



Pinewood American International School

**Welcome
Grade 12 Parent College Night
September 14, 2011**

Dr. Roxanne Giampapa





AGENDA



- **How College Admissions Decisions are Made**
- **Things to Think about When Selecting a College**
- **Testing Information**
- **SATI/SATII Test Dates and Registration Deadlines**
- **Student College Planning Calendar**
- **UK versus US**
- **Schedule Appointments**



HOW COLLEGE ADMISSIONS DECISIONS ARE MADE

- **Academics**
- **SAT/TOEFL Tests**
- **Extracurricular Activities and Leadership**
- **Essays, Recommendations, and Interviews**

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT WHEN SELECTING A COLLEGE

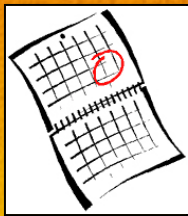
- **University Requirements (IB/Grades)**
- **School Size**
- **Location**
- **Cost**
- **Programs of Study**
- **“Brand Name” Value**
- **Pre-Professionalism vs.**
- **A Liberal Arts Education**
- **SAT or no SAT**
- **Personal Preference**





TESTING INFORMATION

- **PSAT/NMSQT** (Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Examination)
- **TOEFL**
- **SAT – Reasoning Test** (*Use the school code to have your score reported to Pinewood – Code 738720*)
- **SAT Subject Tests** (*Use the school code to have your score reported to Pinewood – Code 738720*)



STUDENT COLLEGE **PLANNING CALENDAR**



SENIOR YEAR

September:

- Parent/student meeting with counselor to finalize college application plans
- Decide which admissions tests you need to take or want to improve the scores
- Request recommendations from teachers
- Begin to work on college applications and continue to work on college essays
- Develop/finalize your student resume from last spring and summer
- Register for October and/or November SAT I or II

October:

- Take SAT I or II
- Register for December SAT I or II
- Finalize college choices and give the list to Dr. Giampapa
- Continue to work on college essays
- Complete Early Decision and Early Action applications
- Obtain and file PROFILE (financial aid applications for some colleges)
- Begin searching scholarship opportunities

November:

- Take SAT I or II
- Register for January SAT I or II if necessary (final test date that can be used for spring admission)
- Obtain the FAFSA and begin to gather financial information for applications
- UCAS form due to counselor by early-November
- California university applications due

STUDENT COLLEGE

PLANNING CALENDAR

SENIOR YEAR



December:

- Take SAT I or II
- Meet all application deadlines
- Continue researching scholarship opportunities
- Check with universities to ensure that they have received all applications
- Respond promptly to universities' requests for additional information

January:

- Take SAT I or II
- Complete and mail FAFSA
- Complete university financial aid forms (if applicable)

February:

- Contact colleges to make certain that all applications materials are on file

March:

- Update college on new or significant activities or awards attained since you filed your application

April:

- Admissions decisions start to arrive
- Review your college options and the financial aid packages with Dr. Giampapa
- Make sure you receive financial aid offers from all schools before rejecting any offers
- Contact admissions offices that have not responded with application decision
- If you are wait-listed and are waiting to hear back from another college, meet with Dr. Giampapa.

STUDENT COLLEGE PLANNING CALENDAR



SENIOR YEAR

- May:**
- Notify the colleges of your decision to attend (May 1)
 - Notify colleges you will not attend
 - Ask university for I-20 or IAP-64 forms for student visa, and start working on them
 - Make housing arrangements for next year.
 - Thank your teachers and others who wrote your recommendations and tell them of your decision
- June:**
- Graduation!
 - Ask Ms. Youli to send a final transcript to the college you will attend
 - Continue with student visa application process
 - Make travel arrangements (plan on participating in international student orientation)
- Summer:**
- Attend orientation meetings offered by your college



Common Application U.S.A.

Common App is an undergraduate college admission application that students use to apply to any of 456 member colleges and universities in the United States



Early Decision Binding



Your child agrees to attend the college if accepted and if the college offers an adequate financial aid package.

Only one college for early decision

Apply to other colleges through the regular admission process is allowed.

If your child is accepted by the first-choice college early, all other applications must be withdrawn.

Usually November



Early Action Non-binding

If accepted, your child can choose to commit to the college immediately, or wait until the spring.

Under these plans, your child may also apply early action to other colleges.

Usually, candidates have until the late spring to let the college know their decision.

Usually November

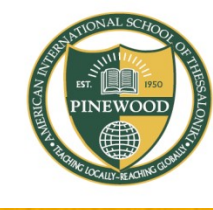
Single-Choice Early Action Non-binding



This plan works the same way as other early action plans, but candidates may not apply early (either early action or early decision) to any other college.

Your child can still apply to other colleges under regular decision plans and is not required to give a final answer to the early-application college until the regular decision deadline.

Usually November



Regular Applications

Regular Admission

- Deadline usually January

Rolling Admission

- No deadline

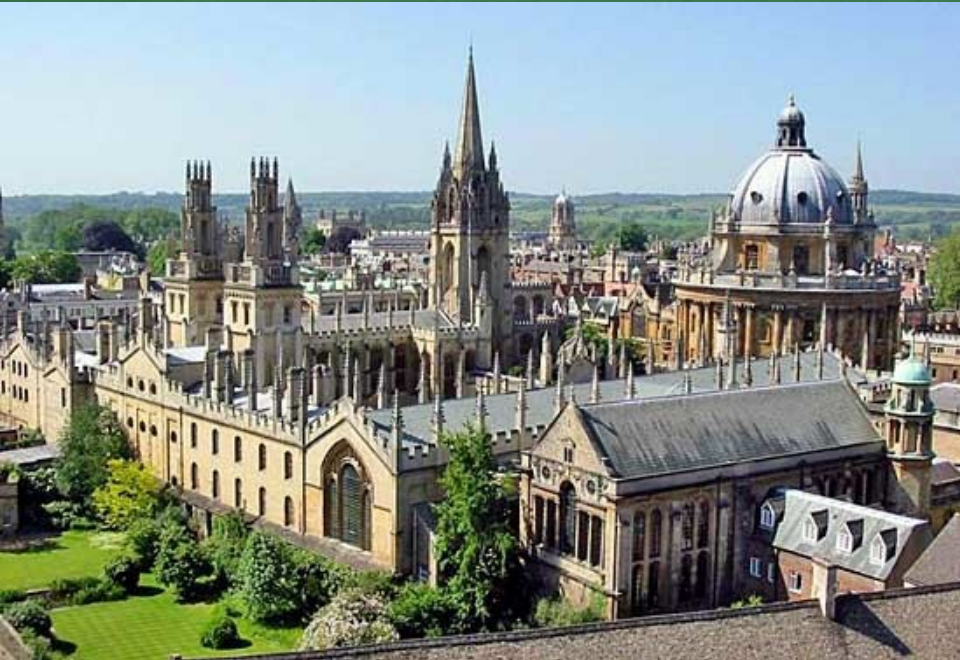


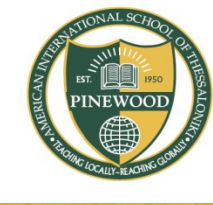
UCAS UK



UCAS

(Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) is the British admission service for students applying to university and college





Admission to UK

International Baccalaureate Diploma

OR

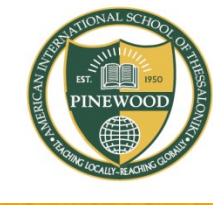
American High School
Diploma

SAT I

IELTS or TOEFL



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Reach-Target-Safety

Selecting colleges and universities that appeal to you in all three categories is a sound combination strategy to manage your risk and maintain your upside.

Reach schools are usually your top choice colleges, and those most difficult to get into.

Target schools are those where you have a reasonable (typically better than 50-50) chance for admission.

Safety schools are those where you typically are somewhat overqualified, where you will almost certainly gain admission.



Financial Assistance

American Students (FAFSA)

Browse list of colleges & universities that give scholarships to international students (see Dr. Giampapa)

Other opportunities due to a special talent (sports, music, arts, academics)

Check “yes” on Common Application “financial assistance” section