

# COLLEGE BOUND

## YOUR APPLICATION MENTOR<sup>SM</sup>

## The Results

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This time of year is always fraught with excitement, nervousness, and ultimately relief as we get the phone calls and e-mails from seniors about where they have been accepted. We 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 and overshadowed the excitement of getting in. Below are the results of how the class of 2010 did and how the financial piece also played out.

We are pleased to say that overall there was excellent news and everyone has a school that is not only a great fit, but also financially viable.

### The Results

This was an extremely competitive year for Ivies and other highly select colleges with record lows in acceptances, however overall students did extremely well and there were many pleasant surprises. The Washington Post outlines the acceptance rate at numerous schools in this link. [Accept Rates from Washington Post Article](#)

Below is a partial listing of schools to which CB Mentor students were accepted this year.

American University

### 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 \$4,000 per year to \$25,000 per year, depending on the fit with the school. **The average award was \$12,500 per year.** All told, students received upwards of \$367,000 per year in merit scholarship or **\$1.4 Million\*** over four years! That's impressive!

So how does one qualify for merit based aid? Unlike

Babson College  
 Binghamton University  
 Boston University  
 Brandeis University  
 Carnegie Mellon University  
 Case Western Reserve University  
 The Catholic University of America  
 Cleveland Institute of Art  
 University of Connecticut  
 University of Delaware  
 DePaul University  
 Drew University  
 Drexel University  
 Duke University  
 Elon University  
 Emerson College  
 Gettysburg College  
 Goucher College  
 Hofstra University  
 Indiana University at Bloomington (Kelley School of Business)  
 Ithaca College  
 Johns Hopkins University  
 Johnson & Wales University  
 Lehigh University  
 Marist College  
 Maryland Institute College of Art  
 University of Maryland, College Park  
 Marywood University  
 University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
 University of Miami  
 University of Michigan (Ross School of Business)  
 Middlebury  
 New Jersey Institute of Technology (Albert Dorman Honors College)  
 The College of New Jersey  
 New York University  
 University of North Carolina at Greensboro  
 Northeastern University  
 Ontario College of Art & Design (OCAD)  
 Pennsylvania State University, University Park  
 University of Pittsburgh (University Honors College)  
 Pitzer College  
 Quinnipiac University  
 Ramapo College of New Jersey  
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
 University of Rhode Island  
 University of Richmond  
 Rider University  
 Roanoke College  
 University of Rochester  
 Rowan University  
 Rutgers

needs-based aid, merit is awarded based on the student's academic achievement, athletic, artistic, or performing arts talent, community service, standardized test scores, geographic diversity, minority status, 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 were underrepresented minorities.
5. Students who were an excellent fit for the school in terms of interests, personality, and geographic diversity.

A National Association for College Admission Counseling (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.

## **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 and idea of how your relationship with professors may be next year. If they are social in nature, develop a list

Sacred Heart University (University College)  
Sarah Lawrence College  
ScScripps  
State University of New York at Albany  
College of Staten Island  
Stevens Institute of Technology  
Stonehill College  
Stony Brook University  
Susquehanna University  
Swarthmore College  
Syracuse University  
The University of Texas, Austin (College of  
Communication)  
Tulane University  
Union College  
Ursinus College  
Vassar College  
University of Vermont  
Wagner College  
Washington University in St. Louis  
Wilmington University  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

and send it to some current students. If the choice is purely financial, let the numbers speak.

While it is tempting to send in multiple deposits to keep your options open, 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 accepted off the waitlist, it is perfectly acceptable 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 us know where you do end up going so we can stay in touch.

We are so proud of all of you seniors and we are looking forward to working with the classes of 2011-13.  
Happy spring!

Warmly,

Lisa Bleich and Diane Forman  
908-789-8566  
Lisa@collegeboundmentor.com  
[College Bound Mentor, LLC](#)