

Tips for Parents of College-Bound Students

How soon is too soon to worry about college?

We want your children to grow and mature both socially and emotionally. Academic and intellectual development occurs differently for each child. Most students and families begin thinking seriously about college plans in the junior year of high school.

If I didn't go to college in the U.S., how will the Summit Country Day School counselors help us understand this system?

We are more than happy to help you understand every aspect of the American college admission process! We will review the importance of high school course selections, required standardized testing, the importance of extracurricular activities and other factors that college admissions officers are looking for. We want you to feel comfortable asking questions.

What's the formula for getting into a top-tier college or university?

There is none. Colleges are looking to develop a class with students who offer many strengths, abilities and activities. Some admitted students are well rounded and others are not. Admissions officers are looking for students that serve their needs that particular year.

Can my child earn a scholarship?

It depends on a number of factors. Most scholarships are earmarked for certain students (children of war veterans; students who want to study certain subjects; students whose parent incomes fall in a certain range). Many scholarships are college specific. Searching for scholarships usually begins during the beginning of the senior year.

How can I be helpful?

Parents can be helpful by being supportive and encouraging about their child's college choices. Be realistic, stay positive and remain patient!