



# CRACKING THE COLLEGE APPLICATION



# KHADEEJA MIANDARA

- English teacher @ Jasper HS
- BA in Literary Studies from UT Dallas
- Certified in ELAR grades 7-12
- Actual college graduate



IN FALL 2018, 19.9 MILLION  
STUDENTS ARE PROJECTED TO  
ATTEND AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES





“I firmly believe when the journey to college is fully embraced, it can truly be loved.”

–Jill Madenberg, College Admissions Consultant



# THE STEPS TO COLLEGE APPLICATION

1. Understand college application options
2. Identify the key criteria for college admission options
3. Review the parts of a college admissions package
4. Become familiar with college-specific admission requirements
5. Complete the application process



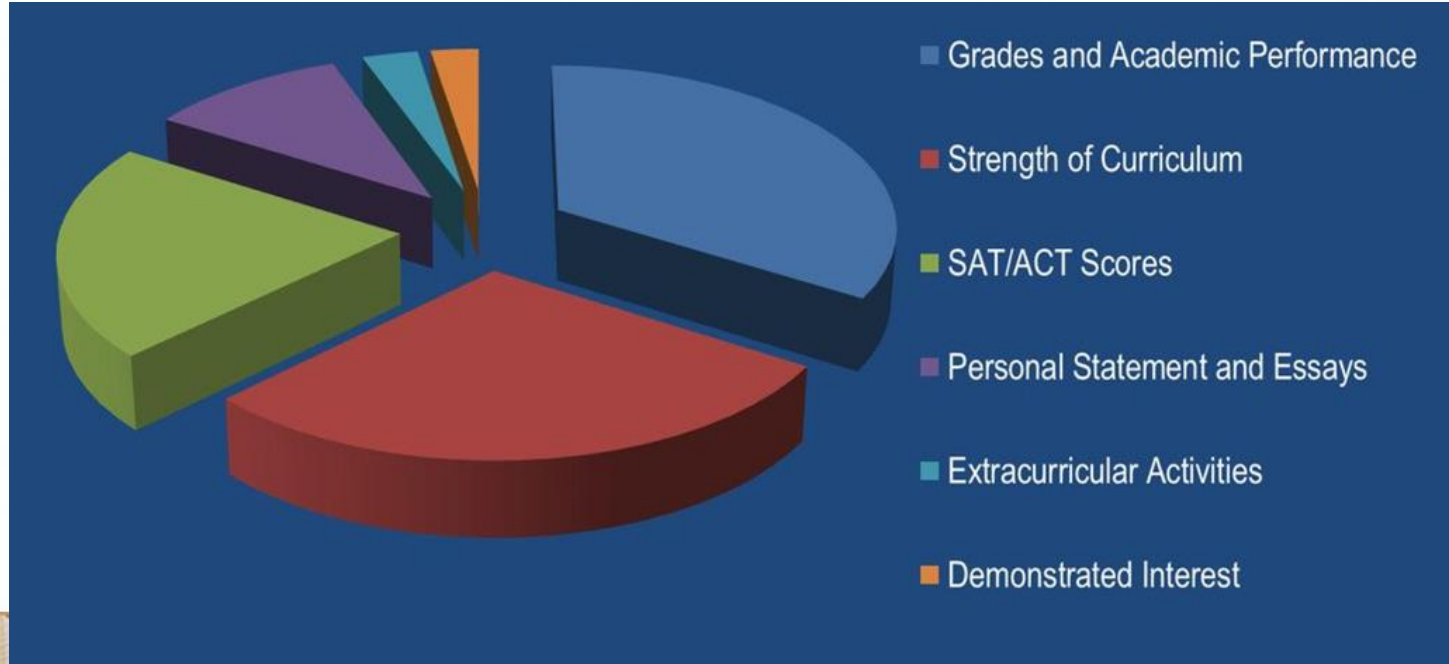
# 1. UNDERSTAND COLLEGE ADMISSION OPTIONS

- Regular Decision
- Rolling Admission
- Early Decision
- Early Action



## 2.

# IDENTIFY THE KEY CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION



### 3. REVIEW THE PARTS OF A COLLEGE APPLICATION

- Completed application form
- High school transcript
- SAT/ACT score reports
- AP exam reports
- Personal statement/supplemental essays
- 1-2 letters of recommendation (optional)
- Application fee





## 4. BECOME FAMILIAR WITH COLLEGE-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

If interested in public state universities, check out

- ApplyTexas.org
- CommonApp.org



If interested in private universities, check with their office of undergraduate admissions for specific requirements.

[https://www.applytexas.org/adappc/gen/c\\_start.WBX](https://www.applytexas.org/adappc/gen/c_start.WBX)

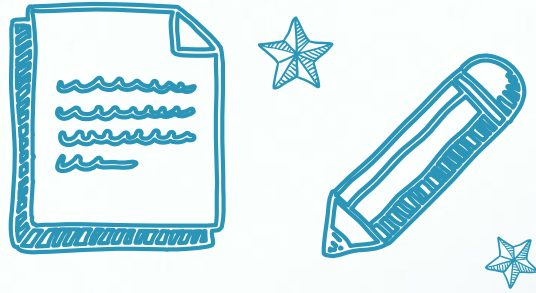
<https://www.commonapp.org/>



## 5. COMPLETE THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Do not wait until the last minute to apply for college! Follow the checklist provided, and consult counselors at your high school for any additional guidance on this process.





# THE COLLEGE ESSAY



## THE TRUTH ABOUT COLLEGE ESSAYS

Admissions officers spend only about 3-5 minutes reading each essay... so what's the point of writing one? How much can it really help my chances?



YOUR COLLEGE ESSAY MATTERS BECAUSE IT IS ONE OF THE FEW OPPORTUNITIES THAT YOU HAVE TO TELL ADMISSIONS OFFICERS WHAT YOUR APPLICATION CAN'T.

TAKE YOUR TIME TO SELECT THE PROMPT THAT JUMPS OUT AT YOU. OFTENTIMES, WE THINK THAT WE NEED TO IMPRESS COLLEGES WITH OUR GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENTS OR OUR SOB STORIES. THE TRUTH IS THAT YOUR ESSAY SHOULD REPRESENT YOU.

A framed landscape with mountains and a sunset sky. In the foreground, there are several objects: a stack of books (orange, white, and blue), a brown geometric paper object, a black marker, a pencil, and a glass jar with blue liquid and a pencil inside. The text is centered in the frame.

DISCUSS AN ACCOMPLISHMENT, EVENT, OR REALIZATION THAT  
SPARKED A PERIOD OF PERSONAL GROWTH AND A NEW  
UNDERSTANDING OF YOURSELF OR OTHERS.



# FAFSA.ED.GOV

DO NOT DELAY FILING TAXES IF YOU HAVE AN INCOMING  
COLLEGE FRESHMAN!