

The Short Story: College Planning, Essay and Application Support (Junior Start) standoutcollegeadvising.com

Package Description

The Short Story 20 hour advising package defaults to 15 hours of live virtual meetings and up to 5 hours of asynchronous time to be spent on review of materials, research, written feedback, and general correspondence (summaries, task lists, check-ins) as per the needs and direction of the student. This balance may be adjusted by mutual agreement upon the request of the student or the recommendation of the advisor.

The total cost of the package is \$3800. A \$500 deposit is due on signing. After the deposit is received, the first appointment scheduled and the Client Agreement dated and signed, a request will be sent to the student for transcripts and test scores, along with a short task list.

Meeting One (90 minutes) will be a comprehensive advising intensive. We'll discuss transcripts and test scores, evaluate activities and interests, and explore college expectations and hesitations. If there's an IEP or 504, we'll talk about that, too. The student will leave with next steps in hand, a few colleges to explore, a detailed family questionnaire—this will be sent to the parents—and Meeting Two scheduled on the advisor's calendar.

A nonrefundable payment of \$1650.00 will be due 48 hours after Meeting One. If payment is not received, or if any party requests termination of the Agreement, the Agreement will terminate and the \$500 deposit will be retained as payment for the advisor's initial time investment (30 minutes preparation and 90 minutes live advising.)

Meeting Two (60 minutes) will follow up on the family questionnaire and begin to roadmap the application cycle. In addition, we will onboard the student into College Planner Pro, which we'll use for communication, tracking tasks, college list building, analysis of admissions probability, and general deadline/project management. We'll also establish an advising cadence by scheduling our next 3-5 meetings.

Meetings 3-15

One size does not fit all. Each student's journey through the application process will be unique. Our meeting cadence will take into account the need for career and curriculum advising, the type and number of applications, and the rigor of any supplemental, honors and stealth essays, in addition to the student's individual needs and priorities.

Advising hours prior to August 1st may focus on:

Identification and development of leadership, self-study, unique activities

Summer enrichment planning; community outreach; legacy projects

Strategies for academic success and additional rigor; SAT/ACT support

Creation of timelines and task lists, personalized roadmapping

Exploration of interests and majors; introduction to interdisciplinary careers

Strategies for requesting meaningful, effective letters of recommendation

Finalizing a balanced and appropriate college list

Campus visit preparation and follow-up (virtual and in-person)

Admissions correspondence support

Resume review, social media search and clean-up; Linked-In

Common App activities list drafting

Essay brainstorming, personalized prompts

Writing tutorials; close readings of successful essays

Other application essays (such as UCs) if relevant

A final payment of 1650.00 is due on or before August 1st. Remaining meetings will be scheduled at this time.

Advising hours after August 1st may focus on:

Continued exploration of programs, interests and majors

Strategic, meaningful research in support of supplementals

Intensive focus on personal essays and key supplementals

Honors college and scholarship essays

Finalization of Activities lists/Additional Information section of the Common App

Finalization of Other Applications (if relevant)

Continued admissions correspondence support

Mock interviews and/or interview preparation (when relevant)

Additional scholarship search and support (as time permits)

Review of LOCI and admissions offers

Other (as directed by the student)

The advising relationship will terminate when the terms of the package are fulfilled (20 hours) or on May 1st of the student's senior year, whichever comes first. Additional coaching time beyond the 20 package limit may be purchased in blocks of 5 hours, by mutual agreement, for \$750. All Short Story students receive free passes to Manette's Virtual Office Hours, held Mondays from 4-6 PM, mid-September until mid October.