



# Your College Navigator, LLC

Admissions by design, not chance!

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## March 2023

### Freshmen/Sophomores/Juniors

- Plan a productive summer with programs, jobs and internships
- Attend one of our informative events:

**"The New Rules  
of College Admissions in Today's  
Challenging Environment!"**

**March 8 in-person at  
Cold Spring Harbor Library**

**March 20 Virtual Event with  
Syosset Library**

**Go to [www.ycnavigator.com](http://www.ycnavigator.com)  
to register for either event**

### Juniors

- Continue developing, researching and visiting your target colleges
- Take the SAT on March 11th

## April 2023

### Juniors

- Visit college campuses
- Prepare for AP Exams
- Take the ACT on April 15th  
(register by March 10<sup>th</sup>)

### Seniors

- Compare offers of admission; revisit top choices if possible
- Evaluate financial aid packages, consider college funding options
- Notify the colleges that you will not attend and take some time to thank those who wrote your letters of recommendation

## Selecting High School Classes

Students often struggle when making decisions about which classes to take during their all-important four years of high school. How do you choose?

College admission officers review five parts of an application: standardized test scores, if required; college essays; recommendations; listing of academic honors and extracurricular activities; the high school transcript, covering grades 9-11. *Without question, the most important part of that review is the students' complete academic transcript.* When analyzing the document, the reader may have to first determine that a student has met that college's minimum course requirements - typically 3 years of Math, 4 years of English, 2-3 years of Social Sciences, 2-3 years of Sciences and 2-3 years of a foreign language/ASL. Assuming that the applicant has completed those, the primary focus will be on the strength of the coursework selected. Admission decisions rarely hinge on just one aspect of an application, such as test scores, but the overall trends in performance, challenges of coursework, and grade trajectories are all important.

When a high school sends an applicant's transcript to a college, it is usually accompanied by the School Report. This document provides the college with detailed information about the applicant's placement within their overall class and the choices of coursework the applicant had available each year. Universities want to see that students have chosen to really engage in their high school experience, push themselves to take on increasingly rigorous coursework and have been successful in their endeavors. Why? Because that is exactly the type of student who will also excel on a university campus!

The School Report shows whether or not you had the option of taking an AP course or a College Prep course, as opposed to a regular course in any given subject. Admission officers want you to take full advantage of courses that are available to you. But remember, they will never expect to see a class on your transcript that your school does not offer or require - just try very hard to shine within the range of opportunities available.

Make sure your transcript reveals your passions and interests. If you are applying as a foreign language major, have you taken the most advanced options available? If you are applying as a STEM candidate, have you taken the highest level of the Math and Science courses open to you?

Remember that your high school years are your way of preparing yourself for the increased challenge of a college classroom. Take classes that give you a solid foundation so you can be ready for college-level math, writing, and science classes. As you take on those tough classes, are you also engaging in activities? Think about showing consistency in extracurricular choices too. This is the balance that colleges love to see - consistency, rigor, determination, dedication and resilience.

High school is the start of your academic journey, and is your time to explore who you are and what you want. Make your transcript a clear indication of your ongoing journey of self-discovery, your time management abilities, and your areas of academic and personal interests. Look for ways to stimulate your creativity and leadership skills, take risks and grow. So challenge yourself in and out of the classroom, try new things and maintain balance - after all, maybe you'll find that you shine even brighter in your Calculus BC class after you've enjoyed painting a peaceful landscape in Art class.

## Career Paths for International Business Majors

- Business analyst
- Foreign affairs specialist
- International buyer
- Management specialist
- Bilingual educator
- Customs broker
- International trade specialist
- International marketing specialist
- International banker
- Cultural advisor
- Import compliance specialist
- International economist
- International accountant
- Corporate trainer
- Global sourcing specialist
- International financial officer
- International consultant
- Foreign service officer
- Entrepreneur
- Translator/Interpreter

Websites such as [www.glassdoor.com](http://www.glassdoor.com) and [www.indeed.com](http://www.indeed.com) are just a couple of the resources available for finding jobs and internships in International Business around the world.



## Focus on Majors: International Business

As our world becomes more connected through technology and the global marketplace, the demand for workers possessing degrees in International Business is growing rapidly. Many domestic corporations are currently establishing offices overseas, and they need culturally competent and well-trained business people to act as representatives for their companies. International Business graduates are likely to be responsible for facilitating communications and business deals; especially needed are those with a high degree of both expertise in their field and cultural sensitivity. Successful employees should demonstrate strong leadership skills, consistently ethical behavior, and adaptability to rapidly evolving technologies. Put simply, this career is all about learning how to effectively conduct business on the global scale.

Although there are certainly many jobs available to those who earn their Bachelors' degrees in International Business, obtaining a Master in Business Administration (MBA) or a Master in International Management (MIM) takes an additional one to two years, and increases career options and access to better paying management and administrative positions. As opportunities and salaries increase, the job market for International Business graduates has become more competitive. In the past, having an MBA was more than sufficient to secure a high-paying job but today, students may want to consider obtaining a Doctor of Business Administration (DBA), equivalent to a PhD, and additional specialized business certifications. The DBA is also strongly encouraged for those who are interested in careers in research or academics.

There are many job options for students who wish to pursue degrees, particularly advanced degrees, in this field. You can work in an overseas corporate office, in which case it is important to consider how you feel about extensive travel abroad, often with long and/or odd hours. There are jobs available in the government sec-

tor in fields such as education, healthcare, and aerospace. Another option is consulting, usually in the short-term, within specific areas of business such as banking, law, technology, and international trade. Working as an international accountant, which often requires an MBA and specific accounting licensure qualifications, involves expertise in tax law and currency exchanges, along with an understanding of how to read and create financial statements, in the format required by other countries and their respective laws. An international economist studies the market, analyzes trends, and makes projections about countries that companies are doing business with overseas. International banking is another lucrative field with excellent job prospects, because of emerging international markets. Jobs are available within domestic banks that hold foreign accounts and in internationally owned institutions that do business in the United States.

Students majoring in International Business can expect to take classes in management, economics, business law, international finance, foreign languages, international marketing, and international operations. Becoming proficient in a second language, and possessing a high degree of knowledge about software programs and their constantly-evolving technologies, are considered crucially valuable skills in today's market.

This major is best suited for students who are interested in business, travelling, and learning about other cultures and languages. It helps to be flexible, a strong communicator, and good with numbers. You should possess an excellent understanding of multicultural business etiquette and world affairs. There is a fast-growing demand for professionals in this field, and above-average job growth projected over the next decade, so majoring in International Business could be the first step towards having a successful and fulfilling career.

## Financial Matters: Comparing Financial Aid Packages



If you've applied for financial aid and filed all the paperwork by the appropriate deadline, an award letter outlining a college's offer of financial assistance should arrive close on the heels of your notification of acceptance. Here's a guide to understanding what that package really means.

The bottom line in comparing financial aid packages is the final cost of your education to you and your family. Since the total cost of education varies for each college, you'll need to compare your packages in terms of several factors. First, compare the ratio of grants (gift money) to loans for each school.

### Navigating the Waitlist

Colleges continue to increase the use of waitlists in order to manage their enrollment. Formerly, the wait list served as a safety net for colleges, assuring them of extra candidates if the number of students who accepted their offer of admission fell below their expectations. Now, however, colleges appear to be using the wait list as a way of increasing their yields and thus their rankings.

It has become pretty typical for a selective college that accepts 2,000 applicants in hopes of enrolling 500 students to offer another 2,000 well-qualified students places on the wait list. Of these, a quarter are likely to accept a spot. What should you do now if you are one of the hopeful applicants who has been wait-listed at your dream school?

First, you need to understand that this

Packages with larger grants than loans are obviously more desirable. Next, consider how much you and your family are expected to contribute and compare this amount to your total grant award. Are you and your family comfortable with this *Expected Family Contribution*? Will you be able to provide the expected amount?

Now, compare loan types offered and their terms. The most desirable loans are federal direct student loans with low, deferred interest; these loans do not have to be repaid until after you have completed your education. Private, unsubsidized family or student loans generally require that repayment begins within sixty days of receipt of funds. Even when offered loans as part of your financial aid package, you are free to decline them.

Most financial aid packages also include work-study. Keep in mind that you are also free to decline this type of aid; although there may be significant

benefits to work-study employment, some students prefer to find their own jobs on or near campus, outside of the work-study program .

is not a denial of admission; instead, the college is letting you know that they consider you a good candidate and would like to accept you if room allows. Since students on the wait list are generally not ranked, you need to get the attention of admissions in order to be admitted. How do you do that?

Next, update your file with any additional awards, honors, new grades or experiences. A visit to campus can help too. Be sure to make an appointment to speak with your admissions rep during that visit.

First, respond quickly affirming your continued interest in the college and your desire to remain on the wait list. Follow up with a call or letter to the admissions officer who was your primary reader. This is generally the individual who has been assigned to your school or region. Check the website or call admissions if you are not sure who this is. Your contact with the regional representative should reaffirm your interest in attending and restate the qualities that you bring to campus. If this is your top choice for college, let the rep know.

Call the college's financial aid office to learn how outside scholarships may affect your financial aid package. While some colleges allow students to use these in place of loans, other colleges subtract this amount from any grant aid that you've been awarded. Ask, too, if you are likely to be awarded a similar package in succeeding years, assuming family finances remain at the same level. Some parts of your package may not be renewable, and this could affect your cost of attendance in subsequent years.

The final decision about college choice is a family decision, made by weighing numerous factors to determine the best choice for all of you. With skyrocketing college costs, finances may rightly count heavily in your final college selection.

If you will not need much (or ideally any) financial aid to attend that college, let the college know in writing that your family is able to handle your college expenses.

Be prepared to make a quick decision on attending if you get a phone call offering you a place in the class. Generally, colleges will expect a verbal yes within 24-48 hours after offering you a place. Only then will the offer become official. If you do choose to attend Wait List U, you'll need to withdraw your previous enrollment at your second choice college. Be aware that you will probably forfeit any deposits you've paid to that institution.



## Your College Navigator

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**Check our website for  
upcoming webinars  
and seminars.**

## Post-College Visit Checklist and Review

Last month we reviewed the best ways to visit a college. After visiting, it is easy to lose track of each experience. A simple way for students and parents to keep track of all the schools that they visit is to keep a Post-College Visit Checklist and Summary. Giving a grade with details to various campus and classroom facilities helps students differentiate between colleges.

Include in the College Visit Summary anything noteworthy (positive or negative), about your experience.

And then, give each college an Overall Grade

Then assess if you can see yourself going to this school for at least 4 years. Why or why not?

College is a significant investment for students and parents. Be sure to taking full advantage of your college visits. Identifying which school(s) would be a best fit for the student is the key goal of this checklist and summary.

For example give A+ through F grades on the following:

Campus & Grounds

Dorms

Library

Dining Options

Gym

Classrooms & Labs

Teaching Environment

Strength of Programs of Interest

Size of Classes

Intensity/Rigor of Classes

Meeting w/Professor (name & subject)

Social Activity Drivers

Greek Life

Clubs & Activities (which ones)

Diversity

Career Center

Study Abroad Programs

Internships

Research Opportunities

Campus Safety

Campus Transportation

Off-Campus Activities