

COLLEGE COUNSELING

GRADES 9-12



College Counseling is a two-trimester-long daily class during senior year that allows College Counselors to get to know students on a deeply personal level and help them determine what college and university options will align with their personal, educational, and professional goals with a focus on individual fit. Counselors ensure students have plenty of support as they prepare their applications. At BASIS Independent Schools, College Counseling begins in Grade 9.

GRADE 9

Beginning in Grade 9, students are required to attend College Counseling Bootcamps. Counselors want to ensure even our youngest high school students know what to expect and how best to plan their next four years. Topics include time management, extracurricular balance, how best to spend their summers, and their first introduction to SCOIR, a college planning software used throughout high school. This bootcamp generally ends with a panel made up of current seniors sharing their experiences.

GRADE 10

Bootcamps will continue in this grade discussing larger topics such as higher ed options, standardized testing, letters of recommendations, and more. Sophomores can also begin meeting with College Counselors after Spring Break, though not necessarily who they will be assigned to in their senior year.

GRADE 11

Junior year is the last year students will participate in a College Counseling Bootcamp but the first year they can begin to attend college representative visits. Juniors are also assigned to their College Counselor in January and can start meeting with them immediately.

GRADE 12

College Counseling becomes a required daily class, led by their College Counselor, for the first two trimesters. This class helps work on college and scholarship applications, manage and organize college-related correspondence, write essays, and conduct mock interviews to develop interview skills. The atmosphere of the class is much like a focused study hall where students are expected to work in a dedicated and respectful manner to achieve their college admissions goals.

PARENT EXPERIENCE

For parents, events are held throughout the year such as College Counseling 101, Junior Parent Night, and Senior Parent Night. These events in combination with the monthly College Counseling Newsletters allow parents to stay connected to the College Counseling Team, directly ask them questions, and stay up-to-date on the latest trends in college admissions.