Presenting Your Best Self in the College Experience

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It's Your Process
Making An Appearance

*Demonstrating Interest*

- College Visits
  - Campus Tour, Information Session, Interview, Open House
- Information Sessions at your High School
- College fairs
- Social media
- Connect with your admission counselor
Dress For Success

World’s New Favorite Uncle Wears Suit To Meet Newborn Niece

my sister is about to have a baby and my brother showed up to the hospital in a suit because “first impressions matter”
The Interview

• BEFORE YOU ARRIVE ON CAMPUS

- Review college interview questions online
- Look up directions (including where to park) and drive times to ensure you arrive EARLY
- Dress for success
The Interview

• **DURING YOUR VISIT**
  - Be attentive
  - Make eye contact
  - Shake your interviewer’s hand to introduce yourself

• **ASK QUESTIONS**
  - Shows you are interested and engaged, and have done your homework
  - Be prepared to talk about you/your accomplishments; be confident - not arrogant
The Interview

• AFTER YOUR INTERVIEW FOLLOW-UP
  - Get a business card
  - Send thank you email or handwritten letter to interviewer
  - Include follow-up questions or comments in your email
  - Schedule a time to visit again for an Accepted Students’ Day or Open House
The Application & Essay

SHARE **WHO YOU ARE**

- Be AUTHENTIC
- You are in the driver’s seat! Show the best version of yourself and be confident in your accomplishments (academic and extracurricular)
- Main character in life = main character in college essay
  - You are applying to college, not grandma and her delicious chocolate chip cookie recipe
- Talk about hobbies, interests, and what makes you happy!
- Pay attention to essay prompt, if there is one, and supplemental questions
The Application & Essay

SHOW WHY YOU’D BE A GOOD FIT

• You are applying to this college for a reason, show that reason

• Make yourself aware of the student body and climate on campus and speak to how you would fit well in that environment
The Application & Essay

REVIEW & PROOFREAD

• Write your own essay!
  o Colleges want to hear YOUR voice, not someone else’s

• Have 1-2 people look it over (max)
What email address are you using?

Admission officers typically go by first names, not Mrs. or Mr. - feel free to use them!

Use proper punctuation and spelling

Every email you send goes into your profile

If you are not interested in receiving emails from a school, unsubscribe or reach out to tell them

Do not respond with explicit language or derogatory words, the interaction will be reported to your school counselor or principal
Internet Etiquette

SOCIAL MEDIA

➢ The good
➢ The bad
➢ The ugly
Questions?

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The NHHEAF Network’s
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Thank you!

Please make your way to the college fair from the Destination College main platform.

The link is posted in the chat for your convenience.