

Personal College Advising Service Meets Needs of Student and Parents

Personal College Advising provides assistance throughout the college admissions process by helping students to hone their goals, identify potential colleges, get the most out of the campus visit and interview process, and make the final decision. In addition, students also have special interests, such as wanting to participate in athletics or other activities, that must be considered. Many also require a college that can provide the right kind of academic support services, especially if a student has a learning disability. Personal College Advising helps students and families to negotiate the maze of college offerings and to develop a list of colleges that provide the options desired by the student. Personal College Advising also helps families to gain the most from college fairs, utilize key strategies for successful campus visits and interviews, and learn what is required for a complete college application. Personal College Advising can also facilitate access to financial aid advisors.



Nancy Parchesky, Personal College Advising

I know the college admission process from both sides of the fence. As a student, I earned an associate's degree from Dean College, a bachelor's degree from the University of Maine, and a master's in education from Providence College. I've spent over 27 years in higher education positions, including assistant director of admissions for Bryant University and Dean College, and as an academic advisor and transfer advisor at Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI).

As an admissions professional, I interviewed between six and nine high school students a day. During these interviews, it was easy to tell the students who did their homework and planning and the ones who had done little beyond meet with the school guidance counselor. In establishing Personal College Advising, we have effectively given students and parents a "college search coach".

Unlike other college advising services, our goal isn't how many of our clients go to Ivy League schools. We want our students to be happy with their choice—be that a state university, prestigious private school, or community college. Personal College Advising gives students and their parents the tools to conduct a college search, a sounding board, and an information source throughout the entire process.

Selecting a college is a major life decision for your child, one that can be extremely difficult for a teenager – and parents – to make without some assistance. With Personal College Advising, you have an experienced admissions professional as your personal navigator to answer your questions and help you through the sometimes choppy waters of the college admission process.

Nancy G. Parchesky
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Personal College Advising The Process

- **Consultation**
The Discovery Phase: questions, questions
Student Questions
Parent Questions
- **Finishing Touches**
Honing the answers to create an initial list of colleges/universities
- **Initial List of Colleges (Some stay, some go)**
College Visits
- **Final List**
An in-depth written document that is a personalized timeline for the student to follow
- **The Essays**
This process can be successful instead of stressful with the right organization and a plan.
- **The Answers**
Which schools to choose and why, when and how to attend orientation. Forms, Forms, Forms



The Process

Nancy Parchesky is an educational consultant. Her expertise is in college admission, the college search and academic counseling for high school students. Her unique process begins with a discovery phase where students and parents have an opportunity to discuss goals, passions and interests. Students will have a great deal of input into the process of determining which schools should be considered. As the process progresses, there will be an initial list of colleges provided and a written timeline for those schools that remain on the student's final list based on the student's profile and the college's profile.

Ms. Parchesky is available for questions throughout the process, and, in fact, she encourages them. She also provides many tips related to getting the most out of college fairs and college visits, applying to colleges, interviewing successfully, and determining which schools should remain on a student's final list.

Ms. Parchesky's background includes 27 years of college admission experience, as well as academic counseling on the college level and transfer counseling. She also spends at least twenty percent of her time visiting colleges, so she can bring each college's unique flavor to the process.

"I understand the admissions process from both sides – as one who has worked in admissions at the two- and four-year college level and as a parent of a current college student. I know many families become frustrated during the college search and frequently feel they are settling for a college, rather than finding the right match. My goal is to use the expertise I've gained to provide them with the services that can make them feel comfortable in knowing the investment they are making is the right one."

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