ Midwest
- ☒ New England

Find colleges outside the U.S.

☐ See colleges in Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and other world regions.

Does college location matter to you?

Searching by location can be an easy way to narrow down the many college options out there. But keep your mind open. Try searching a few more miles away and see how many options open up to you. [Find out more about making the most of your campus visits.](#)



I stayed close to home so my parents could visit

Jonathan O., college junior

Application List

Categories of Schools

- **Safety School** - Above average applicant; within budget
- **Good Match** - Schools that meet your “College Fit Checklist” and you meet their minimum admission requirements
- **Reach School** - Less likely to be accepted; out of budget

Create A List

- Start a “College Fit” list
 - Negotiables vs. Non-negotiables
- Start a work sheet that includes:
 - Acceptance rate, average SAT/ACT, class rank, decision type, deadlines
- Apply to approx. 2 schools in each category
 - 2 Safety
 - 2 Target or “Good Match”
 - 2 Reach

Visit

- **Feet on the ground**, take in the atmosphere
- Overall **community feel**
- **Ask your tour guide** about their experience
- Meet with **academic areas of interest**
- **Open Houses**
- **Multiple Schools in 1 Trip**





- If possible, visit while students are on campus
- Attend off-campus events in your area
- Apply to schools where you can envision yourself as part of the community
- Connect with admissions counselors at schools of interest!

Apply

When

Type	Binding	Due	Commit	Examples
Early Decision	Yes	Nov	w/admit	Duke, GWU, Whitman
Early Action	No	Nov	By 5/1	Oregon State, GWU, WWU,
Regular Decision	No	Nov, Dec, Jan	By 5/1	All early schools UW, UCLA
Rolling	No	None	By 5/1	WSU, Alabama

How

THE COMMON
APPLICATION



Types of Applications

Common Application	700 Colleges, 1 app Ex. U of Idaho, Oregon State
Coalition Application	90 Colleges, 1 app Ex. UW, U of Oregon
System-wide Application	Ex. U. of California schools
College-specific	WSU, Boise State, Western

Dashboard

My Colleges

Common App

College Search

My Colleges (3)

Deadline

Application

Writing Supplement

▶ Boston College

—



▶ Emerson College

—



▶ University of Michigan

—





- Create an organization system with requirements and deadlines
- Complete profile sections ahead of time when possible
- Refine activities list
- Don't wait until the last minute!

Essays

The Basics

- To **find out more about you as a person** than can be seen from the application and resume.
- To **see how you utilize critical thought** and apply it to a variety of situations.
- To get a **glimpse of your writing “voice”** and how you communicate ideas.
- Allow you a **voice in the decision process**.

Essay Prompts

- The “You” Question
- The “Passion” or “Interest” Question
- The “Why Us” Question
- The “Creative” Question





- Leave yourself **plenty of time**
 - **Research prompts** (main and supplements)
- **Ask someone to read it**
- **Write out potential paths**
 - Use whatever method fits your personality
 - Outline
 - Write, read, let it sit, repeat

Recommendations

The Basics

- Help college admissions counselors get a more **complete picture of applicant**
- **Not all colleges** will request recommendations
- **Teacher letters** of recommendation describe the student as a **learner in the classroom**
 - Choose a teacher with developed rapport in core subject
 - If second is required, utilize a teacher in a different dimension (ASB, sports, band, etc.)
- **Counselor letters** of recommendation describe the student **holistically as a person**



- Not every school needs them...but **plan for 2** (teacher, counselor) for admissions or scholarship purposes
- Ask late spring of Junior Year**
- Give writer at least **4 weeks notice**
- Use your school's Letter of Recommendation **forms**
- Say **thank you!**

Testing

The Basics



SAT/ACT--used for college admissions decisions and awarding merit-based scholarships

Only need one

SAT Subject Tests—one hour tests required by a handful of schools

900 Schools Test Optional- ex: GWU



Oct, Nov, Dec, Mar, May, June, Aug	Sept, Oct, Dec, Feb, Apr, June, July
More time per question	Less time per question
Formulas Provided 50% of composite score	Calculator allowed for all math No Formulas provided 25% of composite score
No Science Component	Includes Science
Mix of contemporary & historical	All contemporary passages
Optional Essay—50 mins, analyze a passage	Optional Essay—40 mins, address contemporary issue w/3 opinions
Top score 1600; math=50% of score	Top score 36; math=25% of score



- **Take a practice test of each**
- **Pick your best fit and prepare the summer after 10th and/or Junior Year**
- **Prep how you learn best** (online, class, book)
- **Take advantage of free resources**—Khan Academy and Method Test Prep (on Xello)
- **Plan for 1-2 test sittings Junior Year-early Senior Year**
- **A few schools require SAT subject tests—always check**

Paying for College

Sources of Funding

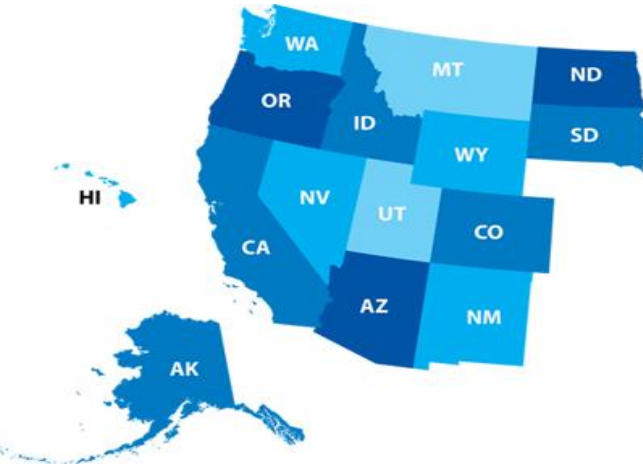
- Federal Grants & Loans
- State Grants & Scholarships
- Private Scholarships
- Institutional Grants & Scholarships



- Utilize **Net Price Calculators** to see if a school may be a good financial fit for you
- **Consider out-of-state options**
 - **WUE** (Western Undergraduate Exchange)
 - Schools with **out-of-state scholarships**
- **File FAFSA beginning fall of senior year**
- Washboard.org
- College Board Scholarship Search
- CSS Profile

WUE

WUE



- **Western Interstate Commission of Higher Education (WICHE)**
- Regional tuition-reciprocity agreement
- Up to **150% of in state resident tuition**
- Choose from hundreds of majors at 160 schools
- Valid for full 2 and 4 year degrees

Estimated
savings of
**\$365.4
million**



40,000+
WUE
awards



Average
student
savings of
\$9,000!

WUE Examples

School	GPA	Test Score	Deadline	WUE application
Boise State University	3.2	SAT 1060 ACT 21	12/15	No
Montana State University	3.5	SAT 1310 ACT 28	2/1	Yes
University of Alaska Anchorage	No Requirement		No	Yes
University of Idaho	3.2	No Requirement	No	No

Example of Savings

	Idaho Resident	Out of State Students	WUE Eligible
Boise State University	\$7.3k	\$24k	\$11.5k
University of Idaho	\$7.9k	\$25.5k	\$11.8k

Applying for WUE

- Apply directly to school, No general WUE application
- Look for:
 - Early deadlines or first-come, first-served programs
 - Is a separate application required?
 - Minimum GPA and SAT/ACT scores
 - Restrictions on eligible majors (i.e. University of Arizona only offers WUE for mining engineering)



- WUE awards are **time-limited**, or **may max out after a certain number of credits** are earned
- **Check w/school for GPA and min credit hours**
- Students **can't use time paying the WUE rate to gain in-state residency**
- Students **must remain in good academic standing**

Alternatives/Transfers

Alternatives

Technical colleges

Gap Year

Military service options

Community colleges



- Option for a student who needs more time to improve grades and/or save money
- Different criteria than Freshman applicants
- Most competitive transfer candidates have 2 years (90 credits)
- Look for articulation agreements
- Communicate with counselor at desired 4 year

Roles and Timelines

Counselors:

Stefa Chow: A – C + AVID

Angela Kilkenny: D – I

Michelle Bainter: J – M

Christina Hunsberger: N – Sp

Ines Bergman: Sq – Z +
Spanish/Portuguese Speaking
Families

Other Important Staff:

Kendra Phillips: College &
Career Specialist

Margaret Campbell: High
School & Beyond Coordinator

Panel We  questions
