

Getting Started: College Applications

Center for High School Programs, Running Start
Beyond High School Virtual Series Event

Wednesday, June 16th 2021, 6-7pm

Presenter/Facilitator: Erica Walker, RS Advisor (erica.walker@bellevuecollege.edu)

Before the event begins:

- Download the two worksheets linked in the Q&A Announcements
- Watch the short video linked in the Q&A for attendees at Live Microsoft Teams Events

This event will be recorded and posted with Closed Captioning to our Advising & Educational Planning webpage
<https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/runningstart/navigation/advising-educational-planning/>

Disclaimer!

This event was created to provide general guidance that may not apply to every student.

Students may have unique circumstances and will need to consult with the 4-year school(s) they hope to attend.

Any questions about admission requirements or processes need to go to the Admissions Office at the 4-year school(s) not to a BC advisor.

Agenda

- **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**
 - College Application Types: Freshman vs. Transfer
 - SAT / ACT Exams
 - Transferring credits from BC
 - Review of Priorities
- **College Fit**
 - Worksheet: <https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/15/2021/06/1-College-Fit-Factors-Worksheet-7.20.2020.pdf>
- **Creating a Balanced List**
 - Worksheet: https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/15/2021/06/2-Creating-your-College-List-Worksheet_2021.pdf
 - Researching Schools (resources)
 - WUE (Washington Undergraduate Exchange)

Comparing Application Types

	Freshman / First Year *	Transfer
Which application should I do?	<p>Students who apply during their senior year of high school</p> <p>Many WA state schools have specific admissions information for this application for Running Start students</p>	<p>Students who apply after they have graduated from high school.</p>
When you would start at the school?	<p>Start Summer/Fall after high school graduation</p>	<p>Start Fall, Winter, Spring, or Summer (depends on school and program)</p>
College Credit Requirements?	<p>No college credits required.</p> <p>Running Start students transfer their BC credits to the school once they are attending.</p>	<p>Requires a certain amount of college credits already completed</p> <p>Certain prerequisite courses for certain majors</p>

***Majority of Running Start students apply as a Freshman/First Year applicant during their senior year of high school**

Not sure? Talk with admissions at the 4-year school for guidance about which application you should do

Should I take the SAT or ACT?

When to take it:

- If it's a required part of a school's admissions application
- If your GPA is low, doing well on the SAT or ACT could positively impact your applications

Other than that it's really up to you! You could always take the exam and see how you do and decide whether or not you want to send your scores to schools.

When in doubt – ask the 4 year school what their advice is or with your HS Counselor or College/Career Specialist

*always take the Essay section of the SAT because it is more often required by schools

Transferring BC Credits to other schools

How do I transfer my BC credits?

- Running Start students may transfer any transferable-course credits or transfer AA degrees from BC once they are at the 4-year school they will be attending*
- Not all classes are transferable

Which of my classes will transfer?

- Students will need to ask the 4-year school(s)

Will my Transfer AA transfer to an out-of-state university?

- The Transfer AA in Arts & Sciences (AAS_DTA) is only guaranteed to transfer to a school in WA state.
- Sometimes they are accepted by schools out of state but the student will need to do the research to see if their out of state schools will accept WA Transfer AA degrees or any credits from Bellevue College.
- This can be challenging information to find specifically for the University of California's. Go to the 4-year schools website and look up information about "Transfer Credits" or for "Course Equivalency" information
- ***If you are planning to apply to out-of-state schools*** we recommend you keep your syllabi from each class. This is because sometimes to transfer a course the school may request the syllabus and learning outcomes.

I'm not earning an AA, will my credits still transfer?

- Possibly! It depends on if the courses you've taken at BC are transferable AND if the school will accept those credits

Priorities

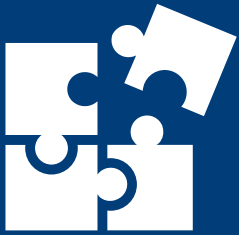
Running Start exists so you (High School Juniors & Seniors) can complete remaining HS graduation requirements by taking college level classes. Running Start helps you get a head start on your college career and prepares you for attending a 4-year school in the future!

Sometimes we get distracted by the excitement of earning an AA degree and forget our priorities:

- 1. High School Graduation requirements**
- 2. Classes that prepare you for your major/career pathway**
- 3. A Transfer AA if it's a good fit for you*

Earning an AA isn't always the best fit or the most important goal.

If you are wondering if an AA will improve the competitiveness of your college application, that's not always the case! When in doubt, ask the schools you are applying to how they weigh an AA degree in their admissions process.



College Fit

All schools offer different programs and opportunities just like all students have different strengths and areas for growth. Not all schools will be a good fit for you so its important that you take the time to consider what you need in a school for you to be successful there.

It also goes the other way ~ you are not a good fit for all schools depending on their admission requirements. It's important to consider your needs and prioritize those and find the school that is the best fit for you!

College Fit = when a school meets your needs, or *college fit factors*, in order for you to be successful and grow

College Fit Factors



A School's Fit Factors



**Admissions
requirements**



A Student's Fit Factors



**Students requirements
of the school**

Student Fit Factors:

specifically, what you need from a school in order to be successful

Ask yourself what do you need from a school in order to be successful?

On the **College Fit Factors Worksheet** (linked in Q&A) take 2 minutes to **write down some of your college fit factors** in each category:

<https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/15/2021/06/1-College-Fit-Factors-Worksheet-7.20.2020.pdf>

9/1/2021

ACADEMIC:

- Academic Rigor
- Major/Minor options
- Tutoring services
- Accommodations
- Research & Internship opportunities
- Transfer Credits

SOCIAL:

- Student demographics
- Faculty demographics
- Student Clubs
- Sports, Arts
- Study Abroad
- Local attractions

PHYSICAL:

- Distance from home
- Location setting (urban, rural, suburban)
- Accommodations & Access
- Facilities for sports, arts, sciences, etc.

FINANCIAL:

- Cost of Tuition * Sometimes Private colleges offer more financial aid!
- Housing & Food
- Student and Class Fees
- Books & Supplies
- Cost of Living



A school that meets your fit factors and you meet the schools fit factors (admission requirements), then this school is considered a match!



This is the best case scenario and should be the goal! But your list will have a variety of schools which means a variety of fits.

Types of College Fit: Reach, Match, or Likely

Reach (1-3 schools)

- Admissions requirements above your qualifications
- Low acceptance rates
- Matches your academic, financial, and social requirements
- Examples: Ivy League schools

Match (2-4 schools)

- Admission requirements that meet your qualifications
- More feasible acceptance rates
- Matches all your academic, financial, and social requirements

Likely / Safety (1-3 schools)

- Admission requirements that are lower than your qualifications
- High acceptance rates
- Matches most of your academic financial, and social requirements
- Examples: Open Enrollment institutions, Bellevue College!

Creating your Balanced College List

Putting together a college list over the summer before your Senior year will help you to be prepared to submit all the required application materials and to meet all your college application deadlines. Being organized can help you save time and feel less stressed once Fall quarter comes around.

Let's use the Creating your College List Worksheet, linked in the Q&A:

https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/15/2021/06/2-Creating-your-College-List-Worksheet_2021.pdf

Researching Schools

Let's walk through how to use certain resources to find schools that fit you.

Websites to use to find schools that meet your fit factors:

- <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search>
- <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/>
- <https://www.collegedata.com/>

If you are able, visit the campus! Some schools offer virtual visits and some might even offer in person tours.

Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)

- Search among hundreds of undergraduate degrees offered at the WUE rate of 150% of resident tuition (or less) by 160+ public colleges and universities across the West. Find the school and program that fits your geographic and educational goals.
- Start here to save an average of \$9,000 a year!
 - <https://www.wiche.edu/tuition-savings/wue/>
 - <https://www.wiche.edu/tuition-savings/wue/wue-savings-finder/>

Next Workshop (August 2021)

- Types of college application deadlines
- Types of college application platforms
- Parts of the college application
- Financial Aid & Scholarships: General Overview

Questions?

Submit your questions
to the Q&A box

Resources:

Your High Schools' College & Career Center!

- Check out your HS website for more information and potential scholarship opportunities

College Admissions Representative for your HS/District or WA state

- Each 4-year school have specific admissions officer for your HS or WA state

Contact Us:

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