

College, Career & Life Planning



Most Important Factors in College Admission Decision

According to the [2010 State of College Admission report](#) released by the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC), Admission Offices indicated that the top factors in the admission decision were (in order):

1. grades in college preparatory courses,
2. strength of curriculum,
3. standardized admission test scores (SAT/ACT), and
4. overall high school grade point average (GPA).

Among the next most important factors were the essay, teacher and counselor recommendations, extracurricular activities, class rank, and student's demonstrated interest.

NACAC is an Arlington, VA-based education association of more than 11,000 secondary school counselors, independent counselors, college admission and financial aid officers, enrollment managers, and organizations that work with students as they make the transition from high school to postsecondary education.