

Getting Into College What Do "They" Look For?

Academic Achievements, Quality and Potential

Student Transcript/Secondary School Academic Performance

1. Grade Point Average
 - Re-calculated academic gpa-based on academics only
 - Pattern of Grade Improvement during high school
 - Cumulative gpa with specialty classes
2. Quality of curriculum
 - Solid College-prep curriculum (4 years if all academic subjects)
 - Math, Science, English, Social Studies, Foreign/World Language
 - Strength in senior year courses
 - Core (required) curriculum/courses courses beyond core curriculum
 - AP, IB and honors courses/current college courses while in high school.
3. Test Scores (ACT, SAT I & II, AP, etc)
4. Internships/volunteerism in area of academic interest
5. Participation in summer enrichment or outreach programs
6. Class Rank/Decile. Huron uses Decile, Top % of the graduating class.

Evaluative Measures/Student Transcript

1. Depth in one or more academic areas related to student's interests.
2. Evidence of academic passion
3. Grasp of world events
4. Independent academic research
5. Intellectual curiosity
6. Artistic Talent
7. Writing Quality – context, style, originality, risk taking

Educational Environment/Quality of High School-School Profile

1. Strength of Curriculum (including availability of AP, IB, honors)
2. Average ACT/SAT scores
3. Percentage attending 4 year colleges
4. Competitive grading system in high school
5. Competitiveness of graduating class
6. Academically disadvantaged school?

Personal Characteristics and Attributes

Personal Background

1. Cultural awareness/experiences
2. Race/Ethnicity
3. Socioeconomic and Educational Background
 - First generation to go to college from family
 - Low-economic family background
 - Economically disadvantages region
4. Geographic Considerations
 - In State Resident
 - Underrepresented geographic area
5. Gender/Professional Diversity
6. Awards and Honors (academic, athletic, artistic, musical, civic)
7. Extracurricular activities, service, leadership
 - Quality and depth of involvement
 - Leadership

- Community service
 - Impact student's involvement had on school and/or community
8. Alumni relationships
 9. Scholarship athlete
 10. Work experience

Extenuating Circumstances

1. Overcoming personal adversity/disadvantage/unusual hardships
2. Language spoken at home/ESL
3. Frequent moves/many different schools

Other Considerations

1. Demonstrated interest in college/good match
2. Strong personal statement

Recommendations

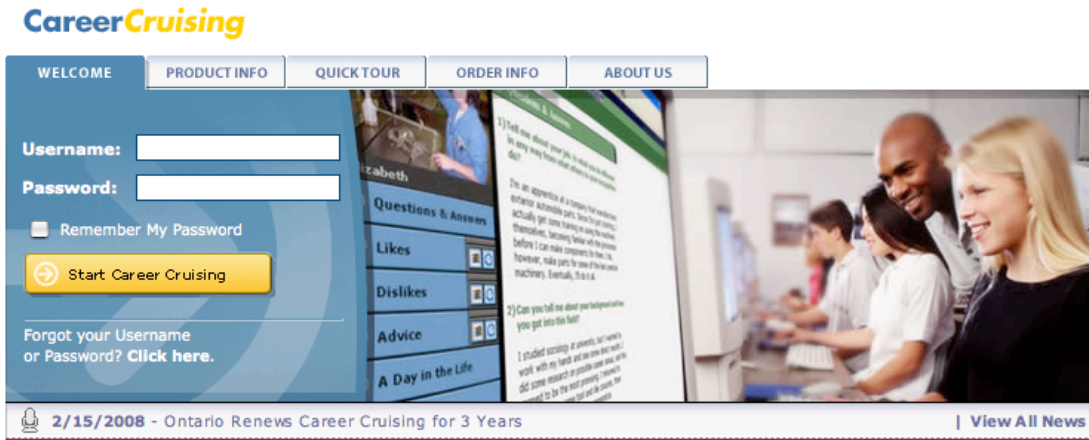
Counselor and Teacher Recommendations

1. Character
2. Civic and cultural awareness/diverse prospective/tolerance
3. Commitment to high ideals
4. Intellectual independence/enthusiasm for learning/risk taking
5. Creativity/artistic talent
6. Concern for others/community
7. Motivation/determination/ grit/effort/initiative/persistence/tenacity
8. Leadership Potential

**Where to find what “They” Look For?
Great Reference Tools for Getting Into College**

<http://www.careercruising.com>

(This is your student's online EDP!)



www.princetonreview.com

www.collegeboard.com

www.petersons.com