

COLLEGE BOUND

*YOUR APPLICATION MENTOR*SM

The Results

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This time of year is always fraught with excitement, nervousness, and ultimately relief as I get the phone calls and e-mails from seniors about where they have been accepted. I share in all of their joy, disappointment, and confusion as they come to make their final decisions.

Fortunately, there is more joy than disappointment, but this year there was also a lot of indecision as the financial impact of the decision weighed heavily as well as the excitement of getting in. Below are the results of how the class of 2009 did and how the financial piece also played out.

I am happy to say, that overall there was excellent news and everyone has a school that is not only a great fit, but also financially viable. In this market, that is saying a lot!

The Results

In a very competitive year, you guys had amazing results. Below are a list of schools to which the class of 2009 was accepted. We are still waiting to hear from some waitlists, so this list may change.

Overall, most students got into their first or second choice and those who had a financial need, received excellent merit based awards. You should all be very proud of your efforts and the results speak for themselves.

Allegheny College
American University (School of Int'l. Service)
Arcadia University
Barnard College
Binghamton University
Boston College
Boston University
Brandeis University
Brown University
Bryn Mawr College
Carleton College
Claremont McKenna College
Clarkson University
Columbia University
University of Connecticut
Curry College
University of Delaware (Honors Program)
Drew University
Drexel University
Eckerd College
Emory University
Furman University
The George Washington University (School of Media & Public Affairs)
Goucher College
Guilford College
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Indiana University at Bloomington (Kelley School of Business and Journalism)
James Madison University
Johns Hopkins University

Hundreds of Heads: Getting into College

I was one of the Independent Educational Consultants Association (IECA) members selected to contribute to this book. I read through it and it offers a lot of good advice. If you'd like a copy, please let me know and I can order you one at a 50% discount plus shipping and handling.

Juniata College
Kenyon College
King's College
Long Island University, C.W. Post Campus
Lycoming College
Lynn University
Macalester College
Marist College
University of Mary Washington
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Massachusetts, Amherst (Sporst Management)
McDaniel College
McGill University
University of Miami
Miami University, Oxford
Michigan State University
University of Michigan (Honors, Arts and Science)
University of Missouri Columbia (School of Journalism)
Montclair State University
Moravian College
Mount Holyoke College
Muhlenberg College
The College of New Jersey
New York University (College of Arts and Science)
Northeastern University (College of Engineering)
Occidental College
The Ohio State University
Pennsylvania State University, Schreyer Honors College
Pennsylvania State University, University Park
University of Pittsburgh
University of Puget Sound (Honors Program)
Purchase College
Quinnipiac University (Business and Physician Assistant)
Ramapo College of New Jersey
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rider University
Rochester Institute of Technology



New York Times Article

Student
Profiles

[Students
Grapple with
Their Decision](#)

You are not alone. If you want to see how some local students did and what their choice are, click above.

University of Rochester
Rutgers
Sacred Heart University
Scripps College
Seton Hall University
Simmons College
Smith College
Stony Brook University
Susquehanna University
Tufts University
Tulane University
Ursinus College
University of Vermont
Washington College
Washington University in St. Louis
Wheaton College
Whitman College
College of William and Mary

Merit Aid

Who Qualifies and Why?

Many people assume that only straight A students with near perfect test scores qualify for merit aid, but that is not the case. This year, College Bound Mentor clients received anywhere from \$3,000 per year to \$27,000 per year, depending on the fit with the school. **The average award was \$15,000 per year. All told, students received upwards of \$415,000 per year in merit scholarship or \$1.6 Million* over four years!** That's impressive!

So how does one qualify for merit based aid? Unlike needs-based aid, merit is awarded based on the student's academic achievement, athletic, artistic, or performing arts talent, community service, standardized test scores, and overall fit with the school.

In analyzing the students who got merit-aid at various schools, it seemed that students who had one or more of the following profiles did well:

1. Their SATs or ACTs either matched or were higher than then their grades and classes suggested. For

example a student who had a 3.0-3.5 GPA, but scored 1350 or higher in the Math and Critical Reading.

2. Students who had exceptional leadership in addition to high test scores.
3. Students who had exceptional leadership and a special talent, e.g. athletics, performing or visual arts and had solid GPAs.
4. Students who were an excellent fit for the school in terms of interests, personality, and geographic diversity.

A recent NACAC survey of public and private institutions further corroborates how merit decisions are made. The take away from this for those who wish to receive merit aid in the future is to continue to work hard in school and or your extracurricular activities and study for the standardized tests, and develop a list of schools strategically based on your strengths and interests.

* This includes all money received from schools to which students will and will not attend.

Criteria	PUBLIC	PRIVATE
SAT/ACT Scores	83%	74%
High School Grades	79%	76%
Class Rank (Decile)	47%	40%
Talent (music, art)	30%	44%
Athletics	29%	19%
Legacy Status	11%	11.7%

Matriculating to Schools

Only One Will Do!

Seniors will need to send in their deposit to schools by May 1st. I have met or discussed with many of you to help make the final decision. For those of you still deciding, it is helpful to come up with a list of questions that you still feel are unanswered. If they are academic in nature, e-mail the questions to professors in the department you are thinking of pursuing at each of the schools in contention. See what sort of response you get. This will give you an idea of how your relationship with professors may be next year. If they are social in nature, develop a list and send it to some current students. If the choice is purely financial, let the numbers speak.

You may only send a deposit into one school. It is tempting to send in multiple deposits to keep your options open, but you may only send a deposit to one school. If the two schools find out that you have double deposited they may both rescind your offer. If you deposit before May 1st, which I recommend for larger schools to guarantee housing, it is polite to let the other schools know of your decision, but it is not mandatory. The lack of deposit will speak for itself.

For those of you still on a waitlist, should you get in off the waitlist, it is perfectly accepted at that point to let the school to which you sent a deposit know you will not be coming. They are used to that and there will be no hard feelings.

Please let me know where you do end up going so I can stay in touch.

I am so proud of all of you seniors and I am looking forward to working with the classes of 2010-12. Happy spring!

Warmly,

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