



Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall.
- F. Scott Fitzgerald

Demystifying the College Application Process

Free Online Courses from the University of Pennsylvania

Need a great resource to help you begin your college search, selection, and admissions process, regardless of your grade or age? The University of Pennsylvania now offers a *free* online learning initiative for any student. The description is below:

"How to Apply to College will empower learners of all backgrounds to demystify and better understand the college search and selection process, combining the expertise of an Ivy League admissions office and a leading college access and success organization. Led by expert educators, including Eric J. Furda, Dean of Admissions at the University of Pennsylvania, and Dr. Sean Vereen, President of Steppingstone Scholars, Inc., this free course will help students, family members, college counselors and any inquisitive learner to navigate each stage from the start of the college search process through the transition into a college environment."

You can enroll in the course any time, no matter your grade or age, at <https://www.coursera.org/learn/applying-to-college>

STUDENT LIFE NEWSLETTER

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Remember: *The well-rounded nature of your educational experience at Bishop Grimes positions you well for acceptance into the college of your choice. While GPA and SAT scores still factor into admissions decisions, they exist now as pixels in a much larger, more complex image.*

Indeed, most modern universities' collages of ideal applicants are representative of a diverse array of individuals, all with their own unique backgrounds, experiences, and talents. Notwithstanding this diversity, however, a commonality in across sought after candidates seems to be those who demonstrably embody character traits and habits that will positively contribute to campus culture, and which are also strongly associated with both personal and professional success after graduation.

Such qualities include leadership, a sense of social responsibility, a commitment to service, initiative, a willingness to take risks, quality (vs. quantity) participation in extracurricular activities, and special talents or abilities. While we don't engage in service or leadership for personal gain, the fact is that your commitment to your community via the service you have performed over the years, your participation in the many activities offered at Bishop Grimes, and your initiative to take on leadership roles within those activities will distinguish you from other applicants - highlighting these experiences in your application, essay, and interview will make you a significantly more competitive applicant, and may even result in some colleges offering you incentives (scholarships, for example) to attend.

As you embark on your college search, Mr. Gray, Mr. Vinciguerra and I are here to support you in helping you to answer all of these questions, and to help you to identify a list of schools that represent the best fit for you.

We are also available to discuss *Bishop Grimes' unique partnership with LeMoyné and how you can enroll in the program (see below for more details!)*. While getting started can seem overwhelming, your college search can also become a fun process, and we are here to help you along the way. Set your goals high, never sell yourself short, and please come see us for guidance!

Bishop Grimes / LeMoyne College Challenge

The LeMoyne College Challenge is a program co-developed by LeMoyne College and Bishop Grimes Jr. / Sr. High School. The program is exclusively available to Bishop Grimes students.

A student enters into an agreement with Bishop Grimes Jr/Sr High School in their 8th grade and agrees to:

1. Earn a NYS Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation or higher;
2. Maintain an 85% GPA for each year in high school;
3. Achieve an SAT combined score of at least 1100 (critical reasoning and math) or an ACT composite score of at least 23;
4. Enroll in a minimum of three college-level courses (AP or IB) during high school;
5. Enroll in one, on-campus course at LeMoyne College (at significantly reduced tuition).

Students who successfully meet the criteria are guaranteed;

1. Admission into LeMoyne College Liberal Arts program, and may be admitted into other programs if qualified;
2. An individualized financial package based on family financial circumstances, to ensure that enrollment at LeMoyne College is affordable.
3. Preferential consideration for merit-based scholarships awarded by LeMoyne College.

Interested students should see either their Guidance Counselor or Mr. G. as soon as possible.

Students currently in grades higher than grade 8 who meet these qualifications will also be invited to enroll in the program.



LE MOYNE
Greatness meets Goodness

New York Youth Institute @ Cornell University

The New York Youth Institute is a life-changing experience at Cornell University where high school students engage with local leaders and experts on critical global challenges, participate in hands-on activities, and explore exciting ways to make a difference in New York and around the world. Students research issues they care about, and propose their ideas to solve these grand challenges, and **participation opens the door for students to earn recognition as a Borlaug Scholar, as well as to earn Borlaug-Ruan International Internships and USDA Wallace Carver Fellowships!**

At this exciting event, participating high school students have the opportunity to:

- Present research and recommendations on ways to solve key global challenges in a short speech and small group discussions with statewide experts;
- Connect with other student leaders from across New York to share ideas, identify solutions to these problems and build lasting friendships;
- Explore the issues, current research and opportunities to make a difference at Cornell University; and
- Interact with global leaders, innovators and entrepreneurs in New York working to end hunger and poverty and improve food security around the world.

To participate in the New York Youth Institute, students research a global issue and write a three-page paper under the supervision of a teacher or mentor. Guidelines are available at: https://www.worldfoodprize.org/documents/filelibrary/youth_programs/2019_state_youth_institute_paper_instructions/New_York_Challenge_A35891DE77F48.pdf

- Ninth through twelfth grade students are eligible to apply.
- **Registration and paper submission due online by: February 27, 2019.**
- There is no registration cost to participate in the Institute and meals will be provided during the event. However, both student and teacher/mentor participants must organize their own transportation to and from the event in Ithaca, NY.

For more information, contact **Francine Jasper** at fj10@cornell.edu, or at (607) 255-1907. More information is available at https://www.worldfoodprize.org/en/youth_programs/global_youth_institute/new_york/#Further%20opportunities

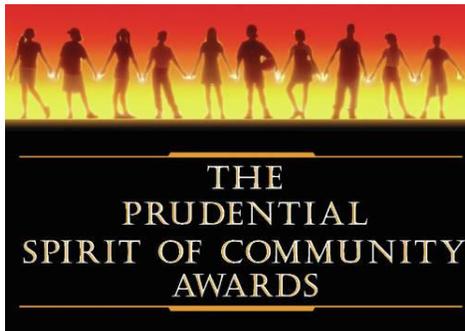
Deadline November 6! NASSP Prudential Spirit of Community Awards! \$1,000 (or more!) Scholarships Available!

We are extraordinarily proud of Bishop Grimes students for the number of hours you dedicate to volunteering for your community and those in need. While we don't volunteer for personal gain, the ***NASSP Prudential Spirit of Community Awards*** aims to recognize students for their extraordinary commitment to service, and offer you a chance to earn a \$1,000 (or more!) college scholarship for your service!

Created in 1995 by Prudential and the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), the program honors middle level and high school students for outstanding service to others at the local, state and national level.

The ***Deadline to Apply is November 6th***. Apply here: <https://spirit.prudential.com/apply/2019>

To learn more, click here: <https://spirit.prudential.com/> or see Mr. Gray, Mr. Vinciguerra, or Mr. G.



I hope that you have found the information provided here helpful, and I wish you a wonderful fall season.

Sincerely,

Mr. G.

College Search Links

Paying for College

FAFSA Tips (FAFSA website): https://www.nasfaa.org/fafsa_tips

FAFSA Tips (US News): https://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/paying-for-college/slideshows/10-common-mistakes-made-on-the-fafsa?src=usn_tw

Student Loan Tips: https://www.usnews.com/education/blogs/student-loan-ranger/articles/2018-09-12/what-expenses-you-should-cover-with-student-loans?src=usn_tw

Creative Ways to Finance a College Education: https://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/paying-for-college/articles/2018-09-18/18-schools-that-meet-full-financial-need-with-no-loans?src=usn_tw

Application Tips

Application Tips Guide (US News): https://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/articles/college-application-process?src=usn_tw

College Essays

https://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/articles/2018-09-13/pros-cons-of-writing-about-challenges-in-your-college-application-essay?src=usn_tw

College Rankings

All Universities (US News): https://www.usnews.com/best-colleges/rankings/national-universities?src=usn_tw&src=usn_tw

All Universities (Forbes): <https://www.forbes.com/top-colleges/#19fc5b271987>

Public Universities (US News): https://www.usnews.com/best-colleges/rankings/national-universities/top-public?src=usn_tw&src=usn_tw&src=usn_tw

The Wall Street Journal and The Economist also offer College Rankings, but require subscriptions.

SAT Tips

Algebra: https://www.usnews.com/education/blogs/college-admissions-playbook/articles/2018-07-16/3-tips-to-prepare-for-sat-heart-of-algebra-questions?src=usn_tw

Differences between ACT and SAT writing and language:
https://www.usnews.com/education/blogs/college-admissions-playbook/articles/2018-06-11/3-differences-between-act-english-sat-writing-and-language?src=usn_tw

Tour Tips

https://www.usnews.com/education/blogs/college-admissions-playbook/articles/2018-09-17/2-major-college-tour-mistakes-to-avoid?src=usn_tw