



KEY CONCEPT: ROLLING ADMISSIONS

Rolling admissions is an application strategy where students submit applications during a window of time, typically starting September 1. The window will be open until colleges have filled their classes. And students will often hear back in 2-8 weeks.

I recommend that everyone apply to a college with rolling admissions if possible. If you apply early in the fall and you're accepted, you will revel in the fact that you are indeed going to college! It's a great way to reduce the stress involved in admissions.

Some schools that offer rolling admissions are:

- Hofstra University
- Penn State University
- Arizona State University
- Adelphi University
- University of New Haven
- Indiana University
- Merrimack College
- Michigan State University
- University of Pittsburgh

For a full list, go to: <https://blog.prepscholar.com/colleges-with-rolling-admissions>

COLLEGE IN THE SPOTLIGHT: CORNELL UNIVERSITY

- Location: Ithaca, NY
- # of Undergrads: 15,735
- Acceptance Rate: 7% overall
- Student / Faculty Ratio: 9:1
- Returning Freshmen: 97%
- % Receiving Merit Aid: 0%

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Located in a great college town in the Finger Lakes; beautiful but hilly campus may feel remote
- Distinct status as a public and private institution; Schools of Ag and Life Sciences, Human Ecology, and Industrial and Labor Relations are public (NY residents pay less in tuition)
- 80 majors offer something for everyone (including viticulture); great preprofessional preparation
- Large introductory classes, but smaller seminars for upperclassmen; many research opportunities
- Extensive graduation requirements and challenging coursework (have to pass a swim test!)
- Freshmen live in North Campus; students like the varied housing options; great dining services
- 30% involved in Greek life; 1,000 student organizations!
- Has a reputation as a competitive pressure cooker, but passionate student body enjoys extensive choices and opportunities
- Students apply to 1 of 7 schools; admissions standards vary by school.

COLLEGE IN THE SPOTLIGHT: ITHACA COLLEGE

- Location: Ithaca, NY
- # of Undergrads: 4,620
- Acceptance Rate: 75%
- Student / Faculty Ratio: 9:1
- Returning Freshmen: 83%
- % Receiving Merit Aid: 95%

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Close knit community with strong programs in music, theater, communications, and health sciences; students clamor to get into physical and occupational therapy program
- Focus on hands-on learning and discussions with significant professor interaction
- Modern campus in the Finger Lakes in a vibrant college town; many take advantage of Cornell
- School of Music dates back to founding in 1892; music education program especially challenging
- Exploratory program, with advising and workshops, for those who are undecided
- Many study abroad at the London Center
- 45% of students come from New York
- No social frats or sororities, but there's a lively social scene with concerts, comedy shows, open-mics, movies; some crash Cornell's frat parties
- Outdoor Adventure Learning Communities organize hiking, kayaking, and camping trips.

WHAT RISING SENIORS SHOULD BE DOING:

- Decide to put a decent amount of effort towards your classes this semester. Your grades do count especially if you're applying regular decision. And know that colleges do and will rescind offers if grades tank (eg, UCs want nothing lower than a C during senior year). Colleges will ask for your final grades once you're admitted.
- Find and apply to a college that offers rolling admissions now! If you get in, you'll know you're headed to college, and that can be a huge relief.
- Work on college apps slowly and steadily. 30 minutes each day or an hour or two each weekend will ensure that you make good progress. Waiting til the last minute to complete college apps too often doesn't work well and causes way too much stress.
- Make a realistic and manageable plan to fill out all of the elements of the Common App and complete any supplemental essays. Supplements are a major way that colleges determine whether you're a fit academically and socially, so work on them diligently, and edit, edit, edit!
- There are several articles in the New York Times today about using AI to write essays. If you play around with ChatGPT or Bard or HuggingChat, you'll see how generic the responses typically are. It's likely that colleges will receive a ton of bland essays, so make sure that your essays are incredibly detailed, personal, and authentic.

JUNIOR PARENTS: FEELING OVERWHELMED OR CONFUSED BY THE COLLEGE ADMISSIONS PROCESS? I CAN HELP!!

I have a few more openings for families who are interested in support as they navigate the college admissions process. We'll have fun as we home in on what students are looking for and build a well-balanced college list, and we'll manage the stress as best we can. I like to get my juniors started in the fall, and I'm happy to talk about summers and activities with sophomores.

I limit my number of slots so that I'm able to give each of my students the attention they deserve, and so that I can continue working each year with a few first generation students from organizations that ensure access to higher ed.

Please reach out. I'm more than happy to talk with you about what services I provide.

FOLLOW ME ON INSTAGRAM @designyourpathtocollege

I help students and their families navigate the college admissions process while decreasing confusion and stress. I empower students to figure out who they are and where they belong, and I provide structure, insight, and enthusiasm as they apply to colleges that are the best fit academically, socially, and financially. Contact me for a 30 minute complimentary session to learn more!



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