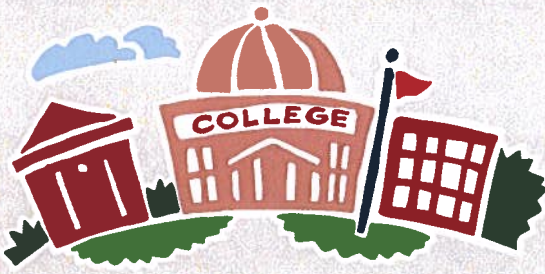


2019-2020

COLLEGE PLANNING GUIDE



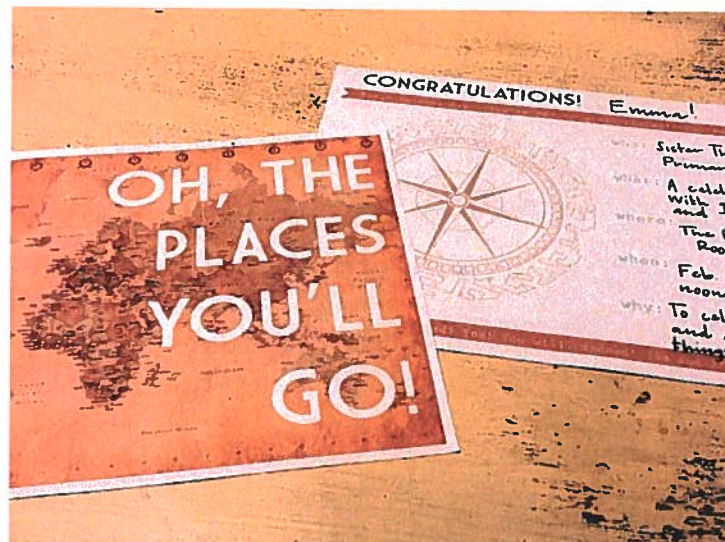
EARLY
COLLEGE
ALLIANCE

Name: _____

CORE Advisor: _____

Completing Year and Semester: _____

College Planning Meeting Date: _____



TIMELINE

MAY:

- Attend college planning meeting
- Research schools
- Sign up to retake ACT/SAT

JUNE:

- Complete TIP Application if eligible
- Request personalized recommendations by June!
- Retake ACT/SAT
- Volunteer? Internship? Get involved!
- Tour Colleges
- Request personalized recommendations by June!

JULY/AUGUST:

- Continue to Tour Colleges
- Apply for Fly in Program (collegegreenlight.com)
- Narrow college interest list
- Apply to colleges starting August 1st
- Work on College Admission Essays or Personal Statement

SEPTEMBER:

- Collect required materials for applications (ACT/SAT, transcripts), start college apps, and begin applying
- Make a calendar for deadlines

OCTOBER:

- Complete the FAFSA(fafsa.ed.gov)
- College Application Month-Submit college applications
- Early Action request must be sent to Ms. Squirewell by 10/1, if you need her to complete counselor form/recommendation or school report.

TIMELINE

NOVEMBER:

- Early Action Deadline is Nov. 1st
- Early Action gives you the best consideration
- Continue working on apps.
- E-Portfolios are due! (Fall Completers)

DECEMBER:

- Apply for additional scholarships
- Financial aid letters released
- Acceptance letters released
- Submit mid-year transcripts, if necessary.
- Apply for additional scholarships

JANUARY:

FEBRUARY:

- Apply for scholarships

MARCH/APRIL:

- FAFSA Deadline March 1st
- Visit colleges to decide where you plan to enroll
- Meet with department major advisor about your EMU credits transferring to their program
- E-Portfolios are due! (Winter & Summer Completers.)

MAY:

- Pay enrollment deposit by May 1st .
- Attend ECA's Prom!!
- Attend Exit Seminar
- ECA Graduation-TBD

2019-2020 SAT Dates

SAT Date	SAT Subject Test Available?
August 24, 2019	Yes
October 5, 2019	Yes
November 2, 2019	Yes
December 7, 2019	Yes
March 14, 2020	No
May 2, 2020	Yes
June 6, 2020	Yes

High School Code/CEEB# 233841

*If you receive free or reduced lunch, you are eligible for 2 fee waivers and 4 college application fee waivers.

*Athletes please use the code 9999 to send your scores to the NCAA.

2019-2020 ACT Dates

www.act.org

September 14, 2019
October 26, 2019
December 14, 2019
February 9, 2020
April 4, 2020
June 13, 2020
July 18, 2020

REQUESTING YOUR TRANSCRIPTS

For All Transcripts Make Sure To:

Submit a request at least 3-4 weeks before the deadlines to allow for processing time.

Send transcripts directly to each college or university. DO NOT SEND THEM TO YOURSELF!!!

Colleges and Universities require that applicants submit transcripts from ALL high schools attended. This includes your:

District Transcript

Submit your 9th and/or 10th grade district transcripts.

If your school uses Parchment.com follow the Instructions below. Otherwise contact the high school for their specific ordering instructions.

If you were home schooled submit a copy of your home school transcript.

ECA Transcript

Follow the Parchment.com Instructions below.

EMU Transcript

Log on to your my.emich.edu account

Click on Student Services

Click on National Student Clearinghouse

Follow the instructions for requesting your transcript

There may be a \$5.00 fee

Parchment.com Instructions

Go to www.parchment.com

In the upper left hand corner, select create an account.

Follow the instructions for creating your account.

COLLEGES IN MICHIGAN:

Avg. GPA

Avg. ACT/
SAT

*Open

2.5-2.8

2.8-3.2

Admissions

16-19/850-1010

18-22/940-1120



Washtenaw
Community
College



MARYGROVE COLLEGE
WWW.MARYGROVE.EDU



COLLEGE for Creative STUDIES



CONCORDIA
UNIVERSITY
Ann Arbor



EASTERN
MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY



SIENNA HEIGHTS UNIVERSITY



FERRIS STATE
UNIVERSITY



FINLANDIA
UNIVERSITY
FOUNDED IN 1896



LAKE SUPERIOR
STATE UNIVERSITY



MADONNA
UNIVERSITY
A Catholic University in the Franciscan Tradition



M
FLINT



Northern
Michigan
University



NORTHWOOD UNIVERSITY



ROCHESTER
COLLEGE



SAGINAW VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY



WAYNE STATE
UNIVERSITY

*While there are no minimum GPA or ACT requirements for enrollment into community colleges, students must take placement tests. Low scores on these tests may place students in remedial courses, for which no college credit is awarded.

5 Core Academic Requirements:

- 4 years English/Language Arts
- 4 years Mathematics
- 4 years Science
- 3 years Social Science
- 2-3 years World Language

Note: 1 semester of an EMU class is the equivalent to 1 year in high school

Additional factors in admissions decisions:

- Rigorous academic curriculum
- Leadership qualities
- Exceptional talent
- Community impact
- Extracurricular involvement
- Overcoming adversity & other compelling factors
- Recommendation letters
- Essays

A GUIDE TO GPA & ACT TIERS

3.3-3.5

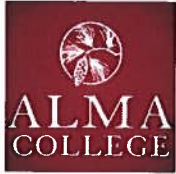
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21-25/1060-1230

23-29/1130-1380

29-36/1350-1600



AQUINAS
COLLEGE

CMU

CENTRAL MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY



WESTERN MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY



CALVIN
COLLEGE



GRAND VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY



HOPE COLLEGE



Michigan Tech

Michigan Technological University®



Gathering Information: Helpful Links:

- www.pathfinder.mitalent.org
- www.gocollege.com
- www.micollegeaccess.org
- <http://www.pro-up.co/>

College Search Tools:

www.collegeresults.org

[http://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/
college-search](http://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search)

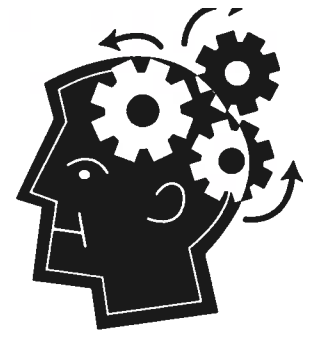
<https://www.collegeraptor.com/>

College Application Tools:

Parchment: www.parchment.com

Common Application: www.commonapp.org

Brainstorm



What type of college am I looking for?

CIRCLE & LIST WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU!

4-Year College | 2-Year College | Vocational/Technical Academy

Small | Medium | Large

Urban | Suburban | Rural

Public | Private | Parochial (Religious)

In-State | Out-of-State | Considering Both In-State & Out-of State

Specific Major/Program: _____

List other important factors for you (ex. cost, distance from home, campus diversity, school spirit, specific club/organization, prestige, etc.):

Colleges I plan to apply to:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

It's okay to apply to "reach" (competitive) schools but make sure you also apply to at least one "safety" (back-up) school

How to apply to college:

TO APPLY TO EMU → SEE MR. COOPER!

Do not send your ACT/SAT test scores, transcripts, or apply online. See Cooper for instructions!

TO APPLY TO OTHER COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES → SEE MS. SQUIREWELL

When you apply to other colleges/universities you will need to submit the following:

Completed Application - Set up an account through the college/university and fill in the necessary information. For the Common Application, set up an account on commonapp.org, fill in the necessary information, and select Ms. Squirewell as your School Counselor (squirewell.earlycollegealliance.info).

Official Transcripts - Submit transcripts to each college from every high school you attended: district school, ECA, EMU. See "Transcript Request Form" if you were home schooled, you must submit a transcript showing your academic coursework.

ACT/SAT Test Scores - Your test scores are automatically sent to the schools you indicated on the ACT/MME. To send your scores to additional schools, you must submit a request directly through ACT/SAT at www.actstudent.org OR www.collegeboard.org.

Counselor/Teacher Recommendation Letters – Some schools require counselor and/or teacher recommendations. Fill out the "Brag Sheet" and set up a meeting with your recommender. If you would like a personalized letter of recommendation from Ms. Squirewell you MUST submit your brag sheet before the summer. Some online application systems such as the Common Application require you to submit your recommendations electronically. Once you supply your recommender's email address, the system will send your counselor/teacher an email to upload your letter. Make sure you thank the recommender once they submit your letter of recommendation!

Essays – Some schools require one or more essays. Be sure to answer the question! Utilize your English professors, CORE Advisor, and Ms. Squirewell for editing. Be authentic - Colleges want to get to know YOU!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

- Apply to all colleges/universities as a **FRESHMAN** applicant, not as a transfer student
- Use your **EMU GPA for your reported GPA** – your GPA is **un-weighted**
- We do not provide class rank at the ECA
- **CEEB Code: 233841**
- Michigan State University asks for a **Michigan Unique Identification Code** – if you do not have this information it is fine to submit your application without it



QUESTIONS??? BE SURE TO CHECK THE FAQs!!



Should You Apply Early Action vs Early Decision?

Early Action vs Early Decision

Most schools allow you to apply early in one of two ways: early decision or early action.

Early decision

Early decision is binding. This means if you are accepted through early decision, you are committed to attending that school, and will withdraw any applications you may have submitted for the regular deadlines at other schools. You may not apply to more than one college under early decision. If you are not accepted, you will either be rejected or deferred. Rejected applicants may not apply again that year. Deferred applicants will be reconsidered during the regular admission period, and are free to apply to other schools.

Early decision deadlines are often in November, and students are typically notified of the decision in December.

Early action

Early action is non-binding. This means you are not bound to attend if you are accepted. You may also apply early action to multiple colleges. Early action deadlines usually fall at the same time as early decision.

The obvious advantage of early action over early decision is the opportunity it gives you to apply to, and ultimately compare financial aid packages from several schools. If you are accepted early decision, you risk missing the admission deadlines of other schools while you wait for your award package to arrive. If that award is lackluster, your options are fewer.

Our Advice

If you're sure that you've found your best-fit school, you know it's one you want to attend, you're a strong candidate for admission, and you know that you can afford the tuition, go ahead and apply early decision.

That is a whole lot of research and comparison to have done by fall of your senior year, though, and if you're uncertain about any of those factors, you're not alone! Keep your options open by applying early action, or by the regular deadline.

**Excerpt from www.princetonreview.com/collegeadvice*



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Writing a Personal Statement

Your Personal Background

Who are you? What are your traits, skills, interests, and habits? What meaningful experiences have shaped you into the person you are today? Who or what has had the most impact on your personal development?

Avoid the typical, "I am a hardworking and responsible student." So are the other 9,000 people applying – you have to distinguish yourself with your own creative angle. Let the person reading your essay get a real sense for who you are.

Challenges Overcome or Problems Solved

What significant challenges have you faced and overcome? Challenges can be academic, emotional, social, or financial. Be creative – talking about a challenge doesn't mean you need to give a sob story. You can also discuss a difficult situation or a tough problem you've had to solve and how you responded. College and scholarship admissions officers want to see your problem-solving skills, since college will involve a lot of challenges of its own.

Avoid a sob story. Don't write about something tragic just for the sake of sounding tragic. If you do choose to write about something very personal (like the loss of a family member or the experience of poverty), make sure that you show how you learned and grew from your experience and how you are better as a result. Make connections to how your struggle shaped and strengthened you.

Community Service and Leadership Experience

What *meaningful* community service and leadership experiences have you participated in?

Admissions officers are interested in seeing how you'll contribute to a campus community and the character and leadership you've shown through your community involvement. Leadership can take many forms – it doesn't always have to be an official title or position you've held. It can be a time you spoke out against something wrong or stepped up when others wouldn't. Above all, remember to share *how* each experience was meaningful to you and *how* you impacted others.

Avoid giving a long, resume-style list of all the activities you've participated in. Admissions officers prefer depth over breadth. It's much more powerful to write about one or two activities that you've consistently participated in and how you've developed in each rather than listing twenty different activities.

Future Educational and Career Goals

What educational path are you on? What do you plan to study and where? What are your career ambitions? Where do you see yourself 5 or 10 years from now? Admissions officers want to see that you've put thought into your future and that you have a plan. The plan you share doesn't have to be set in stone; they just want to see that you're capable of setting goals and making a plan.

Avoid cliché's like "I want to give back to my community." Also, avoid sounding too uncertain or undirected. If you're not sure about your future plans, come up with your best guess. You can always revise it later.



Writing a Personal Statement

Pre-Writing Worksheet

Your Personal Background

Who are you? What are your traits, skills, interests, and habits? What meaningful experiences have shaped you into the person you are today? Who or what has had the most impact on your personal development?

Challenges Overcome or Problems Solved

What significant challenges have you faced and overcome?

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What *meaningful* community service and leadership experiences have you participated in?

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What educational path are you on? What do you plan to study and where? What are your career ambitions? Where do you see yourself 5 or 10 years from now?

2019-20 Post-ECA College Planning Events

Ms. SQUIREWELL | SCHOOL COUNSELOR |

squirewell@earlycollegealliance.info (734)487-3127



College Application Week:

October 2019

All completers are encouraged to apply to at least 2 colleges and one scholarship.

Financial Aid Night

October 2019 | Date, Time & Location:TBD

Recommended for all students/parents completing the ECA in Winter 2018 Spring/Summer 2018, or Fall 2018. EMU's Office of Financial Aid will present valuable financial aid information relevant to students planning to stay at EMU or attend college elsewhere.

College & Career Planning Drop-In Hours | King Hall, Room 322

September – December 2019

Fridays 11:00-12:30

Or by appointment

Scholarship Opportunities (just to get you started)

<https://lendedu.com/blog/scholarships/>

<https://www.tmcf.org/our-scholarships/current-scholarships/tmcf-ford-blue-oval-scholarship/8288>

<https://www.aaacf.org/Impact-Initiatives/Community-Scholarship-Program>

www.jlvcollegecounseling.com

www.enactyourfuture.com

