

COLLEGE COUNSELING

Overview of Programs & Services

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 (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 programs designed for students at any stage of college preparation. 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 for acceptance to colleges aligned with their goals and aspirations. Application essays receive additional review and oversight from Eric Cohen, Mercer Education’s director, a Harvard graduate with over thirty years of education and counseling experience. Families may also elect to enroll in a Director-led version of the program in which students work directly with Mr. Cohen; rates for this option differ from the standard CCP structure. You can find more details in the course description, which is posted on the “College Counseling” page of ME’s website, and contact us for package options and rates.

See Page 2 for more options.

2. Private College Counseling (non-package program for individuals, starting any time) –

Another option would be private (non-package) classes. For those who wish to work with Eric Cohen, ME's director, or one of ME's other experienced instructors, this option can offer more flexibility. Classes typically meet less frequently for underclassmen (e.g., once a month) and for high school seniors once or twice 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. Classes can start any time, though scheduling is *first come, first served*, and priority goes to students attending ongoing weekly classes or package programs. Classes with Mr. Cohen can be scheduled on an as-needed basis (i.e., you don't need to enroll in a package program). Private classes also are generally a good follow-up to Eric's summer camp as students then typically have a solid grasp of what they need to do but still benefit from the structure of a weekly meeting and the feedback of a seasoned instructor.

3. College Admissions Prep Camp (small group class for “rising” seniors) – This small group class (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. This is an efficient way to secure substantial time working directly 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.

4. College Application Essay Writing (small group class for high school seniors) – This small group class (capped at six students) taught by Mr. Cohen 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 “Apply” 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.

5. College Transfer Counseling (package for individual 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 time frame. 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.