

Complimentary informational session: Thu., Mar. 16th, 7:30-8:30 PM

“Two Ways to Save Big Money in the College Prep. Process”

Join us on Facebook Live at @USA Tutors.

Welcome to College Prep. by USA Tutors!

HOW ARE WE DIFFERENT?

USA Tutors is different from other types of services in ways that will benefit your family. To begin, we work as a team rather than an individual advisor because your college prep. journey requires you to interact with people in a variety of areas.

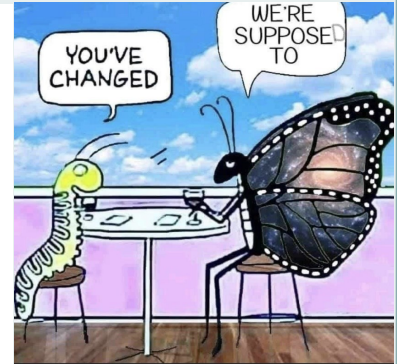
Our team includes:

- English faculty who can assist with application essays, SAT/ACT Verbal prep., and college placement exams;
- Math faculty who can help with standardized test prep. and college placement exams;
- Advisors who can help you determine optimal timelines from when you join us, understand how the application process works, and realize what admissions committees want;
- University staff who have sat on and sometimes led admissions committees;
- Learning support services experts; and
- Financial aid staff who can help you understand how aid works, be clear on the fine print, and navigate the process.

All of our people are experienced, higher education professionals, so we are approaching this process from an insider’s perspective and know what schools want because we’ve been on their end.

Finally, we realize that not everyone is in a position to spend thousands of dollars on this journey, so you decide if you want a comprehensive, step-by-step approach over multiple years or prefer to work with us on an *a la carte* basis choosing only those services you need when you need them. There is no minimum commitment, beyond one hour, to work with us, but there are discounts available with package purchases.

Learn more about our College Prep. Services at <https://usatutors.io/college-prep-1> and our pricing options at <https://usatutors.io/prices-%26-packages>. We care about your success!

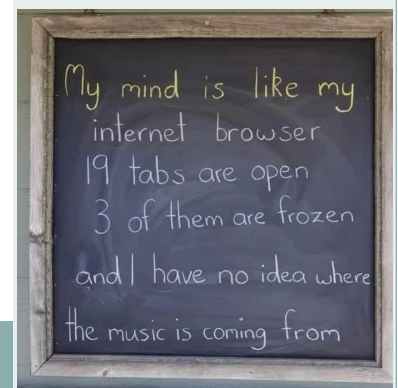


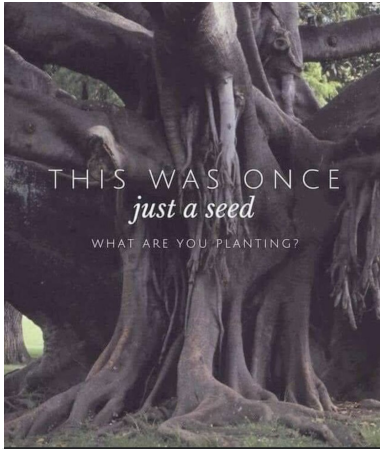
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RECOMMENDED SERVICES BY YEAR

- Sophomores: Analysis of student candidacy with recommendations for strengthening your application
- Juniors: Roadmap to College (step-by-step guidance specific to each student’s interests and goals) and SAT/ACT prep.
- Seniors: Weighing competing offers, financial aid guidance, and college placement exam prep.





WHAT SHOULD I BE DOING AS A JUNIOR?

You're likely starting to feel the pressure of the college prep. journey.

Your first SAT attempt is in March, so you should be studying a minimum of six to eight hours a week if you're serious about earning a significant score increase from your PSATs. Working with tutors is optimal.

Be sure that you learn about the psychology of the SAT/ACT and tips on how to navigate it when you need to make quick decisions.

Whether you're taking an SAT/ACT prep. course, are working with tutors, or are part of a study group, your commitment needs to go beyond what you are doing under someone else's guidance and include hours of personal study time. Consider it. . . (cont. to the right)

SUCCESSFUL SENIORS

USA Tutors congratulates our hardworking seniors and their parents who are entering the home-stretch of the college prep. journey. We're pleased to announce that these students have earned themselves offers at the following schools with more acceptance letters arriving weekly:

- ◆ Northeastern University
- ◆ Temple University
- ◆ Hofstra University
- ◆ Penn. State - University Park & Harrisburg Campuses
- ◆ Clark University
- ◆ Towson University
- ◆ Albertus Magnus College
- ◆ SCSU
- ◆ Roger Williams University
- ◆ The University of New Haven
- ◆ Arizona State University
- ◆ And many more. . .

“USA Tutors was invaluable in helping our daughter stay focused and complete her college essay. Deb gave detailed action item lists after each session to help keep our daughter on track. Fees were very reasonable, and Deb was very flexible with her time. Bonus: our daughter got accepted into every college she applied to. Thank you!”

WHAT SHOULD I BE DOING AS A JUNIOR (CONT.)

. . . training for your more independent college learning process.

You also should have visited your Guidance/College Prep. Office, met with a counselor to see what resources your school offers, and understand what system (e.g., Naviance) they use for submitting letters of reference, transcripts, etc. to schools where you will apply.

As you are using these resources and spending time exploring school websites, March is the ideal time to begin touring college campuses. March through early May campus tours let you see the school in action, acquire a feel for the students and holistic environment, hear about the school from current students (although the student tour guides *are* working off of a script provided by the school), and enjoy fully landscaped campuses in optimal weather.

Keep in mind that most students vacate the campus for the summer a week or two into May, so your next opportunity to see the school this way is late August/September when you want to be finalizing your list.

Reflection: If you don't yet know what you'd like to study, it's fine. Create a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice list, and then look for schools that offer all of them. Ensure they have a strong Liberal Arts program.



Reflection for Seniors:

As or after you receive your acceptance letters, (re)visit your top choices. Take 15-20 minutes to separate from your tour guide, family, other students, etc. Find a spot on the quad where you can observe the campus in motion. Ask yourself if you feel comfortable and if you can envision spending four years of your life here. Let that feeling help guide your final decisions if it's strong.

MEET TIFFANY PINTO, SENIOR FINANCIAL AID ADVISOR

Tiffany Pinto is the newest member of the USA Tutors College Prep. Team. Here's what you should know about her:

Tiffany possesses more than 15 years of experience working in higher education financial aid as a senior advisor, but she started out as a college recruiter. Friendly, supportive, and well-versed in the field, Tiffany can work with you on any of the following:

- ◆ Understanding the different types of financial aid, conditions of each one, and navigating the fine print of offers;
- ◆ Completing the FAFSA and CSS including knowing what you do and don't need to declare, how the expected family contribution (EFC) works, and how declaring assets that the government doesn't require can hurt you;
- ◆ Conducting research to identify relevant scholarship and grant opportunities or guiding your family in the process;
- ◆ Advising on your completion of scholarship/grant applications;
- ◆ Weighing competing offers to identify the conditions, understand what happens with unforeseen circumstances, and calculating total debt;
- ◆ Helping students weigh income-to-debt ratios upon graduation based upon jobs they are likely to work and the associated salaries; and
- ◆ Assisting enrolled college students who are put on academic probation in appealing loss of financial aid benefits.

Tiffany is also well versed in advising first generation college students and their families, students of color, lower income families, and student athletes on opportunities particular to their background and aspirations.

Tiffany is available nights and weekends. Her hourly rate is \$50 with a minimum commitment of one hour. She looks forward to helping your family navigate one of the more challenging parts of pursuing a higher education.

WHAT SHOULD I BE DOING AS A SOPHOMORE?

Sophomores starting their college prep. journey are in a great place to position themselves well by doing a diagnostic meeting to identify their strengths and weaknesses and setting up a multi-year game plan to create a well-rounded application.

Two of the biggest myths are that you need to know what you're going to study and should have a clear idea of where you want to do it as a sophomore or junior.

College prep. guidance should help you start identifying what appeals to you and ruling out what doesn't. The vast majority of students will change their intended major once they are in school, so let's begin by helping you decide what feels right. With over two years to navigate this process, start early but take your time.

Our diagnostic session, which includes a survey that helps students consider what they do/don't want and what appeals to them, along with a Roadmap to College, can help. We will update annually the Roadmap, typically complimentary or for a minimal fee, for our ongoing clients as you move through the college prep. process.

Reflection: Which activities you're doing this year are less important than that you are involved in one that's long term, another that's something new, and a third that shows you giving back to the community. 3

WHAT SHOULD I BE DOING AS A SENIOR?

If you're in a strong position then your applications went out in Oct. to Nov. and you're celebrating the arrival of your acceptance letters.

Many private universities began offering spots earlier than usual this year for regular admissions students in the hopes of securing an early commitment.

If you're in this lucky group, then you should be spending March and April:

- (Re-)visiting the campuses in question to see if they simply feel right,
- Meeting with a financial aid counselor to be sure that you understand free aid vs. money you will need to earn/repay and conditions of financial aid, and
- Carefully studying the websites of each school and making a pros and cons list.

Ivy League schools announce their Non-Early Admittance Decisions all at once on a chosen day in late March to April, 2022 date TBD, so some of you are still waiting.

Once you decide which school is best for you, immediately contact that school to accept the spot and make your deposit. If you want to live in residential housing, be sure to complete and submit your application within the next 48 hours as residential housing is not guaranteed at many schools.

PS It's good form to notify other schools that offered you admission that you're going elsewhere so they can open that seat to someone on a waiting list.

HOW OUR SAT/ACT PREP. WORKS

We don't believe in a one-size-fits-all approach to standardized exam preparation. Subsequently, we don't waste your time teaching your student content they mastered. Instead, we focus on helping them understand the psychology behind the exam, how to navigate it including at critical turning points, and developing the skills most likely to significantly increase their score.

We develop a personalized curriculum based upon a review of the student's transcript, detailed PSAT and potentially SAT/ACT scores, and a sample SAT/ACT they complete for us. Their answers are evaluated by their tutor, who is a certified Secondary Ed. teacher in the relevant subject and/or a professor with years of college teaching experience.

Costs are by session, except for an hour of prep. time for each content tutor, and can be purchased in a discounted package.

Families choose the number of sessions the student needs, but be sure to leave students sufficient time to learn, practice, and master outside of the sessions the content we introduce in them. Students who are willing to invest substantial personal study time in addition to meeting with our tutors inevitably score higher than those whose only preparation comes from the tutoring sessions.

We recommend parents show us how the student previously scored, discuss the expectations of the schools where the student wants to apply, set a goal, and then consider how many hours of tutoring and independent study time the student is likely to need to achieve their goals.

This conversation should also include whether the student will benefit more from taking the SAT, the ACT, both exams, or none of them in the context of their application and potential schools.

Our goal is to help our students feel confident about the specific exams and the content on them as they navigate this milestone in the college prep. process.

"We are using the services of USA Tutors to help us navigate the pathway to college in a foreign country and prepare our daughter academically for her critical high school years. They are incredible - the wealth of knowledge is amazing, they have endless patience and honesty. We are additionally using the services of a science tutor who is equally exceptional. Would thoroughly recommend this company!"

USA Tutors.io
Integrity • Commitment • Excellence

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