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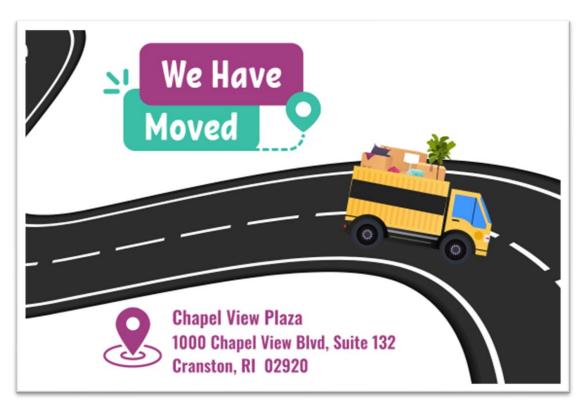




iii RISLA College Planning Center

Before we begin.....2 Important Notes







AGENDA

- College admission requirements
- Where to begin
- Application expectations
- ⇒ A brief history of Financial Aid
- Financial Aid overview
- Eligibility, awards and loans

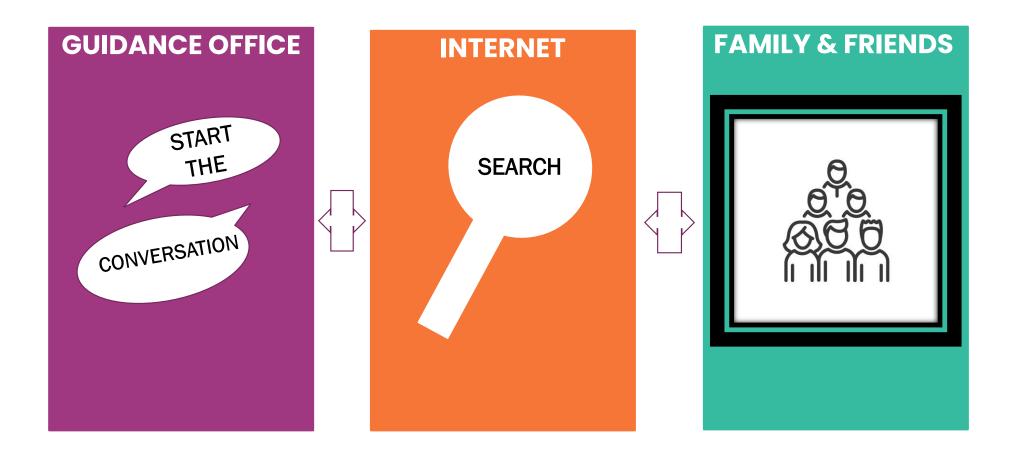


COLLEGE ADMISSIONS





HOW TO SEARCH FOR COLLEGES





WHERE SHOULD I APPLY?

- City or small college town?
- What size college appeals to you?
- Public or private?
- What kind of weather do you prefer?
- Does your major require special facilities?
- Do you need academic structure?
- Affordability?
- Athletics?





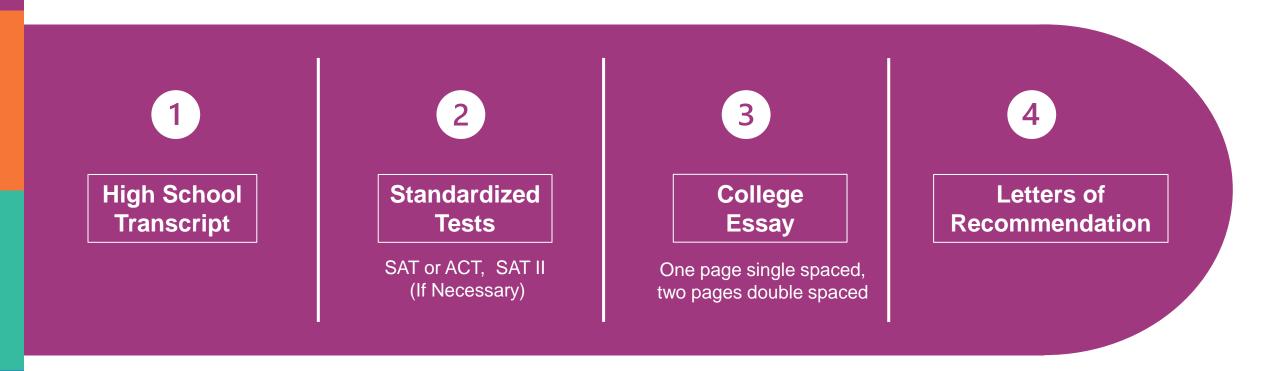
SCHOOL VISITS

- Visit when the college is in session
- If possible, spend the night in the dorm
- Attend classes
- Visit the student union
- Visit career services
- Talk to as many people as possible
- Read a copy of the latest student newspaper
- Check out school's social media





Admission Requirements



Optional: Resume, Interview



How Many Schools Should You Apply To?

MY PREFERENCE:

- No more than Eight
- One that you are relatively certain that you will be accepted to and that you can afford





Know the Terms

Early Action

Early Decision

Regular Admissions Rolling Admissions



Ready to Apply

3 Things to Remember

- Deadlines!
- Deadlines!!
- Deadlines!!!

Ways to Apply

The Common Application Online

www.commonapp.org

THE APPLICATION

- Do not rush start early
- Answer all questions on the application
- Make sure guidance uploads the transcript
- Make sure recommendations are uploaded





THE ESSAY

- Follow instructions on the application: word count, font size, and formatting
- Tell them something that they do not already know
- Stick to the prompt
- When appropriate, be creative
- PROOFREAD!!!!

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THE RESUME

- Activities
- Community service
- Work experience
- Honors and recognition





ADMISSIONS DECISIONS

- Strength of curriculum/Level of Challenge
- Choice of senior year courses
- Grades in all academic courses
- Standardized tests
- Essay
- Creativity, initiative, leadership and personal qualities that help you stand out

Help is available:

College planning guidance at the:

College Planning Center of RI

Currently accepting phone appointments only

Schedule on-line at www.collegeplanningcenter.org

Call to schedule an appointment

401-736-3170



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