

College Application Planner

You do not need to write answers to these questions, unless you want to. Just think about them before our first session and come prepared to discuss. Don't worry if you aren't sure about some of the questions. We can brainstorm or research more together. However, the more thought you can give these questions before we meet, the more productive our first session will be. I look forward to working together!

- Nathan Greenberg (Ivy League Mentors)

Basic Info

What is your current GPA?

List all SAT and/or ACT scores here, along with dates taken:

Provide a list of all courses you have taken every semester since 9th grade, and your grades for each course. Include courses that you are currently taking or plan to take this year (although you do not need to provide your grades for these).

If there are any courses in which your grade was especially low, what do you think was the cause of the low grade?

If you are in an IB program, what is your predicted score?

Please list all additional tests (AP, SAT subject tests, TOEFL, etc) that might be relevant, along with dates taken:

Country/countries of citizenship:

In what countries have you lived over the course of your life, and when did you live there?

Academic Interests

To write an effective college application, you should have at least a tentative plan about what subject(s) you want to major in and a convincing reason for your choice. It also helps to have relevant knowledge or experience in your intended area of study.

Intended Major 1:

Why do you want to study this subject? How and when did you become interested in this subject? How does it relate to your long term career/life goals? What relevant knowledge or experience do you have?

Intended Major 2 (optional):

Why do you want to study this subject? How and when did you become interested in this subject? How does it relate to your long term career/life goals? What relevant knowledge or experience do you have?

Extracurricular Life

A big part of your success as an applicant depends on how you use your free time. Use the space below to brainstorm a list of all the things you do (or have done) outside of required school work that you might want colleges to know about. These could include school clubs, volunteer work, arts, athletics, internships, competitions, awards, hobbies, unusual experiences, etc.

Choose the 6 most important activities from the list above and try to answer the following questions about each of them: *How much time do/did I devote to this activity? What is/was my role in this activity? What have I learned from this activity? Why is this activity important to me?*

Activity 1:

Activity 2:

Activity 3:

Activity 4:

Activity 5:

Activity 6:

Self-Reflection

When writing your college applications, you will need to reflect on yourself as an individual and your role in the world. The questions below will guide you in that process.

What do you think are your most significant personal strengths? What are some specific examples or experiences that show these strengths?

What do you think are your most significant personal weaknesses? What are some specific examples or experiences that show these weaknesses?

What hardships have you overcome in your life? How did you overcome these hardships, and what did you learn in the process?

How have you been influenced by the community or communities in which you live? (By community, you may consider your school, neighborhood, city, country, etc)

How have you influenced the community or communities in which you live? (By community, you may consider your school, neighborhood, city, country, etc)

What is something unique or special about you?

Choose two or three adjectives that you think reflect who you are overall. What are some specific examples or experiences that show these traits?

Is there anything else about your identity or background that you think is important for colleges (or Nathan) to know?

School Selection

List all colleges to which you are considering applying, in order of preference. Then, answer the following questions for each school: *Why are you applying to this school? What makes his school special? What makes this school a good match for you? Look up the average GPA and SAT or ACT score of admitted students and consider how likely it is that you will be admitted. (Keep in mind that international students from overrepresented countries face a much more competitive process, so higher grades and scores than average might be expected).*

Choice 1:

Choice 2:

Choice 3:

Choice 4:

Choice 5:

Choice 6:

Choice 7:

Choice 8:

Choice 9:

Choice 10:

Choice 11:

Choice 12: