College Admission and Scholarships

Lee Binz, The HomeScholar www.HomeHighSchoolHelp.com "Helping parents homeschool high school"

Normal Families Get Big Scholarships

- Homeschool is your vocation. Be relaxed, but be involved
- Invest in continuing education to do your job

Preparing for College

- Parents are the best guidance counselors. Plan a rigorous curriculum and meet minimum college prep requirements.
- Encourage specialization, and delight directed learning.
- Preparation includes work skills, life skills, and character
- Take the PSAT for fun in October of 10th and 11th grade.

Finding a College

- Attending a college fair. Read brochures carefully.
- Visit the colleges and take notes. A college visit is the only way to know if a college is a good fit
- Ivy League aspirations: elite universities reject qualified applicants should have a back-up plan.
- All students should apply to 4-8 colleges, public and private, reach, fit, and safety schools
- Junior year is critical. By the end of the year choose colleges where you r child will apply. In fall, take
 the PSAT in October, attend college fairs, study for the SAT or ACT. In spring, visit colleges, take the
 SAT or ACT twice, parents complete high school records

Applying to College

- Complete college applications early in senior year.
- Student completes the application. This includes some self-reflective, technically perfect essays.
- Parents complete all homeschool records: transcript, reading list, course descriptions, activity lists.
- Provide outside validation with tests and letters of recommendation, other documentation needed.

Getting Scholarships

- Scholarships chances increase with test preparation, scholarship competition, and college interviews.
- Private scholarship search: find, filter, format, follow-though and file results.
- Need-based scholarships based on FAFSA application during October of 12th grade
- National Merit Scholarship timeline: PSAT in October of 11th grade plus SAT in 11th grade. Be ready with complete homeschool records to complete the application in fall of senior year if needed.
- Count the true cost of colleges; the cost out of pocket.
- Expect 3 waves of scholarships 1) scholarships based on SAT or ACT and GPA, 2) Scholarships based on FAFSA and financial need, 3) scholarships for merit or special application

Facing Reality

- Unique situations require research and careful planning.
- Parents create diamonds: children with character will succeed.
- Provide a diploma, transcript, and course descriptions. Save records in digital and paper form.

Resources

[Free] Super Scholarships for Humble Homeschoolers Workshop <u>HomeHighSchoolHelp.com/Freebies</u> Coordinating Reference Book: <u>The HomeScholar Guide to College Admission and Scholarships</u>
Book: <u>Setting the Records Straight: How to Craft Homeschool Transcripts and Course Descriptions</u>
Complete Online Support with The Gold Care Club: www.GoldCareClub.com