

Know How to Go: The College Application Process

Kimberly Romero

Director of Undergraduate Admissions for Diversity & Access

Elon University

September 7, 2024



ELON
UNIVERSITY

Tips for Students before they apply

1. Senior year is very important!
Take the challenging classes that are available to you and strive to do well in them.
2. Take the SAT or ACT fall of senior year
Many schools “super score.” Even test optional schools may want to see test scores for scholarship consideration or for class placement.
3. Extracurricular activities look great on an application
Many schools want to see depth of experience in extracurricular activities. Keep track of what you’ve done and include everything.
4. Demonstrated interest is important
College's care about and consider how and when you’ve expressed interest in their university. Go take a visit, reach out to the admissions counselor, go to college fairs, etc.

The ACT logo is displayed in a bold, blue, serif font. A red swoosh underline is positioned beneath the letter 'A'. A registered trademark symbol (®) is located at the top right of the 'T'.The SAT logo is presented in a dark grey, serif font. A registered trademark symbol (®) is positioned at the top right of the letter 'T'.

Tips for Families before they apply

1. Figure out a time to talk about colleges and where your student plans to apply.
2. Encourage your student to keep track of application fees and if schools offer fee waivers
 1. **Ask for a fee waiver, you never know*!!*
3. Discuss and gather materials you may need for the financial aid process



Applications

Don't forget CFNC – NC Countdown to College
Application Week!
Oct. 21 – Oct. 27, 2024



www.CFNC.org



www.commonapp.org

Online

- You can do them in one sitting or save them and come back to finish.
- Most colleges will offer an online application
- Faster to process
- More sustainable
- Easier to read
- Some may be specific to the school, or they may be on Common App

Types of Deadlines

1. Rolling Admissions
2. Early Decision (Binding)
3. Early Decision II (Binding)
4. Early Action (Non-binding)
5. Regular Decision (Non-binding)

Tips for Families during the application process

1. Establish how your student will provide updates on the application process for each school. Set aside some time and try to be patient.
2. Try not to call or email the admissions office (regularly). But! Reach out if it is nearing a deadline or if a significant amount of time has passed.
3. Ask them how they will be notified about their admissions decision.

How to *send* information



1. Many schools can receive transcripts or recommendations electronically. Your school counselor should be able to tell you how information will be sent from your school.
2. Keep records of everything you send.
3. Give the admissions office at least 2 weeks from the time you send your information to get it processed, it may not show up online immediately.

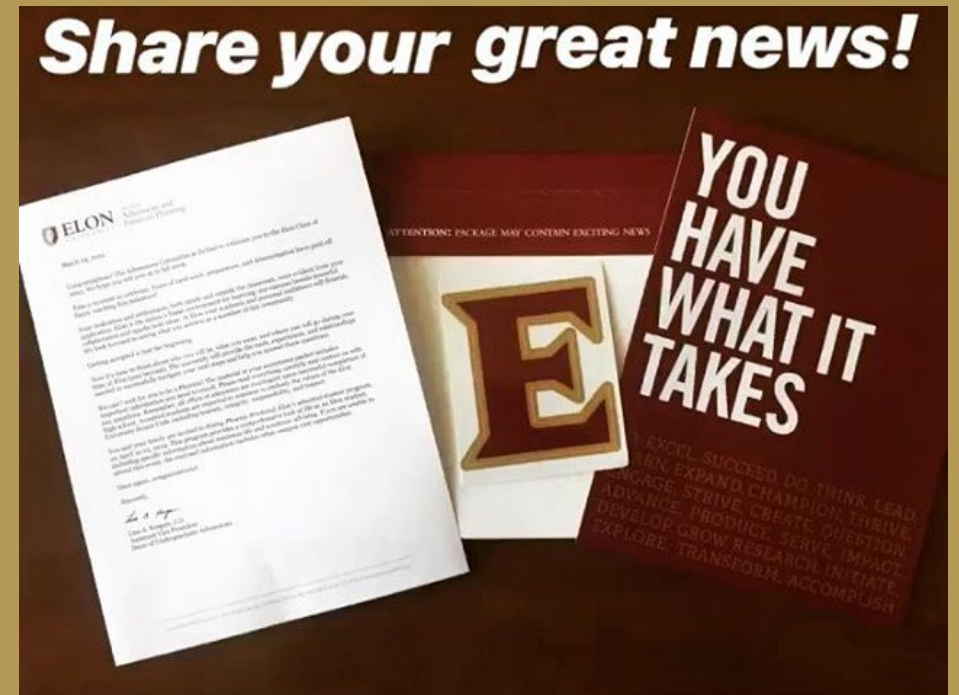
Tips for Families after they apply

1. Schedule a time to meet about what applications they have submitted.
2. Encourage them to keep record of all username and passwords.
3. Ask them how are they informed about missing items or completed applications.



Types of Admissions Decisions

1. Admitted/Accepted
2. Declined/Denied
3. Deferred/Hold (wait on more material)
4. Wait List



Tips for Families when decisions are released

1. Find out *when* these dates are
2. Figure out *how* you will support your student
3. *Who* can you talk to about these decisions?
4. What does the decision *mean*?
 - Admitted/Accepted – May 1st
 - Enrolling
 - Housing
 - Scholarships
 - Declined/Denied
 - Deferred/Hold
 - Wait List
5. Try not to compare

Good Questions your Student Should Ask Admissions at a College Fair :

1. How will you calculate my GPA for admission?
2. How do you use SAT/ACT scores?
Highest total score, combined best score, an average of all scores, etc.
3. How much are extracurricular activities considered?
4. How do you consider demonstrated interest?
5. If I choose to send additional information, will it be considered?
6. Are specific courses required in high school to be eligible for admission?



Tips with Interacting with an Admissions Counselor

- In email: check spelling and grammar!
 - College is spelled college not collage
- Always have a subject in the email line and a greeting in the body
- Look up your question online before asking
- Students: Take lead of conversations
- Be yourself!

Tips for Families *when attending a college fair*

1. Attend with your student if possible.
2. Allow your student to ask the questions.
3. Observe what colleges they think are important.



Tips for Families *regarding General Admissions Information*

1. Take time to visit the schools you are seriously considering. (virtually or in-person)
2. Think- Would you buy a car without test driving it first?
3. Never hesitate to contact the Admissions Office if you have questions or concerns while deciding.
4. Apply sooner rather than later
5. FERPA - Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act



My best advice.....

1. Apply as early as possible. As spaces fill, admission often becomes increasingly competitive, especially at schools with rolling admission.
2. Colleges are like people; we have different personalities and can come across differently online (or in print) than we are in person....Take the time to get to know a school well before you make a commitment. You are about to make a significant investment of your time and money. It's important that *YOU* take the lead in choosing the right college.

Useful Resources

- The College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC)
 - www.cfnc.org
- The University of North Carolina General Administration Homepage
 - www.northcarolina.edu
- The North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (NCICU) Homepage
 - www.ncicu.org
- North Carolina Community College System
 - www.nccommunitycolleges.edu

Upcoming events at Elon:

1. Elon University's Alamance County Night

- Oct. 1, 2024
- Optional twilight tour 5:30pm, Financial Aid information and assistance 6:30pm

2. Elon Open House

- Oct. 26, 2024
- 8am



ELON UNIVERSITY'S ALAMANCE COUNTY NIGHT

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

The university may be only miles from home, but the opportunities an Elon education provides can help take you further than you ever imagined! Join Elon Admissions to learn why we're recognized as the leader in undergraduate teaching, study abroad, and experiential learning.

5:30
PM

TWILIGHT TOUR
*optional

7:10
PM

**SET UP FAFSA AND
CSS ACCOUNTS**

6:30
PM

**ADMISSIONS
OVERVIEW**

7:30
PM

CLOSING

6:40
PM

**FINANCIAL AID
CASE STUDY**

Register Now!



Kimberly Romero

kromero@elon.edu

336-278-7630 (office)

336-264-8217 (mobile/text)

