



# OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMS

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## College Counseling

### We Help with All of the Following

Personal Inventory of interests, goals, aptitudes

Extracurricular Planning

Regular vs. Early Admissions

Strategic Timeline Calendar

Summer/Volunteer/Internship Planning

Completing Applications

High School Course Recommendations

Standardized/AP Test Planning

Understanding Costs and Financial Aid Applications

Exploring College Majors and Career Options

Planning for Application Deadlines

Interview Coaching

Brainstorming and Crafting Application Essays

Resumés and Cover Letters

Campus Visits

Merit Scholarship Strategies

Evaluating Acceptance Offers

Navigating Common Application

Post Acceptance Tasks

Building a College List

Finalizing College List

Gap Year Planning

### College Counseling Programs - Multiple Options

**1. College Counseling Package** (for individuals, starting at any time) – Mercer Education’s **College Counseling Package** (“CCP”) provides a complete solution for college-bound students as they plan and prepare for college admission. Whether a student needs long or short-term guidance, ME offers a package designed to work with students at any level of college preparedness. Students may start as early as freshman year or as late as senior year. At whatever stage students are in their work, ME’s College Counseling Package provides a structured, personalized approach where students meet regularly with experienced college counselors to develop a strategic admissions plan that maximizes their opportunities of gaining acceptance to the best fit colleges of their choice. Application essays are also reviewed by Eric Cohen, Mercer Education’s director, a Harvard graduate with over thirty years of education and counseling experience. You can find more details in the course description, which is posted on the “College Counseling” page of ME’s website.

See Page 2 for more options.

**2. College Admissions Prep Camp (for high school seniors)** – This small group class (a summer “camp” capped at six students), taught by Eric Cohen, Mercer Education’s Director, is a good starting point for “rising” seniors looking to get a head start on the college application process. Dollar for dollar, this is a great way to purchase a substantial amount of time to work with Eric, and students benefit from the small group format, partly because it increases motivation, and partly because students experience a wide variety of approaches to the application essay questions. This camp always fills up quickly, so send in the paperwork early to reserve a space.

**3. College Application Essay Writing (for high school seniors)** – This small group class, taught by Mr. Cohen and Dr. Flesher, begins in September and meets once a week for eight weeks with options for extending up until the holiday break. You can find the course description and enrollment paperwork on the “Forms” page of ME’s website. This is a good option for students who are unavailable to attend that camp during the summer. It is similar to the *College Admissions Prep Camp*, though it focuses exclusively on generating polished, effective application essays.

**4. Private Classes (starting any time)** – Another option would be private (non-package) classes with Eric Cohen, ME’s director, or one of ME’s other experienced instructors. Classes typically meet once a week on an ongoing basis until the applications are all completed. By imposing a regular deadline in which to complete writing assignments and other tasks, weekly classes can help students avoid procrastination and stay on top of this big project. Short-term or ongoing weekly classes can start any time, though scheduling is *first come, first serve*, and priority goes to students enrolled in our “CCP” programs. Private classes are generally a good follow-up to Eric’s summer camp and application essay writing class, as students then typically have a solid grasp of what they need to do but still need the structure of a weekly meeting and the feedback of a seasoned instructor.

**5. College Transfer Counseling (for community college students)** – For community college students planning to transfer to 4-year colleges, there are multiple tasks in the application process that differ from those faced by high school students. Our team of college counselors has extensive experience providing thorough college transfer guidance to local and international students attending Seattle-area community colleges. This course, which roughly follows community college academic quarters, includes eight private, one-on-one sessions in which our counselors help students *generate a list of prospective colleges, write effective application essays, manage numerous related tasks, and then submit applications on time*. The course is customized for each student to maximize the chance of successful college transfer admission.

No matter when you wish to start or how much counseling help you need, Mercer Education can offer a solution that fits your goals and your budget. Please do not hesitate to reach out; we would be happy to go over any questions, and there is no charge for an initial meeting with Eric Cohen, ME’s school director, to discuss the various options outlined here. For quick reference, details about all of these options are also available on Mercer Education’s website.