

The Value of Pre-College Programs in the Admission Process

Introductions

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Call and Response

“If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.”





The Call

Admission Perspective: Overview

We want you to go far.

We want students to go far

Academic departments collaborate with admission offices to form pre-college programs.

This is a call to students, counselors, and CBOs



Admission Perspective: Carnegie Mellon Pre-College

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=76awS8awJqo>



Admission Perspective: Carnegie Mellon Pre-College

Large portfolio of summer programs and experiences varying by coursework, demographic, cost, and purpose.

AP/EA

SAMS

Admission Perspective: AP / EA

Advanced Placement / Early Admission

Talented students looking for more challenging coursework.

Residential Program

Over 40 course offerings

Variety of disciplines

Tuition (Scholarships available)

Admission Perspective: SAMS

Summer Academy of Math and Science

Serving students from underrepresented, under-resourced backgrounds.

Residential Program

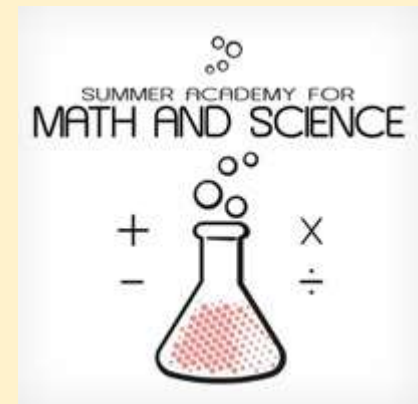
Limited Course Offerings

STEM focused program

Accredited SAT prep course

Engineering Projects

Tuition Free



Admission Perspective: Goals

Different programs, same objective.

Enhance student's academic portfolio

Facilitate interest and affinity for campus

Provide access to under-resourced students

Recruitment and yield great students.

Admission Perspective: Value to Counselors

Students and counselors are able to evaluate fit to the institution

Important for under-resourced communities

High schools are able to develop better relationships with institutions

SAMS Partnerships





The Response

Pre-College Perspective

The INVESTING NOW program

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=phP-xDho5AQ>



Pre-College Perspective: History

INVESTING NOW, created in 1988, is a college preparatory program created to stimulate, support, and recognize the high academic performance of pre-college students from groups that are historically underrepresented in science, technology, engineering and mathematics majors and careers. The purpose of the program is to ensure that participants are well prepared for matriculation to the collegiate level.

Pre-College Perspective: Goals

1. **Create a pipeline** for well-prepared students to enter college and pursue science, technology, engineering and mathematics majors;
2. **Encourage and support students'** enrollment and achievement in advanced mathematics and science courses;
3. **Ensure** that the participants make **informed** college **choices**;
4. **Support and encourage parents and teachers** in their role as advocates for their children
5. **Coordinate partnerships** between the University of Pittsburgh's Swanson School of Engineering and local and regional schools.



Pre-College Perspective: Goals

STUDENT SUPPORT:

Academic advising, tutoring, workshops on academic success

ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT:

Summer enrichment session, hands-on science and engineering

COLLEGE PLANNING:

College preparation and financial aid workshops, SAT preparation

CAREER AWARENESS:

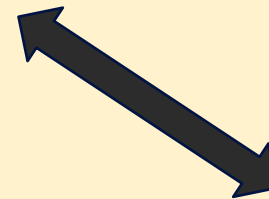
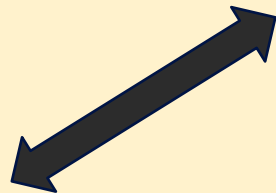
Career awareness seminars, summer research

PARENT INVOLVEMENT:

College planning and financial aid workshops, transition to high school sessions, program volunteers and facilitators

Pre-college Perspective: Focus Areas

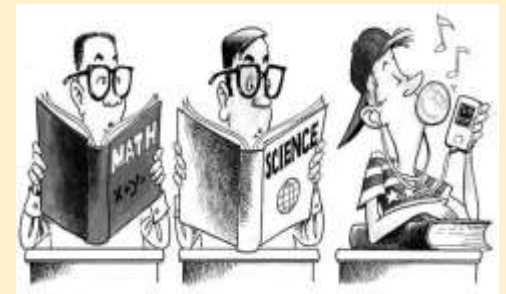
PARTICIPATE



NOW



NAVIGATE



EVALUATE



Fill the Gap

How pre-college programs help to fill the gap or act as a bridge for student admissions and student success = going far!

Parents and students

Schools and students

Students and students

Careers and Students

Communities and schools

Families/parents and schools/fields



Pass the Baton

Collaboration → Supplementation

Yearlong Pre-college programs and summer enrichment programs do not re-invent the wheel or replace school; we collaborate and supplement one another.

going fast = life is not linear = **alone**

going far = the real goal = **together**

Institutions, pre-college programs, high schools staff, families, and communities = **it takes a village**



Top Things Colleges Look for in a High School Student

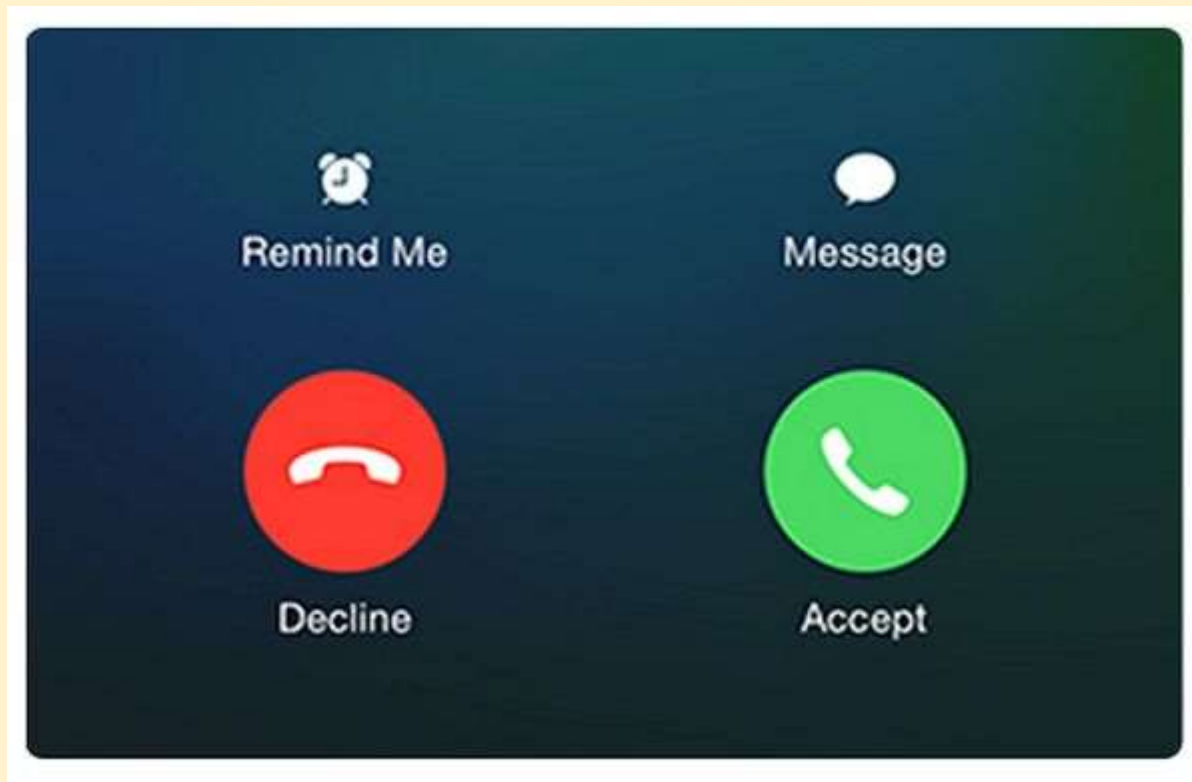
- 1. A Challenging High School Curriculum**
- 2. Strong Grades / Upward Trend**
- 3. Solid Scores on Standardized Tests**
- 4. Quality Involvement Activities**
- 5. Record of Community Service**



Top Things Colleges Look for in a High School Student

- 6. Demonstrated Leadership and Initiative**
- 7. Work/Out of School Experiences**
- 8. A well written essay**
- 9. Positive Recommendation Letters**
- 10. Honors/Awards**

Will you answer the call?



Thank You

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Q / A