



## **Admission Consulting Services and Fees**

*as of January 2023*

### **Description of Services**

Below is the sequence of steps we follow when working with students applying to competitive and elite private schools.

**Applicant Evaluation and Assessment** – In order to have a good sense of the schools an applicant would be a fit for, we have to learn about the student’s academic profile, athletic participation and achievements, artistic participation and achievements, extracurricular activities, awards, skills, talents, and special needs. We have a comprehensive questionnaire that parents and students complete to provide us with as much information as possible about the student and the family. Additionally, we require 2 years of school transcripts and standardized test scores, as well as teacher narrative reports. After a review of the student records, and the parent and student questionnaire, we schedule a phone call with the parent(s), and an individual meeting with the student, to discuss the questionnaire, and identify the strengths and weaknesses of the application. **We need to see what the schools will see in the application, in order to help families best navigate this complicated process.**

**School Recommendation List** – Once we have completed the evaluation and assessment process, and we have met with the parent(s) and student, we develop a targeted list of schools that will be a good fit for the student, and we discuss the student’s chances of admission to these schools. We also work with the family to develop a list of criteria for the independent school search. It is easy to get overwhelmed with the number of schools from which to choose, and it is hard to really know how the schools differ, and which ones would be a good fit for your student, and your family. **We break through the confusion and the hype, and tell you why we think certain schools would be a good fit for your child.** We have personally visited over 50 Boston-area schools. We have placed students at a long list of independent schools for over 20 years. We tutor students from many independent schools, and we work with them on SAT/ACT prep, so we know what the curriculum is like at these schools, and we know how well they prepare their students for college and beyond. We are experts in independent school placement – in Boston, across the United States, and around the world. We have worked with clients on 4 continents, to place them in private schools.

**Resume Development** – We work with the student and the parent to develop a resume that highlights a student’s academic, athletic, and artistic participation, and achievements. The resume also includes volunteer work, paid work (mother’s helper, babysitting, yard work, snow removal, working at a family business, etc.), summer program experience, talents, and hobbies. The resume is a great tool to showcase a student’s talents and skills, and it sets them apart in a crowded applicant pool. **Parents and students are often surprised at the things they forget to include on the resume, and how impressive the resume looks when it is complete.** The resume is also a great resource for teachers and other mentors to use when writing recommendations for students. Families find the resume to be invaluable in helping to fill in the “activity grids” found on most private school applications.

**School Research and Open House Planning** – We teach students how to research schools, and how to take detailed notes on what each school has to offer. **This is a critical step in the process, and one that is too often overlooked.** We show students how they can connect the school’s mission to themselves, and how to clearly articulate why they are a good fit for the school. We also help students and parents make a plan for the open houses, to both maximize their school visits, and make connections with influencers. This work also feeds into the work we do in preparing for the interviews (group and individual), and on the applications and essays. Students who can help the schools “see” them at the school, and who can speak specifically about how they will contribute to the school, stand out in this process. **School research often takes 5-6 hours on average for each school, in order to make sure that the student is an expert on the school, and they make connections as to how they fit at the school.**

**Mock Interview Preparation** – We prepare students and parents for both group and one-on-one interviews by making sure that both the parents and students have insightful answers for the most common interview questions. The goal is always to demonstrate why the student is a fit for the school. **We do not put words in anyone’s mouth, rather we help guide students and parents in how to present their best selves.** We also make sure that parents and students have developed insightful questions to ask at the interview. We guide students and parents in presenting in an open and honest way, while helping the interviewers learn more about their family, and why they are applying to this school. We assist our families to “show, don’t tell” why a student is a good fit for the schools they are applying to. Students who go through this process learn a valuable life skill in how to succeed at an interview, and how to make a memorable and lasting impression.

**Recommendations** – We provide tips and pointers to make sure that the student has the best possible recommendations. **We help families understand what makes a good recommendation, and how to approach coaches, teachers and other mentors about writing impactful recommendations.** This maximizes the chances that the recommendations showcase the student’s unique skills and talents, and also demonstrates why they are a good fit for the schools.

**Applications and Essays** – Using the work we have done on the resume, school research, and at the open houses, we work with the student to craft well-written answers to application and essay questions. We take this opportunity to showcase what the student and parents have learned about the schools, and we demonstrate why the student is a good fit for the schools. **We help the admission committee see why the student will be a valuable contributor to the school**

**community.** The easier an applicant makes the reviewer's job in evaluating the application, the better the chance of admission.

**Acceptance Letters, Wait Lists and the Final Decision** – March is a big month for our families! The admission's decisions are usually posted by mid-March, and families often have several wonderful schools to choose from, and this in and of itself can present a challenge. We help families determine which school to choose, how to deal with re-visit days, and what to do if a student is wait listed at their first choice school.



## **Professional Fees**

*as of January 2023*

**Complimentary Interview** – We are happy to offer a 30-minute complimentary interview, to determine if a family is a fit for our services.

**Platinum Package** – All services described in the services section, plus phone, Zoom, and/or e-mail consultations as needed, for up to 5 schools. **Fee: \$20,000 - for approximately 60 hours of service – from May through December/January (when applications are due) – 1.5 to 2 hours a week of meetings with the parent(s) and the student, including e-mails and follow up.**

**Mock Interview Package** – We offer a mock interview package for applicants who just need assistance with the interview portion of the process. This package involves 3 meetings: an initial 1 hour meeting to go over the 25 most common interview questions, a second 1.5 hour meeting to practice the first phase of the interview, and a final 1.5 hour meeting to practice the second phase of the interview. **Fee: \$5,000 - for 8 hours of service – four 2-hour meetings with the student, to review the 25 most common interview questions, craft specific student responses, and prepare for interviews with each specific school.**

**Application Review Package** – We will review the parent and student applications for up to 4 schools and provide one round of feedback and comments. **Fee: \$5,000 – flat rate – for approximately 8 hours of initial review, feedback and final review – includes a meeting with the parent(s) and the student to provide specific feedback and comments.**

**Hourly Consulting** – We offer a consulting rate of **\$1,000 per hour (minimum of two hours).** **We are happy to credit this fee towards a future package.**

Families have also used our hourly service for consulting regarding an applicant's fit for a particular list of schools, developing a school recommendation list, resume development, school research, mock interview preparation for students and parents, and application and essay review for both students and parents.

**Prior Applicant Review Package** - Families have used this option to have us review the entire application when a family has applied on their own (with no prior assistance from us), and their student has not been admitted to their school(s) of choice. We help families understand the strengths and weaknesses of their application, and how to present a better application for the second go round. This is often a highly successful process. **Fee: \$10,000 – flat rate - for review of completed application(s) and all supplemental material, two meetings with the parent and the student, to first learn more about the student and the family, and a second follow-up meeting to report on findings, encompasses approximately 10 hours of work. This fee can be applied to a Platinum Package for families re-applying for school admission.**

If you have specific needs, we are happy to discuss whether hourly or a consulting package would make sense for your family.

*Note: Hourly services are subject to availability. At certain busy times of the year (May through January in particular), we may not have any availability to assist clients seeking our services.*

*All services must be paid for in full, in advance. Payment must be made via personal or bank check, or wire transfer only. We do not accept credit cards for these services.*

We are more than happy to provide references of families who have worked with us on this process in the past.