

College Admissions Advising & Application Assistance

College Admissions has never been so competitive.

Online applications, used by most institutions, have facilitated the process so that there has been a massive surge in the number of applications each college and university receives.

The result is that tens of thousands of qualified applicants are rejected each year.

Having a polished, cohesive application, supported by materials that showcase your unique talents and perspectives will allow colleges and universities to understand the value that you bring to their campus.

My Services

Essay Assistance

Find the right subject. I help you frame your personal statements to present a cohesive application, showing the colleges and universities the unique qualities you will bring to their campus.

Make sure your supplementals are to point and are customized to the schools of choice. No school wants to receive a generic response to its essay prompt.

Tell the schools that you really want them, so that they really want you!

College Selection Assistance

Clarify what matters to you. I help you identify schools that have the programs you want and also meet your geographic and social needs.

I provide assistance refining the college list and help you strategically decide the best way to apply to each of those schools on your list .

Early Decision 1, Early Decision 2, Early Action and Regular Decision: I help you decide which is best for you and which

Common & Coalition Application Assistance

Decide which application is better for you.

I assist with the completion of the application and development of the resumé. and selection of items for the digital locker or supplemental submissions.

David Bedell ·

Curriculum Planning

Other Services Available:

Testing Decisions Referral to Test Preparation FAFSA Advising Interview Preparation NCAA Advising

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An Example of my Essay Editing Assistance

Essay written by a student accepted to Johns Hopkins

Essay Prompt: Discuss a particular event or events that have inspired your academic pursuits (300 words maximum).

BEFORE

My grandmother wanted to be a doctor; she wanted to make life better for her community. In her day, it was impossible for a woman from rural Cuba to attend school, much less medical college; but, after the Cuban revolution, when she found herself exiled in Miami, she finally got the opportunity to fight for her people. "Mami" participated in demonstrations and helped organize relief and aid for Cubans who were not as fortunate as she. These regular people had been unlucky and had been stuck on the island, so now they could only watch as their patrimony became nationalized and their access to resources, even food, severely diminished.

I imagine people in Germany in the 1930s faced a similar situation. When to leave, how to leave, should they leave. One day too late, really was too late. A Jewish Berliner who was not able or willing to see the signs well in advance could easily pay with his or her life. Many escaped Germany only to become trapped elsewhere later on and captured as the Nazis moved into the rest of Europe. That time the US was not so willing to take refugees.

Now today, the world is again seeing millions of people displaced from Ukraine, Syria and Afghanistan. And, there is also a lot of dissention about where they can go and not all refugees are treated equally. The US and Europe are both uncomfortable with many aspects of refugee immigration.

I often think of how lucky I have been that my Mami made it to Miami, we benefited from geography and the ethos of the US in the 1960s. Life should not be dependent on luck. I want to study history so I can dedicate myself to improving our world by continuing my Mami's activism, raising awareness of the past and aiding displaced people however I can.

This essay was written with the best of intentions; but it tells the readers a story that is not about the applicant and it only leads to the main idea, that this student wants to be a historian, at the very end. It also lacks an engaging hook that will make readers want to keep reading so the story's relevance to the applicant is lost.

No hook to grab the readers' attention Nothing about the actual applicant Everything is TOLD, nothing is shown, it feels a bit like a lecture

Dramatic, but not grammatically correct. At the very least use a question mark

This sounds very chatty, it does not fit the tone of the paragraph, which is more formal. It is also redundant, today is now!!

The prompt is only answered in one line at the very end!

Try to not use "I" so much, save it for emphasis. It is your essay, the readers know that this reflects what you think!

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Essay Prompt: Discuss a particular event or events that have inspired your academic pursuits (300 words maximum).

AFTER

The knock came not in the middle of the night, but at 5am, when everyone was in his or her deepest sleep, just before waking up. "Wach auf!" Nazis knew how to catch people by surprise.

The rejection came as she walked up the steps of the small, rural school and was denied entry, not by formal means. Or even in advance. "Vete a casa." Mami dreamed of being a doctor but wasn't even allowed to go to school in early 20th century Cuba.

History matters. Understanding history can change the world.

When the revolution came, Mami's farm was taken, her house nationalized and luckily, she managed to escape to the US. Many were not so fortunate; nearly all the Jews in 1933 Berlin were not.

I often think about those Berliners; I am here today by the luck of history, and perhaps a fluke of geography. Escape to the US was geographically feasible for Mami and the US was amenable in 1959. Was the US less isolationist then because history had shown how the US had failed European refugees just 20 years prior? I think so.

Historians provide the perspective; they advocate for our planet. Today, we face enormous conflict: Ukraine, Afghanistan, Syria and elsewhere. Historians point to the past and offer insight into how we can protect people and their life's achievements from the ambitions of leaders who are at best insensitive to their plight, and at worst indifferent to their suffering.

I want to be that historian and provide that perspective. My Mami never became a doctor, but she advocated for refugees her entire life. I too want to advocate, to educate, to point to the past as a way to avoid these displacements. I want to leave the world a better place than it is today.

This essay is terrific! The hook engages the readers, making them want to know what will happen next. The prompt is addressed early on, but since the lecture-like tone has been replaced by something more interesting, readers will feel like they know something about you and what you will bring to their campus

> Congratulations! You have SHOWN the readers what you want to study and you have done it without using "I" all the time!

.Excellent way to tie the Mami and Nazi stories together and shows your capacity for critical analysis .

Significant use of active voice makes for a much more powerful essay

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My Rates and Packages

I offer an online set of resources, with information, scholarship links, NCAA links, college finder and a resumé builder. Access is available with my multi-hour packages.

Hourly Advising	\$225 per hour, payable in advance
5 hours Advising	\$975 includes 4 weeks of platform access
10 hours Advising	\$1850 includes 6 weeks of platform access
15 hours Advising	\$2625 includes 8 weeks of platform access

Payment is by Invoice through the Square Register (squareup.com). Payment for hourly advising is due at the time of booking. Cancellations and reschedules require 24 hour notice or will be charged as 1 hour.

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