ADMISSIONS PANEL

MODERATOR:
Christiana Thornton
President & CEO, The New Hampshire Higher Education Assistance Foundation (NHHEAF) Network

PRESENTERS:
Julie Lanman
Director of Admissions, Saint Anselm College

Kevin Donohue
Admissions Officer, Dartmouth College

Matt Wallace
Director of Admissions, Plymouth State University
BEFORE APPLYING
What is the best way to take advantage of high school in preparation for college admissions?
Is it better for a student to take an honors or AP course and risk getting a lower grade, or stick to a college prep level course to get a better grade?
What do you consider to be the most important qualities in applicants to your school?
What would you say to students who aren’t sure if college in general is a good fit for them?
What do you wish every prospective student knew about your school?
APPLYING TO COLLEGE
What are the advantages or disadvantages of applying early action or early decision?
If a college has a test-optional admissions policy, what does this mean?

Are there any advantages or disadvantages in submitting test scores?
How do extracurricular activities factor into the admissions review?
Are there any topics that are “off limits” for a college essay?
THE APPLICATION

Will the use of AI-generated content (ChatGPT) impact how the college essay will be utilized in the admission process?
Will college admissions offices recalculate GPAs?

What if a school has a unique grading system (i.e. 10-point scale, competency-based grading, pass-fail during COVID-19)?
FINAL QUESTIONS
What is the hardest part of working in college admissions?

What is your best advice for the class of 2024?