



Admission to Big Public Flagship Universities

September 19 and 24, 2019
Webinar: October 7



An Overview of this presentation

- Consideration of this fact -- some students believe that “bigger is better!”
- Analysis of admission to five big public flagship universities
- Questions to ask in researching programs at a big state university, with tips for admission
- Final comments



- **Bigger is better!?!**
- Minnetonka High School has over 3400 students (with a senior class of 808), and for many students, their college list includes only schools that are bigger. Some want to attend a place that is much bigger – usually for financial or geographical reasons.
- All universities of 20,000+ students have departmental divisions, which provide a more personal experience to the students.



- **Bigger is better!?!**
- Usually, the application is straightforward, with mostly objective questions
- Essay might be optional!
- Numerical academic index for selection – admission can be predicted
- Rolling admission, with a fairly quick turnaround



- **Campuses with the largest (full and part time) enrollment in the United States**
- University of Phoenix 103,975
- Southern New Hampshire U 90,955
- Liberty University 75,044
- Texas A&M University 67,929
- University of Central Florida 66,059
- The Ohio State University 59,837
- University of Florida 52,669

Almanac Issue, August 2019, *Chronicle of Higher Education*



- **Big Ten enrollment from MHS Classes of 2018 & 2019**

- University of Minnesota, Twin Cities 182
- University of Wisconsin, Madison 58
- University of Nebraska, Lincoln 39
- University of Iowa 19
- Purdue University 6
- Indiana University 4
- University of Michigan 4



- **Big Ten enrollment, continued**

- Ohio State University 3
- Michigan State University 2
- Northwestern University 2
- University of Illinois 2
- University of Maryland 2
- Penn State University 1
- Rutgers University 0



- **University of Minnesota – Twin Cities**
- For fall 2018

Applicants: 43,444 (EA deadline: Nov 1;
Regular Decision deadline: Jan 1)

Admitted: 22,525 (52%)

Enrolled: 5,977

Undergrads: 34,633

% in-state: 73%

% graduate in 6 yrs 80%



- **U of M, continued**

- Admitting colleges for freshman enrollment and average ACT score

College of Biological Sciences	28-32
College of Design	25-29
College of Education and Human Development	23-28
College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences	25-29



- **U of M, continued**
- Admitting colleges for freshman enrollment and average ACT score

College of Liberal Arts	26-30
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Carlson School of Management	29-32
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College of Science and Engineering	30-34
(formerly Institute of Technology)	

No more General College – phased out in 2006-07.



- **U of M, continued**

Admissions statistics:

- 87% of admitted students have a 3.5 gpa or better
- Mid-50th percentile on ACT: 26-31
- In-state comprehensive fee: \$28,819
- No required essay/no recommendation letters. Self-reported academic record and test scores.
Golden Gopher app, Common Application and Coalition Application



- **U of M, continued**

Admissions statistics from MHS:

Class	Apply	Admit	Enroll
2019	301	230	101
2018	337	209	78
2017	255	194	81
2016	260	188	79



- **University of Wisconsin - Madison**
- For fall 2018

Applicants: 42,741 (Early Action: Nov. 1, and
Regular Decision deadline is Feb 1)

Admitted: 22,099 (52%)

Enrolled: 6,862

Undergrads: 32,648

% in-state: 65%

% graduate in 6 yrs 87%



- **U of Wisconsin, continued**

- Admitting colleges for freshman enrollment:

College of Letters and Science (60% of the first year students)

College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

School of Education

School of Human Ecology

Wisconsin School of Business (with about 50% of first-year students having direct admit)



- **U of Wisconsin, continued**

- Sophomore admission to:

College of Engineering (to their specific major)

- Junior admission to:

School of Pharmacy

School of Nursing



- **U of Wisconsin, continued**

Admissions statistics:

- 92% of admitted students have a 3.5 gpa or better
- Mid-50th percentile on ACT: 27-32
- Out-of-state* comprehensive tuition fee: \$28,819
- Two essays/recommendation letter required
- Apply Wisconsin app and/or Common Application

* Tuition reciprocity with Minnesota



- **U of Wisconsin, continued**

Admissions statistics from MHS:

Class	Apply	Admit	Enroll
2019	131	68	35
2018	121	54	25
2017	108	55	17
2016	101	38	22



- **University of Iowa – Iowa City**
- For fall 2018

Applicants: 26,706 (priority deadline: May 1)

Admitted: 22,077 (83%)

Enrolled: 4,806

Undergrads: 23,989

% in-state: 66%

% graduate in 6 yrs 73%



- **U of Iowa, continued**

- Admitting colleges for freshman enrollment:

College of Liberal Arts & Science (70%)

College of Engineering (15%)

- Sophomore year admission to:

College of Nursing

College of Business (with about 50% of first year students having direct admit)

College of Education

College of Pharmacy



- **U of Iowa, continued**

Admissions statistics:

- 51% of admitted students have a 3.5 gpa or better
- Mid-50th percentile on ACT: 23-28
- Out-of-state comprehensive tuition fee: \$46,769
- Self-reported academic record, with the Regent Admission Index (RAI). All students can expect a decision within 48 hours of applying. No recommendation letters. Common App, Coalition Application and Iowa application.



- **U of Iowa, continued**

Admissions statistics from MHS:

Class	Apply	Admit	Enroll
2019	44	42	7
2018	55	50	12
2017	33	30	4
2016	46	44	6



- **Purdue University – West Lafayette, IN**
- For fall 2018

Applicants: 53,439 (scholarship deadline: Nov 1)

Admitted: 30,965 (58% accepted)

Enrolled: 8,357

Undergrads: 32,672

% in-state: 61%

% graduate in 6 yrs 81%



- **Purdue University, continued**

- Admitting colleges for freshman enrollment:

College of Agriculture

College of Education

College of Engineering

College of Health & Human Science

College of Liberal Arts

College of Science

College of Technology

Krannert School of Management

Undergraduate Studies Program



- **Purdue University, continued**

Admissions statistics:

- 77% of admitted students have a 3.5 gpa or better
- Mid-50th percentile on ACT: 25-32
- Out-of-state comprehensive tuition fee: \$41,684
- One essay/one recommendation letter (on the Common Application or Coalition Application)
- Self-reported test scores



- Purdue University, continued**

Admissions statistics from MHS:

Class	Apply	Admit	Enroll
2019	24	19	3
2018	25	22	3
2017	18	9	1
2016	18	14	4



- **University of Nebraska - Lincoln**
- For fall 2018

Applicants: 14,956 (priority deadline: May 1)

Admitted: 11,906 (80% accepted)

Enrolled: 4,816

Undergrads: 20,830

% in-state: 76%

% graduate in 6 yrs 69%



- **U of Nebraska, continued**
- Admitting colleges for freshman enrollment:
 - Agriculture Sciences & Natural Resources
 - Architecture
 - Arts & Sciences
 - Business Administration
 - Education & Human Sciences
 - Engineering
 - Hixson-Lied Fine & Performing Arts
 - Journalism & Mass Communications



- **U of Nebraska, continued**

Admissions statistics:

- 54% of admitted students have a 3.5 gpa or better
- Mid-50th percentile on ACT: 22-29
- Out-of-state comprehensive tuition fee: \$42,064
- No essay/no recommendation letters; self-reported application (no transcript required). Nebraska application, Common App or Coalition Application



- **U of Nebraska, continued**

Admissions statistics from MHS:

Class	Apply	Admit	Enroll
2019	76	76	20
2018	44	44	20
2017	23	23	6
2016	28	27	8



- **Questions to research in seeking admission to a big state university:**
- How does the campus feel?!
- What percent of classes have an enrollment over 100 students? How many of those classes have a “break-out” discussion section?
- How big is the Honors Program? What criteria are used for selection, or admission?
- When/where does course registration take place?



- **Questions, continued**
- Housing is guaranteed for the freshman year, but then what? (On a tour, ask about where sophomores live!) When can you apply for housing?
- How many upperclassmen eat on campus? What are the plans/options?
- What credit is given for AP/IB courses?
- Is there preferred admission to a graduate program?
- How easy/difficult is it to conduct research?



- **Questions, continued**
- How many students study abroad?
- How early do students make use of the career center?
- Who helps students set up an internship?
- How much does parking really cost?
- How many tickets can each student buy for the football game?



- **A few important final thoughts:**
- Our priority in the college counseling program at Minnetonka High School – helping the student to find the right fit!
- “College is a match to be made, not a prize to be won!” Frank Sachs, The Blake School, Minneapolis
- Every student is encouraged to follow this application “mantra”:
“You apply for admission to a college because you would like to go there!”



- **The final word!**
- The general rule about applying to a big state university: you should apply as soon as you've discovered the school is the **right choice for you.**

Phillip Trout

College Counselor

Minnetonka High School

952-401-5746

collegeguy@minnetonkaschools.org

Twitter: @MHScollegueguy

9-19-19