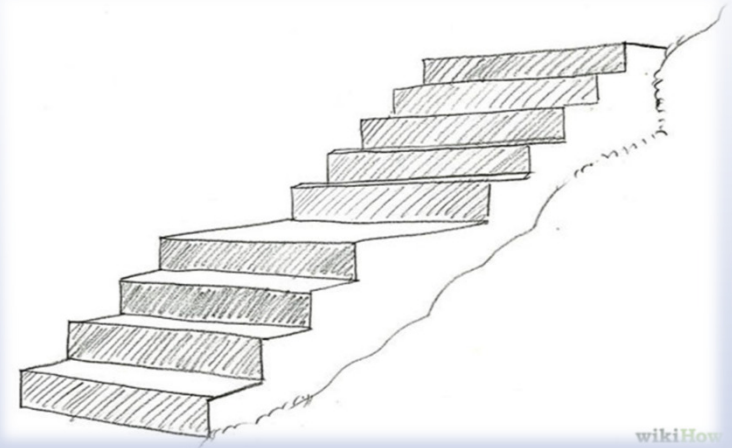


**FOR THE CLASS OF 2023 . . .**

Specifics About the College Search and Selection Process



# 7 STEPS OF THE APPLICATION PROCESS



1. Gathering Information
2. Planning and Choosing
3. Making a Visit – This may be difficult if out of state, but visits are always a great idea!
4. Applying
5. Interviewing/Essay Writing/Letters of Recommendation – More selective schools!
6. Applying for Financial Aid – FAFSA opens October 1, 2022.
7. Making Acceptance Decisions – If multiple schools have accepted you, make a comparison chart/table to help make your decision.



# WHAT DO COLLEGES LOOK FOR?

- **Academic Performance**
  - GPA
  - Senior year schedule...both semesters
  - Academic Rigor and Research Experience
- **Standardized Test Scores (ACT/SAT/TOEFL) TEST OPTIONAL**
  - Generally, Midwest students take the ACT and East/West coast students take the SAT.
  - Almost ALL schools will accept either standardized test results for application/scholarship purposes.
  - Check with colleges to see if they require a TOEFL score. SAT/ACT will demonstrate English proficiency.
- **Extracurricular Activities**
  - Colleges are interested in depth of commitment, personal initiative, originality, leadership ability, and evidence of social conscience.
  - It's not the # of activities, but the commitment and passion for those activities.
  - Quality over quantity!
- **Community Service**
  - Colleges want to see students that will be good citizens and stewards while on campus and into the future.



# FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY

## General Admission to FHSU:

- November 15 - Priority Deadline
- Apply Online-

<https://www.fhsu.edu/admissions/admissions-application/>

- Scholarship Information =

<https://www.fhsu.edu/admissions/scholarships/freshmen>

## FHSU Honors College: Sept 20 Kevin Amidon

- Priority deadline for scholarship consideration: November 15, 2022
- Response deadline for priority scholarship offers: January 15, 2023.
- Final deadline for all applications: April 1, 2023
- Apply Online - <https://www.fhsu.edu/honors/Admission/>

## FHSU Admissions Rep for KAMS:

- SR Colloquia: October 4th



KYLE STACKEN



Admissions Counselor  
North Central Kansas  
785-628-5722 (o)  
785-639-2907 (bc)  
[kastacken@fhsu.edu](mailto:kastacken@fhsu.edu)

# KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

## General Admission to KSU:

- December 1 – Priority Deadline
- Apply Online - <http://www.k-state.edu/admissions/apply/>
- Apply using the Common Application
- Scholarship Information –  
<http://www.k-state.edu/admissions/finaid/scholarships.html>



## KSU Honors Program

- **Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis; there is no deadline.**
- Apply Online - <http://www.k-state.edu/ksuhonors/>

## KSU Admission Rep for KAMS:

### Tate Lovin

[kstate1@k-state.edu](mailto:kstate1@k-state.edu)

[785-532-1521](tel:785-532-1521)

M-F 8:00 AM-5:00 PM CST

[Connect with Tate Lovin](#)



# UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

## Admission to KU:

- November 1 – Early Action Deadline
- Apply Online - <https://admissions.ku.edu>
- Scholarship Information - <https://admissions.ku.edu/tuition-scholarship/freshman>
- Apply Using the Common Application



## KU Honors Program

- November 1 – Apply early!
- Apply Online - <https://honors.ku.edu/>

## KU Admission Rep for KAMS:

**Tiger's Den: September 13<sup>th</sup>-November 8<sup>th</sup>**

### John Tricks

*Community health  
KU Class of 2013*

Originally from Ellis, KS  
Based in Wichita, KS  
I work with students from Greater Wichita and  
Central Kansas; Southwest Missouri; Butler &  
Hutchinson Community Colleges





# WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY



## General Admission to WSU

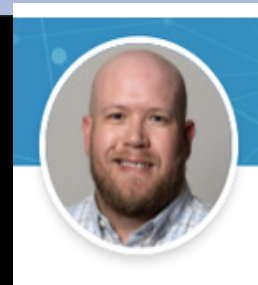
- Distinguished Scholarship Invitational (DSI): Oct 15 application to WSU due
  - November 1, DSI application due
- December 1 – Priority Deadline
- Apply Online -[https://www.wichita.edu/admissions/undergraduate/index\\_freshmen.php](https://www.wichita.edu/admissions/undergraduate/index_freshmen.php)
- Apply using the Common Application
- Scholarship Information –  
[https://www.wichita.edu/administration/financial\\_aid/scholarships/index.php](https://www.wichita.edu/administration/financial_aid/scholarships/index.php)
- Admission Rep: [Jason.bilberry@wichita.edu](mailto:Jason.bilberry@wichita.edu)

**Jason Bilberry**

Regional Admissions Representative

Undergraduate Admissions

[jason.bilberry@wichita.edu](mailto:jason.bilberry@wichita.edu)



# QUESTIONS for ADMISSION COUNSELORS:

## ACADEMICS

### **1. My favorite subject is \_\_\_\_\_. How could that translate into a major at your school?**

This question could be a great way to get an idea of various majors you could pursue if you're undecided.

### **2. Are there different admissions requirements for different departments or majors?**

It is vital to know the specific requirements for the programs you are interested in. For example, USC's School of Engineering has two additional required essay prompts.

### **3. What unique programs are included in your school's curriculum?**

Find out what sets a school's curriculum apart from everyone else's and whether that matches your expectations.

## SOCIAL LIFE

### **4. What are some of the most popular clubs on campus?**

Get a sense of where student interests lie and what social outlets the students prefer.

### **5. Would it be possible for me to start my own student organization? What is that process like?**

If a club in which you would like to participate isn't offered, this is one way to demonstrate interest, particularly if you want to continue an activity that you are passionate about.





## **CAREER READINESS**

### **12. What do your students do just after graduating?**

There are many paths students can take after college, so try to find opportunities that align with your goals.



### **13. What are the undergraduate opportunities for internships, research, and employment?**

Seek out professional experiences that can set you up for your future plans.

### **14. What percentage of students find summer internships and/or jobs before graduating?**

You want to get a sense of how strong the school's career preparation programs are for undergraduates.



Contributed by Jon G...eliteprep.com



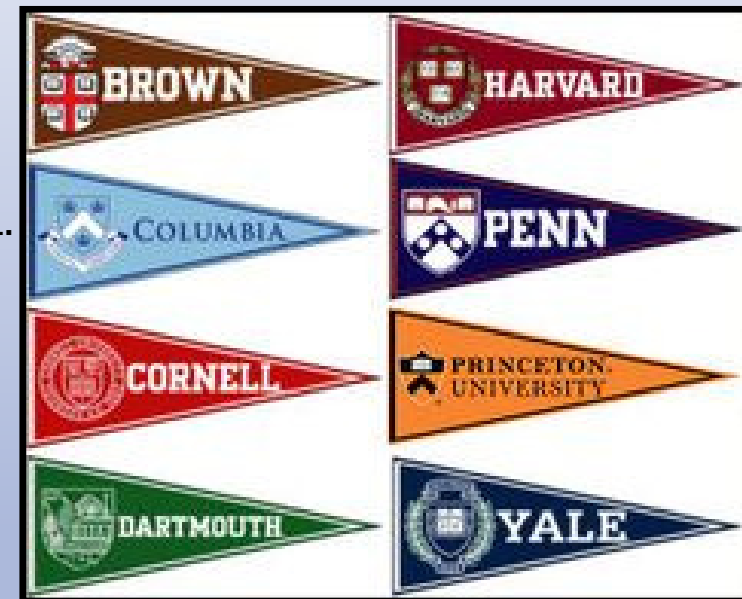
# FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- FAFSA - The free application for federal student aid (**FAFSA**) is a form filled out by college or graduate students who are eligible for government-sponsored financial aid. International students are not eligible for FAFSA.
  - [FAFSA Overview Video](#)
- CSS - The College Board's CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE is an online application that collects information used by almost 400 colleges and scholarship programs to award financial aid from sources outside of the federal government. After you fill out the application, the College Board sends it to the colleges and scholarship programs you have chosen.
  - [The Difference Between CSS and FAFSA](#)
- FHSU will hold Financial Aid night at HHS, September 19<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm Will send link to access video after the event.
- Encourage your parents to go to sending school Financial Aid presentations.
- Scholarships:
  - Local – Usually come out in early spring (February/March). Talk to your high school counselor.
  - State and National – Check out our scholarship document! Also check with high school counselor about state scholarships.
  - PAY ATTENTION TO DEADLINES!!!
  - Let college know if you are not attending ASAP. Your scholarship can be give to someone else!



# HOW MANY SCHOOLS SHOULD I APPLY TO?

- It all depends on who you are, where you want to go, and how much you want to spend on applications. (Apps range from \$30-\$130 per application)
- Apply to 1-3 colleges if you know you are staying in KS.
- If you want to go out of state::
  - Applying to 2-3 “reach/dream” schools
  - Applying to 2-3 “meets” schools
  - Applying to 1-2 “safe” schools (in-state colleges)
  - International students may want to apply to more than what is listed.
- [Great video clip - Applying to the right number of colleges](#)



# DIFFERENT ADMISSION PLANS

- Regular Decision – Turn in your application by the deadline and they let you know by a specified date.
- Rolling Admission – Schools review apps as they are submitted and make decisions throughout the admissions cycle (usually 4-6 weeks after submitting application).
- Early Action – Turn in your app by the early deadline and the college sends you a decision earlier. Non-binding agreement.
- Early Decision – A binding agreement. Make sure you are committed to going there. Early Decision is an agreement between you and the college. If accepted, you will have to withdraw all other college applications and attend that college. Can only apply as Early Decision to one college.

[Click here for video about different admission plans!](#)



# THE COMMON APPLICATION

- The Common Application allows you to apply to multiple colleges using one application.
- Over 900 colleges use The Common App.
- <http://www.commonapp.org/>

## The Common App Advantage



### CONNECT TO MORE

No other system matches the diversity of colleges and universities accessible through the Common App. Explore and apply to schools across the world.



### WORK SMARTER

There is no need to repeat your applicant details for every college on your list. Enter your information one time and use it to apply to multiple schools.



### STAY ON TRACK

Our system alerts you when important dates are approaching. Manage your deadlines and view application progress in one convenient dashboard.



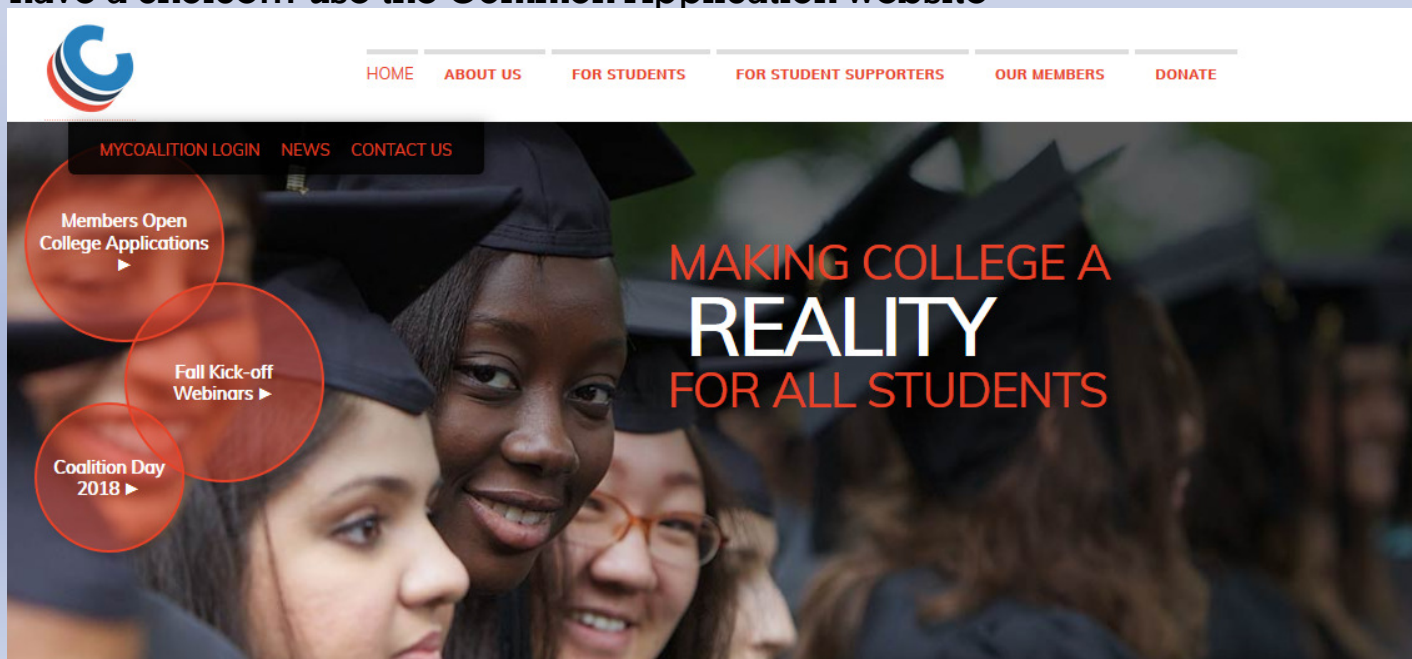
### STREAMLINE RECS

The Common App is the most seamless way to manage the application process for students, counselors, and recommenders. Track submitted documents and outstanding tasks.



# THE COALITION APPLICATION

- The Coalition allows you to apply to multiple colleges in one application.
- Used by more than 140 colleges/universities
- <http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/>
- Not used by as many schools...
  - Our opinion – Common App is more user-friendly
  - If you have a choice... use the Common Application website





# LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

- Most Common Application schools will require at least one letter of recommendation.
- Some will require two or three.
- KU, KSU, FHSU, etc. will not require a letter of recommendation.... Unless it is for a special program or special scholarship.
- Students usually ask teachers/professors, counselors, coaches, mentors, etc.
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fm4VOYaf1rY>
- If applying through Common App, Academic Advisor (Sherri) will be required to write a counselor letter of recommendation.



# LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

- Ask someone who knows you well and will take the time to write thoughtful/detailed comments.
- Ask for a recommendation from a teacher in the field in which you may wish to major.
- Ask for recommendations well in advance (3 to 4 weeks is best...2 weeks prior is acceptable).
- Fill out Student Self-Assessment form. This will be e-mailed to you. Complete and e-mail back to Sherri!
- You may want to sit down with the professor/instructor you asked and talk about why you asked them specifically to write a letter for you.
- Send a note of appreciation after the individual writes your letter of recommendation.



# COLLEGE ESSAYS

- Not all schools will require you to write an essay.
- Common App requires you to write one essay.
- Common App provides 7 essay prompts.
  - You choose 1 to answer.
  - 22-23 essay prompts are the same as 21-22
- How to Guide to the Common Application 2022-2023
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sWOify6372U>Including essays
- There may be additional essays depending on the college



# COLLEGE ESSAYS

- Some colleges provide short essays where they limit the amount of words.
- Make an appointment at The Writing Center here at FHSU - <https://www.fhsu.edu/writingcenter/>
- Write something different than you have already written in other parts of the application
  - Most colleges are wanting to get a good picture of who you are.
  - Keep it simple (don't write it in the shape of a test tube or music note.
  - Admission reps are “shaping the incoming class” ...does your essay  
Tell them how you might contribute to their campus and community.
- Admission reps are reading hundreds and hundreds of letters
  - Be genuine
  - Have someone else proof it but it should remain your essay



# INTERVIEWS

- Many schools will not require an interview. Only more selective schools (MIT, NYU, etc.)
- Selective scholarships or selective programs of universities may require an interview.
- Treat it as a conversation.
- Dress the part.
- Be confident, but not “over confident”.
- Practice with a friend/parent. Record yourself answering questions or looking in to a mirror.
- Come prepared with a few questions about the university that is interviewing you.
- Thank the interviewer for their time.
- Send a follow up email/call to tell them you enjoyed visiting with them and are really looking forward to the possibility of attending their college.



# INTERVIEWS CONTINUED...

- FHSU Career Services has rooms you can reserve for interviews. Allotted time, quiet location, no one will bother you!
- Typical college interview questions:
  - Why do you want to go to this college?
  - What do you want to know about this college?
  - What impresses you about this college?
  - What have you read lately?
  - Are there particular subjects/areas of research that you enjoy?
  - If selected, what can you offer our college?
  - How did you spend last summer?
  - What has been important to you in high school?
  - What do you consider to be your major strength? Major weakness?
  - What area/degree do you want to pursue while at this college? Why?
  - What are your interests? Why?





# COMPARE AND DECIDE

College Application Comparison Checklist			
General	College #1	College #2	College #3
Name			
Distance From Home			
Climate			
Campus Size			
Urban or Rural Setting			
Number of Undergraduates/Graduates			
Housing Possibilities			
Parking Availability			
<b>Academics</b>	-	-	-
Type of School			
Majors Offered			
Programs with Good Reputation			
Average Class Size			
Internship Options			
Study Abroad Options			
<b>Admissions</b>	-	-	-
Test Scores Required			
Interview Required			
Essay Required			
Letters of Recommendation Required			
Deadline for Admissions			
Deadline for Housing Application			
<b>Finances</b>	-	-	-
Tuition Cost			
Housing Cost			
Financial Aid/Scholarship Options			
Work Study Options			
Grants/Loans			
Deadlines			
<b>Services</b>	-	-	-
Safety/Security			
Counseling Services			
Health Services			
Technology Services			
<b>Activities</b>	-	-	-



# “PITFALLS” FOR STUDENTS TO AVOID...

- “I’m applying to college X because all my friends are going there.”
- “There’s only ONE college that is right for me.”
- “All colleges are the same, so why bother with all this work.”
- “I’m going to college X because my father, mother, brother, etc. went there (or wants me to go there).”
- “College X is too expensive for me.”
- “I’m not applying there because I’ll get rejected.”
- **BIGGEST STATEMENT TO AVOID** – “If my number one school doesn’t accept me, I’ll be unhappy for the next 4 years.”



# REALITIES OF SELECTIVE SCHOOLS

- How Admission is Decided =
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jlPuM3Bcc98>
- Understanding College Selectivity
  - <https://www.collegedata.com/resources/the-facts-on-fit/understanding-college-selectivity>
- Look up department that you want to major in – look up staff – where did they get their undergraduate degrees?

Deluged by more applications than ever, the most selective colleges are, inevitably, rejecting a vast majority, including legions of students they once would have accepted. Admissions directors at these institutions say that most of the students they turn down are such strong candidates that many are indistinguishable from those who get in.



# RELAX!

- Where you go to college doesn't seal your fate...  
<http://www.cnn.com/2015/03/18/living/feat-college-admissions-frank-bruni-new-book/>

## WHERE DID THEY GO TO COLLEGE ?



### Fortune 500 CEO's

\*Combined Gross Annual Revenue (in billions)

1 HARVARD UNIVERSITY 25 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$1,548.3 Annual Revenue	9 Yale YALE UNIVERSITY 6 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$330.5 Annual Revenue	17 PENN STATE 3 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$100.4 Annual Revenue
2 STANFORD UNIVERSITY 11 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$492.5 Annual Revenue	10 SOUTHERN METHODIST 4 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$575.3 Annual Revenue	18 PURDUE UNIVERSITY 3 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$135.4 Annual Revenue
3 PENN 8 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$405.4 Annual Revenue	11 USC 4 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$70.4 Annual Revenue	19 MICHIGAN 3 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$113.3 Annual Revenue
4 MIT 7 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$428.5 Annual Revenue	12 NYU 4 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$327.1 Annual Revenue	20 KU UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS 2 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$231.1 Annual Revenue
5 CORNELL UNIVERSITY 8 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$375.3 Annual Revenue	13 TEXAS A&M 3 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$237.8 Annual Revenue	21 GEORGETOWN 2 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$102.2 Annual Revenue
6 UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO 6 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$489.9 Annual Revenue	14 PRINCETON UNIVERSITY 3 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$218.7 Annual Revenue	22 CINCINNATI 2 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$85.0 Annual Revenue
7 NORTHWESTERN 6 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$323.7 Annual Revenue	15 NOTRE DAME 3 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$177.8 Annual Revenue	23 BABSON COLLEGE 2 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$335 Annual Revenue
8 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY 6 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$545.7 Annual Revenue	16 SAN DIEGO STATE 3 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$101.6 Annual Revenue	24 DUKE UNIVERSITY 2 FORTUNE 500 CEO'S \$218.2 Annual Revenue

# COLLEGE WORK NIGHTS: TIGER'S DEN

Wednesday's  
6:30-8:00

- September 7
- September 14
- September 21
- September 28
  - As needed

