

YOUR COLLEGE ROADMAP

9TH GRADE

GET INVOLVED in extracurricular activities to discover your unique talents and interests.

START TALKING to your parents about saving up for college. Ask about a tax-free 529 plan.

10TH GRADE

PREPARE FOR THE SAT by taking the PSAT in the fall.

LEARN MORE about entrance requirements for colleges and start exploring possible majors.

TAKE THE LEAD in your extracurricular activities and by serving in your community.

INVESTIGATE ways to complete college credit in high school with AP courses and concurrent enrollment. Check out advantage.oru.edu.

GET TO WORK by starting a summer job to help save for college and build your résumé.

11TH GRADE

WRITE DOWN areas of study and college features that interest you. Visit exploremajors.oru.edu.

RESEARCH OPTIONS for financial aid. Great resources are studentaid.gov and college financial aid offices.

SIGN UP for the ACT and/or SAT in the fall—you'll take your exams in the spring.

REGISTER for AP exams in the fall. These tests will also be administered in the spring.

ORGANIZE/LIST your extracurricular, community service and leadership activities in one document to make your application process easier!

VISIT COLLEGES that interest you. There's no substitute for physically seeing the campus you may call home for four years. Go to visit.oru.edu to schedule your ORU visit.

WRITE DOWN APPLICATION DEADLINES for the schools that interest you.

IF YOU'RE AN ATHLETE, register with the NCAA this summer if you plan on pursuing college athletics.

12TH GRADE

AUGUST: Apply to schools that have early or rolling admission. Apply to ORU for free at apply.oru.edu.

SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER: Start receiving admissions decisions, but before you do, you'll need to send your transcripts and test scores to the schools you've applied to. Have your transcripts emailed to ORU at admissions@oru.edu or mailed to ORU Admissions, 7777 S. Lewis Ave., Tulsa, OK 74171. Have your ACT and/or SAT scores sent directly to ORU using ORU's ACT code (3427) or SAT code (6552).

OCTOBER: File your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.gov. Use ORU's FAFSA code, 003985, when filing to receive priority financial aid packaging from ORU.

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER: Start receiving financial aid offers from colleges. This is also the perfect time to search and apply for outside scholarships.

JANUARY: Review your financial aid award letters from each college. Then...ASK QUESTIONS! Schedule a one-on-one visit or call with an ORU Enrollment Counselor by calling **918.495.6518**.

FEBRUARY: Accept admission to your top schools by sending any deposits or enrollment fees. ORU's Enrollment Fee deadline is February 1.

MARCH-APRIL: This is the last chance to visit colleges while school's in session. During this time, ORU hosts two Quest Leadership Weekend events!

APRIL: Select your dorm room and review your major before classes become available. This is also an opportune time to re-take the ACT or SAT if you need a better score for admission or merit-based scholarships.

MAY: ORU's Final Enrollment Fee deadline is May 1. Also, don't forget to ask your high school counselor to send your final transcript to your university, and ENJOY graduation!

JUNE: Accept/Decline financial aid opportunities and make final decisions on your payment plan. Ask about ORU's interest-free monthly payment plan!

JULY: Connect with your roommate and begin shopping for what you need for college.

AUGUST: It's time to move-in to college and start your college journey! *Congrats :)*



You are welcome here at ORU! RSVP for an upcoming **Quest Leadership** event at quest.oru.edu. You can also schedule a personalized Eagle Day Visit during the Fall or Spring semester by visiting: visit.oru.edu.

ADMISSIONS.ORU.EDU | DISCOVER.ORU.EDU | 918.495.6518



ABOUT ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY

Located in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Oral Roberts University is one of the largest, most influential Christian universities in the world with thousands of students from all 50 states, over 100 nations and 40,000+ alumni around the globe. ORU's mission is to build healthy leaders through a well-rounded approach to education, equipping them with world-class academics and solid leadership qualities that will enable them to succeed in all areas of life. Uniting a passion for excellence with a commitment to innovation and academic rigor, ORU students are prepared to be sources of influence and innovation and to demonstrate compassion and character in every facet of society, no matter their career. ORU has over 150 majors, minors, concentrations and pre-professional programs ranging every interest, from business and biology to engineering, nursing, ministry and more! Explore majors, scholarships and more at **discover.oru.edu**.

THREE WAYS TO SEE ORU FOR YOURSELF

1. Schedule a personalized Eagle Day Visit to tour ORU's beautiful campus, meet with an enrollment counselor and experience all that ORU has to offer. Schedule your visit at **visit.oru.edu**.
2. You're invited to a Quest Leadership Event! This is your chance to discover how ORU can take your college experience to the next level. Register today and learn more about how ORU is strategically investing in the leaders of tomorrow by visiting: **quest.oru.edu**.
3. Take a virtual tour of ORU's beautiful campus on your phone, laptop, tablet or VR device by visiting **oru.edu/tourguide**.

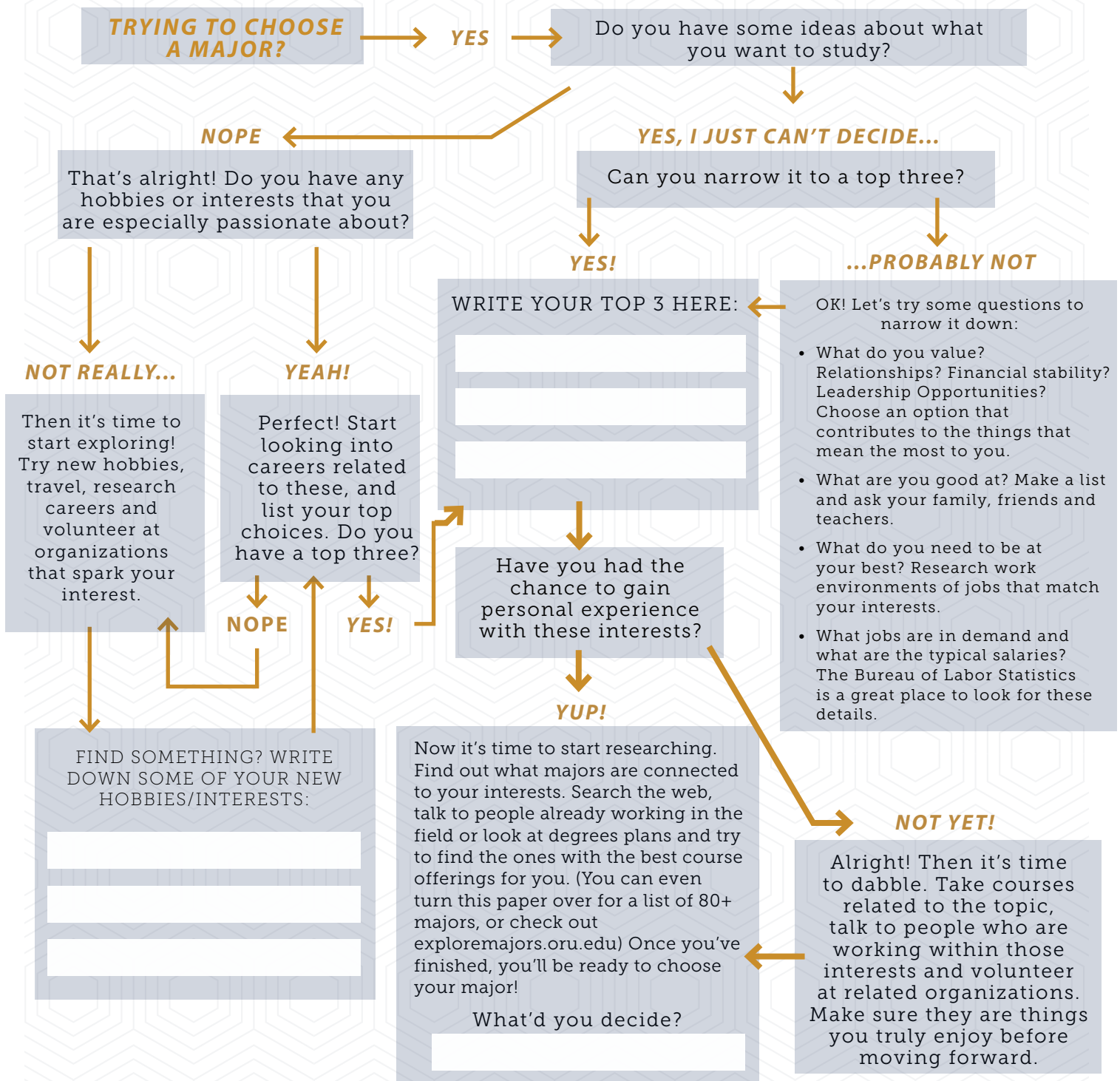
ONLINE AND ON-CAMPUS DUAL-ENROLLMENT COURSES

Want to get a jump-start on college while you're still in high school? Enroll in ORU's Advantage Program to take ORU classes online or on-campus. Courses are affordable and transferrable to any accredited college! Find out more at **advantage.oru.edu**.

START YOUR APPLICATION TODAY

If you're a high school senior, then jump online to begin your free application for admission to ORU at **apply.oru.edu**.

HOW TO CHOOSE A MAJOR



LIST OF MAJORS FROM ORU

- » Accounting ³
- » Art ^M
- » Art Education (K-12) (BFA)
- » Biblical Literature [◦]
- » Biology ^M
- » Biomedical Chemistry ^{*}
- » Biomedical Engineering
- » Business Administration ^{◦ 3*}
- » Chemistry ^M
- » Christian Caregiving and Counseling [◦]
- » Church Ministries (online only) ^M
- » Cinema, Television, Digital Media
- » Communication ^{◦ 3M*}
- » Computer Information Tech ^{3M*}
- » Computer Science
- » Convergence Journalism ^M
- » Criminal Justice ^M
- » Dance Performance
- » Digital Communication (online only) ^M
- » Early Childhood Education
- » Elementary Education ³
- » Engineering
- » Engineering Physics ^{*}
- » English Education (secondary teaching)
- » English Language Teaching in the Global Classroom (middle school)
- » English Literature ^{3M*}
- » Entrepreneurship
- » Finance ³
- » Financial Management (online only)
- » French ^{3M*}
- » Global Environmental Sustainability
- » Global Ministry and the Marketplace ³
- » Global Studies
- » Government (online only) ^M
- » Graphic Design (BFA) ^M
- » Health and Exercise Science ^{3M}
- » Health/Physical Education (K-12)
- » Historical and Philosophical Theology
- » History ^{3M*}
- » Human Resource Mgmt. (online only) ^M
- » Information Technology (online only) ^M
- » International Business and Ministry ^{◦ 3*}
- » International Business ^{◦ 3*}
- » International Community Development ^{3M*}
- » International Relations ^{3M*}
- » Leadership Studies [◦]
- » Leisure Science ^{3M}
- » Liberal Studies ^{◦ M}
- » Management ^{◦ 3}
- » Marketing ^{◦ 3}
- » Math Education (secondary teaching)
- » Mathematical Finance
- » Mathematics Preactuary
- » Mathematics ^{3M*}
- » Medical Molecular Biology
- » Medical Technology
- » Ministry and Leadership ^{◦ 3}
- » Modern Foreign Language Edu. (K-12)
- » Music Arts ^{3*}
- » Music Composition
- » Music Education (K-12)
- » Music Performance
- » Music Production ^M
- » Music Therapy
- » Musical Theatre
- » Nursing
- » Nursing RN to BSN (online only)
- » Physical Science
- » Political Science ^M
- » Psychology ^{◦ M*}
- » Public Relations and Advertising ^M
- » Quantitative Business Admin. ^{3*}
- » Science Education with Biology Emphasis (secondary teaching)
- » Social Justice ^{*M}
- » Social Studies Education (secondary teaching)
- » Social Work
- » Sociology ^M
- » Spanish ^{3M*}
- » Special Edu. / Mild-Moderate Disabilities
- » Sports Management ^M
- » Studio Art (BFA) ^{*}
- » Theatre Arts (BA/BFA) ^{*}
- » Translations/Interpreting
- » Worship Arts ³
- » Writing ^{3M*}

3 = Available in 3 year format

M = Available as minor as well

◦ = 100% online option available

***** = Requires minor (s)

DECODING FINANCIAL AID

Going to college is worth the investment, but the idea of paying for college may seem...well, impossible. You may be asking yourself, "Self, I don't know if working summer jobs, saving money and the generosity of my rich great-aunt Margaret is gonna cut it." Be encouraged, though. Working and saving are important, but keep in mind there's financial aid available in the forms of scholarships, grants and loans. "What are these?" you may ask. Great question! Let's break them down.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

What are they?

Think of scholarships and grants as gifts from schools, universities, the government, businesses and other organizations. They range in value up to the full cost of tuition and can be a one-time gift or renewable every year. Grants are based on financial need and scholarships range from merit-based (e.g. based on academic performance or talent) to those focused on a specific people group (e.g. high school seniors, females or minority groups).

Do I have to pay them back?

Nope, you don't have to pay scholarships and grants back (woot!). Be careful with grants, however, you may need to pay back part or all of a grant if you withdraw from school or your financial situation improves.

How do I get scholarships and grants?

Start looking as early as the summer before your senior year, but before you do, beware of scams and fraud. Do NOT pay for help finding or applying for scholarships. There's a ton of free resources out there. Talk with college financial aid offices and your high school counselor. Most universities have merit-based scholarships and need-based grants. Look up the "Scholarship Finder (Toolkit)" at careeronestop.org, a free resource by the U.S. Department of Labor. The federal government offers different types of grants as well, but you'll need to submit a Free Application for Federal Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.gov to see if you're eligible. Also, check with your local library, surrounding organizations and your employer.

STUDENT LOANS

What are they?

The word "loan" may be scary, and loans can be if approached irresponsibly. Loans should not be your first and only source to pay for college, but you shouldn't excuse them altogether. There's a difference between a student loan and other loans (like a car loan). All loans accrue interest over time, but student loans help fund your education, which has a lifetime of return, whereas things like cars may lose value immediately. If you need to use student loans, you can choose between private and federal options. You should use federal loans first. Private loans, issued by banks and other lenders, may be harder to get and have higher interest rates. Federal loans are more flexible, have lower interest rates and can be subsidized (government pays the interest while you're in college).

Do I have to pay them back?

Yes, you have to pay back student loans. Federal loans may be deferred while you're in school, have flexible repayment options...and you may qualify for a loan forgiveness program. Private loans may be more rigid and require you to begin repayment while in college.

How do I get student loans?

To qualify for federal loans, you must submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.gov after October 1 of your senior year. Once you do, the colleges you apply to may include federal loans as a part of their financial aid offer to you. For private loans, application requirements will differ based on the lender, and acceptance may depend on credit score and a cosigner.

For more info on financial aid, check out studentaid.gov or finaid.oru.edu.





TIPS ON TAKING THE ACT AND SAT

- 1. Know your test.** While the ACT and SAT are both accepted by almost all colleges, they have some minor differences. For instance, the ACT focuses on what you've learned in high school, while the SAT assesses your reasoning skills. Choose the exam you think will be more comfortable for you—or take both!
- 2. Take a practice test (or two) (or three).** You should begin practicing at least a year before you plan on applying for colleges (some students start practicing as early as their freshman year!) This will help you get used to the test and craft the best study strategy in time to for the real exam.
- 3. Get a good night's sleep.** These tests can be stressful and a good night's rest can help you stay at peak performance through the entire exam.
- 4. Guess!** You are not penalized for guessing on either exam, so even if you have no idea what the answer to a question is, write something down. You'll get more points overall.
- 5. You don't have to do problems in order.** Skip problems that confuse you and do the ones that you feel confident about first. You won't miss easy problems because of time restraints, and you'll have more time to remember the answers to difficult questions.
- 6. Write things down,** especially when tackling math problems. Writing what you know may help you better fill in the gaps to solve the parts of the problem you don't understand.
- 7. Take the test multiple times.** You should consider taking the ACT or SAT as early as your sophomore year, and no later than the end of your junior year. If possible, take the exam two or three times, especially if you were sick, tired or nervous the first time. You may be able to raise your score, which will increase your chances of being accepted to your top schools and set you up to receive larger merit-based scholarships.

Register for the next ACT Test: www.act.org.

Note: Have your score sent to ORU using ORU's ACT code: **3427**.

Register for the next SAT Test: www.collegeboard.org.

Note: Have your score sent to ORU using ORU's SAT code: **6552**.

DOs AND DON'Ts OF STUDYING

DO STUDY WITH FRIENDS to gain different perspectives on your coursework. Just make sure your friends are as excited by the material as you are, or they may distract or discourage you.

DON'T FORGET TO SET GOALS. Setting realistic goals for each study session can help you stay on task, track your progress and locate strengths and weaknesses in each subject. Measure your progress by quizzing yourself—it will help you remember what you studied and give you a sense of accomplishment at the end of a study session.

DO STUDY BEFORE BED. The brain solidifies memories as it sleeps, so studying right before bed can help you remember more of what you learned.

DON'T PULL AN ALL-NIGHTER. Studies show that getting a few more hours of sleep will improve your scores more than studying all night. All-nighters are NOT worth it.

DO TAKE TIME TO MOVE AROUND. Going for a brisk walk or working out between study sessions is a great way to help you feel more alert, look at problems in a fresh way and release some of the stress you may feel while studying.

DON'T STUDY WHERE YOU TYPICALLY SLEEP OR SOCIALIZE. Study where you feel comfortable but aren't continually tempted to do other things. Reserving a few places just for studying can help you to focus more easily.

DO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ANY TUTORING PROGRAMS AT YOUR SCHOOL. Asking for help when you need it does not mean you're less smart. In fact, it shows a willingness to learn from others that will be very useful down the road.

DON'T USE YOUR CELL PHONE.

Breaks are important, but if you're using your study breaks to check your text messages and social media, your brain isn't really resting. You're just loading it with different information. When you need a minute away from the study grind, spend it doing physical activity or just take a minute or two to stare at the ceiling and let your head clear.

Sources:

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www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20804289

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STUDY RESOURCES FOR ORU STUDENTS

The study skills you develop now will help you excel in college and the rest of your life. At Oral Roberts University, we want to continue shaping those skills by providing resources, advice and tools that will improve your success in the classroom and beyond. Here are just a few of the resources we offer our students:

NURSING AND ENGINEERING COMPLEX

ORU recently acquired a new 100,000 square-foot building and a 14,000 square-foot warehouse across the street from ORU which now houses our state-of-the-art nursing labs and engineering facilities. This building has allowed ORU the opportunity to expand these already highly recognized programs. We are excited about the possibilities that this new building presents, as well as the excellence and innovation our students will develop during their time there.

GLOBAL LEARNING CENTER

This 54,000 square foot technological epicenter houses state-of-the-art technology such as a virtual reality library, augmented reality labs and the ability to live-stream classes across the globe and bring interactive lectures back to ORU. It also houses a 750 seat multipurpose performing arts center and Tulsa's largest television production facility.

STUDENT SUCCESS AND RETENTION

Our office of Student Success and Retention exists to help you navigate college by resolving questions, concerns and needs in every area from academics to campus life. With our open-door policy, students can walk in and receive more than just answers, but spiritual and emotional support as well.

THE WRITING CENTER

This program provides consistent, one-to-one peer tutoring for those who want to improve their writing and composition. Personalize your curriculum to fit your needs and gain measurable progress as you work with our trained staff over the semester.

COMPUTER LABS

ORU provides computers for use by students in classes and projects. These computers are located in labs across campus in various departments and are equipped with the software you need to excel in the subjects you're studying.

LANGUAGE LABS

ORU's Language Lab and Cultural Center provides students with foreign language learning resources and equipment such as computers, headphones, microphones and a multi-media library including software like Rosetta Stone®.

ORU LIBRARY

The ORU library houses a collection of more than half a million items, including books, journals, microforms, DVDs, audiobooks, audiovisuals and other resources. Outside of this, students have access to computers, printers, study rooms and tens of thousands of online journals and eBooks, which can be accessed 24/7 from anywhere in the world.

ELI CENTER

The ELI (Education, Learning, Integrity) Center is the hub of academic services for student-athletes at ORU, including access to academic support, study aides and career advice. It even helps student-athletes map out and execute a plan for graduation.

DISABILITY SERVICES

The Disability Service Center offers accommodations to students based on individual needs, such as: alternative testing, interpretation, note-taking and transcriptions, text enlargements, counseling, parking and access services, academic adjustments and more.



HELPING STUDENTS FIND THE RIGHT FIT

"So, what college do I choose?" You've been asked this question hundreds of times, but how do you answer it? Does your student have a say, or is it mom and dad's decision? Or do they plan on making a choice based on their college visit experience, US News & World Report or affordability? The answer will be different for each student, but always remember this little nugget—It's not about finding the best college, it's about finding the right college.

Here are some ways to help your students find the right fit:

SELF-ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS: DISCOVERY AND FACING REALITY

- Who are you?
- What do you want to do?
- What have you done so far? How hard have you worked in high school?
- How involved are you in the life of the school?
- What makes you special?

COLLEGE-ASSESSMENT

- Help them narrow the field.
- Create a working list and a final list.

COLLEGE SELECTION

- There are more than 3,300 colleges/universities in the U.S. alone.
- Students generally apply to between four and eight colleges.
- Research and guidance can help students narrow their lists.

AFTER NARROWING, YOUR STUDENT SHOULD:

- Visit.
- Apply.
- Send ACT and/or SAT scores.
- Send high school transcripts, including dual-enrollment, TOEFL and AP results, if applicable.

NINE HACKS FOR HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELORS



BE PRESENT: When you're with a student, consider putting your cell phone aside, minimizing your email and turning down the volume on your work phone.

BE CREATIVE: Think of small but uplifting ways to reach out to your students. For example, you can send a small note to a first-generation college-bound student who is nervous about taking the ACT for the first time.

BE ADAPTIVE: As the education landscape changes, so will your role. Adapt by improving your skills, reading the latest research, attending professional workshops and frequently checking websites that your students use (e.g. fafsa.gov, collegeboard.com and act.org).

BE AN EXAMPLE: Your students look up to you as a role model. Exercise virtues such as compassion, integrity and honesty, even when you make mistakes.

BE A COLLEGE VISITOR: Don't answer the question "What's College like?" with experiences from when you were in college. Once or twice a year, visit college campuses to know what college will be like for your students. You can even make a field trip out of it!

BE WISE: You're working with teenagers, so protect yourself by keeping a written record of everything. When you're faced with a challenging situation, reach out to your colleagues. They may know how to help!

BE POSITIVE WITH PARENTS: Oftentimes, parents hear only negative feedback about their children. Call or email a parent when their child improves or succeeds.

BE A BOUNDARY SETTER: Your students can email you 24/7, but that doesn't mean you need to respond 24/7. Unless it's an emergency, those late night and weekend emails can wait until you're at work.

BE ENCOURAGED: When you're stressed and overwhelmed, remind yourself of why you became a school counselor. If you only help one student overcome adversity, navigate high school and succeed, it's all worth it!



PHONE: 918.495.6518
WEB: DISCOVER.ORU.EDU
E-MAIL: ADMISSIONS@ORU.EDU

ORU