Student Best Practices: Navigating the Current Impact on the College Process
Introduction: Moderators

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Keep Up with College Deadlines

Colleges have either extended their deadlines or are in the midst of conversations on how to best support all students affected by the current news. In the meantime, we recommend to:

- Follow their Twitter/Instagram accounts
- Check your email and college portals regularly for any important updates
- Email their respective admissions/financial aid offices for any questions you may have
- Not sure what questions to ask? Consider these:
  - Can the Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) deadline be extended beyond May 1 to submit a deposit?
  - Due to income circumstances at the moment, can the deposit be waived?
  - Can my financial aid award letter be revised given recent income changes with my family?
  - Will there be flexibility in submitting housing and freshman orientation deposits given the circumstances?
- Check out this resource provided by NACAC:
  - Source: nacac.net.org/college-admission-status-coronavirus
As a service to students and families, NACAC is providing this online tool as a central resource for information on changes in college admission events, deposit dates, and more as a result of the coronavirus outbreak.

The chart below includes updates from colleges and universities worldwide. To narrow your search, select the “=” symbol in any of the four categories. To sort your results, click on the column title (for example, click on “Institution Name” to sort alphabetically by college name). This tool will update in real-time as we receive input from postsecondary institutions. Please also double check college websites.

We hope this resource will make it easier for students and others to navigate the college admission process during this unprecedented time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Submission Date</th>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>State/Territories</th>
<th>Open to Admission Visitors</th>
<th>Allow Overnight Visits</th>
<th>Currently Hosting Admission Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar 10, 2020</td>
<td>Montclair State University</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 18, 2020</td>
<td>UMBC - University of Maryland, Baltimore County</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 16, 2020</td>
<td>University of Maine at Farmington</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Schedule or Research Virtual College Tours

We understand that making a college decision can be a challenge. At this time, we highly encourage high school seniors to think newly and creatively amid campus closures and consider the following:

- Explore digital tools and websites, such as:
  - YouVisit, Campus Tours, YOUniversity, CampusReel, etc.

- Check out this resource provided by College Essay Guy:
  - Link: Upcoming Virtual College Admission Events - Google Doc

- Make virtual appointments with key college faculty, staff or students to discuss any questions you may have about their campus. Utilize tools, such as:
  - Zoom, Skype, Google Hangouts, etc.

- Not sure what questions to ask in a virtual info session/conversation with a college student or alumni?

  - Check out College Raptor’s website on pointers of questions to ask alumni to help you choose a college:
    - Link: CollegeRaptor.Com
### Upcoming Virtual College Admission Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College Name</th>
<th>Virtual Event Type</th>
<th>Web/Registration Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aberystwyth University</td>
<td>Live chat events (Dated), Live chat with international office (ongoing), virtual tour (ongoing)</td>
<td><a href="https://www.aber.ac.uk/en/international/?from=globalnav">https://www.aber.ac.uk/en/international/?from=globalnav</a>, <a href="https://www.aber.ac.uk/p/csm/">https://www.aber.ac.uk/p/csm/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American University</td>
<td>Live webinars for admitted students, virtual tours</td>
<td><a href="https://www.american.edu/admissions/experience-ua/virtual.cfm">https://www.american.edu/admissions/experience-ua/virtual.cfm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assumption College</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td><a href="http://www.assumption.edu">www.assumption.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Babson College</td>
<td>Pre-recorded virtual tour, virtual information session, upcoming live Q&amp;As</td>
<td><a href="http://www.babson.edu">www.babson.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bastyr University</td>
<td>Live webinars for prospective students, virtual tours, pre-recorded webinars</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bastyr.edu">www.bastyr.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bates College</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="https://www.youvisit.com/tour/bates">https://www.youvisit.com/tour/bates</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beal College</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="https://www.campustours.com/college/160995/Beal-College/">https://www.campustours.com/college/160995/Beal-College/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bentley University</td>
<td>Virtual Admitted Student Day, Virtual Tour, upcoming live Q &amp; A’s</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bentley.edu">www.bentley.edu</a> - students will need to log into their portal to reach the administration office.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Due to the coronavirus, many colleges are closing and developing virtual learning platforms. For seniors planning to visit, choosing colleges after receiving acceptances will be challenging. Likewise, many juniors are unable to travel for spring break college tours.

Please note that for dates in the future, we ask that you reach out to the college or university directly for the most up-to-date information. We have often found that events have been postponed or canceled, and as a result, dates and times may change over the next few weeks and months, and counselors across the country can share this information with students, many of whom will be home from school. Open-source parking is always best for accuracy. THANK YOU!
Making a College Decision

There are many factors that you are possibly weighing in on as you make your college selection, such as financial aid and college fit. It's okay to not feel confident based on the extenuating circumstances we are all experiencing during this time.

Ask yourself the following questions and ensure to reach out to your education cheerleaders to build your confidence in making a final college choice:

- Do I feel confident with the college research I have done so far?
- Have I connected with my school counselor, admission officer and/or current student to ask any pending questions I may have?
- Given that the financial aid process is a little unclear at the moment. Have I connected with the specific financial aid office via email or by phone? Have I had a conversation with my family or those closest to me about finances?
- Most importantly, do not feel pressure to make an immediate decision given the unforeseen circumstances. Asking for help is not easy for everyone but this will be a growth opportunity for all of us to reach out and work together.

Link: Accept Group - Deposit Deadlines
Colleges That Have Changed Deposit Deadline to June 1, 2020

Updated March 17, 2020

Email updates/additions to leaders@acceptgroup.org

- Brown University (PA)
- Pace University (PA)
- Emory University (GA)
- Indiana University (IL)
- Ball State University (OH)
- Bay Path University (MA)
- Becker College (MA)
- Beloit College (WI)
- Brierley College (PA)
- Bridgewater State University (MA)
- California State University (CA)
- California State University (CA)
- California State University (CA)
- California State University (CA)

- D'Youville College (NY)
- Dean College (MA)
- Defiance College (OH)
- Dominican University of California (CA)
- Drury College (MO)
- Eastern Mennonite University (VA)
- Emerson College (MA)
- Erskine College (SC)
- George Mason University (VA)
- Goucher College (MD)
When times are challenging, it’s our moment to work together closely to see how school counselors, admissions staff, college advisors and mentors can support you. Here are a few ways you can build a virtual community:

- Reach out via email and schedule a virtual call with your school counselor, college advisor/mentor, etc.
  - If technology is a challenge at home, we will share resources that may assist.
  - If you have access to a mobile phone, consider WhatsApp, FaceTime, Zoom, etc. to connect with others.
- Be a peer mentor and share resources with your friends. Consider starting a group chat via Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, blogs, etc.
- Check to see if the college/university has a student forum or groups via social media platforms if you have any questions regarding the student experience.
Self-Care is Important

In the wake of the current news of the college process, we encourage students to take each day at a time and do their best to be in the present moment. Provided below are a few apps or websites, offering free resources to students:

- Practice mindfulness
  - Headspace
  - Calm
  - Greater Good Science Center

- Exercise your mind and body
  - Nike
  - Peloton
  - Other free workout apps - Click here!

- Most importantly, stay calm by practicing meditation
  - Khan Academy Meditation
Consider Online Learning Alternatives

Perhaps you have found yourself with more time in your day, which means that you could think about learning a new power skill!

- Duolingo - [Duolingo.com](http://Duolingo.com)
- Public Library - start an account and rent e-books
- TED Talks - [TedTalks.com](http://TedTalks.com)
- Talks at Google - [https://talksat.withgoogle.com/](https://talksat.withgoogle.com/)

- Different sections like Health & Wellbeing, Art & Culture, Business & Entrepreneurs
Additional Resources

- **Free/Reduced Meals**
  - If food is a challenge at home, check the following places for free meals:
    - Local school district
    - Food banks or food pantries
    - Call local restaurants and/or churches
    - [List of Restaurants Providing Meals for K-12 Students Nationally - Click here!](#)

- **Assessing your academic commitments**
  - If you are new to distance learning, research how to create online study habits or explore free tutoring resources:
    - [Free Tutoring Resources for Remote Learning - Click here!](#)

- **Free/Reduced Internet and Technology**
  - Comcast
  - Charter/Spectrum

**Other Resources**:
- College Greenlight Toolkit - [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1o0NNprC8HZeCCuE8bZTADKAY91zLauhj4flYmrfpDw/edit#gid=0](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1o0NNprC8HZeCCuE8bZTADKAY91zLauhj4flYmrfpDw/edit#gid=0)
Welcome to the COVID-19 Resource Kit. The College Greenlight team has created this kit to respond to the implications of COVID-19. The kit is intended to update the admission community about available resources, opportunities, information, and updates to benefit students and their families. NOTE: This is a working document. The document is just the beginning and will be consistently updated. DO YOU HAVE ANY HELPFUL TOOLS/RESOURCES/ARTICLES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OR HAVE COME ACROSS? PLEASE INCLUDE IT IN THE SPREADSHEET!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Audience</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| National | NACAC - Rural/Small Town Special Interest Group | For College Admissions | NACAC Rural/Small Town Special Interest Group (SIG) Interest Form [Link](https://docs.google.com/forms)

| National | Cappex       | For Student/Family, Parents, Advising | Updates from colleges on COVID-19, changes to dates, links to all virtual tours [Link](https://www.cappex.com) |
Start a meaningful conversation about college and career with your family.

Follow TGR Foundation for more resources and updates:

Twitter: @TGRFound
Instagram: @TGRFound
Website: tgreduexplore.org

Explore biomimicry and innovation with our new digital experience.

CURRICULUM

DIGITAL EXPERIENCES
Equip students with engaging, interactive learning tools that help them see the future; each experience provides guided learning with immediate feedback.

TRAINING
Unlock valuable information about how to use TGR EDU: EXPLORE digital resources for college access and STEM learning.

LESSONS
Access valuable information about college planning and incorporate Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) learning with hands-on activities that develop strengths, define passions and outline career paths.
LESSONS
Help your students develop critical 21st century skills, define passions, and discover career paths. Utilize standards-aligned resources, designed for grade 6-12, in college access and STEM.

COLLEGE ACCESS
Provide students with activities that help them assess their individual passions and skills and consider how to translate this into a promising career.

ACADEMIC RÉSUMÉ
Through reflection and sharing, students will understand the importance of leadership and community service in the college application process.
- Download Activity

CAREER PATH
Your students will visualize, organize and illustrate their future pathways and then translate this information into goals for themselves, with a written action plans for achievement.
- Download Activity

FIND YOUR PASSION
If you love what you do, you never work a day in your life. Allow students to see how their passions and interests can lead to a promising career through a series of surveys, interviews and research.
- Download Activity

PERSONAL STATEMENT
Using standards-aligned, narrative techniques students will reflect on what makes them unique.
- Download Activity
Takeaway Tips

- Reach out to your mentors, teachers and counselors to see what other information you may need before making a decision.
- Stay updated but also, find balance to disconnect.
- Talk to your family and friends.
- Take it a day at a time.
Questions?