The College Search Process
and
The Application Process for Creighton

Sarah Richardson
Director of Admissions and Scholarships
Starting Your Student on the Path of Success

• Developing a record of achievement in H.S.
• Enjoying and Learning from the College Search Process
• Some students will benefit from leaving the Omaha area
• Others will thrive at Creighton
Preparing for the College Search

• Talk to your students about what college means and the importance of doing their best to improve their college options when they are a high school senior.

• Try to cultivate their interests in thinking about future areas for careers...Emphasize the importance of a full and broad education.

• Students need to be accountable, as parents we need to properly prepare them, as many are struggling in college with academic work, new levels of independence, as well as other personal issues.
Admission and/or Merit Scholarships to Quality Selective Colleges

- High School Performance
- Quality of Curriculum and Level of Academic Challenge
- Level of Work Effort and Record as an Achiever
- Demonstrated Creative Potential
- Record of Service and Leadership
- Special Talents
Test Optional Schools

http://www.fairtest.org/university/optional
A Smart College Search

• Parents offer to be their “executive assistant”
  – This will reduce tension between you and your student

• Identify factors that are important to finding the right college fit

• Select colleges whose academic profile has students like your student

• Let them pick the college but negotiate the required attributes—you may know more than they do on this topic
Parent Involvement

• 66% Helping with some of the research and paperwork
• 27% My student is doing most of the research and paperwork
• 8% Doing most of the research and paperwork
• 24% Said they would consider filling out forms posing as a student (15%) or had done so already (12%)

Information based on research completed as a part of E-expectation survey conducted by Noel-Levitz, 2011
Who will make the final decision

- 61% We will discuss the options and agree upon a particular school
- 35% It will be completely up to my student
- 4% I will make the decision for my student

Information based on research completed as a part of E-expectation survey conducted by Noel-Levitz, 2011
Helpful sites – more information

- **College.gov** ([http://www.college.gov/](http://www.college.gov/)) - This site, launched in Fall 2008 by the U.S. Department of Education intends to be “the go-to source for information and resources about planning, preparing and paying for postsecondary education.”

- **Know How 2 Go** ([http://www.knowhow2go.org/](http://www.knowhow2go.org/)) - From middle school through high school, this site will walk you through what you need to know - and what you need to do - at every step on your way to college.

- **Adventures in Education** ([http://www.aie.org/HighSchool/index.cfm](http://www.aie.org/HighSchool/index.cfm)) - A non-profit site by the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation. This link takes you to the section for high school students, but there are also resources for middle school students, parents, counselors, and others.
Helpful sites – more information

• **U-CAN University & College Accountability Network** (http://www.ucan-network.org/) - is designed to give, in a common format, prospective students and their families concise, Web-based consumer-friendly information on the nation's nonprofit, private colleges and universities.

• **Voluntary System of Accountability** (http://www.collegeportraits.org/) - Similar to U-CAN, but for public colleges and universities.

• **College Navigator** (http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/) - This U.S. Department of Education site offers tons of data, as well as maps showing each college's location.
Helpful sites – more information

• College Board (http://collegesearch.collegeboard.com/search/adv_type_ofschool.jsp) - Use their "College MatchMaker" to zero in on colleges that are likely to be right for you.

• U.S. News & World Report "Best Colleges" (http://colleges.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-colleges) - Beyond its rankings, this site offers a wealth of data and guidance on the 1,400 colleges it lists.

• Princeton Review (http://princetonreview.com/colleges-majors.aspx) - Insights from student surveys, and click on "Best Fit School Search"
Creighton or Other Colleges?

- Some students will seek a different venue than Omaha
  - They feel seeing another part of the country will be a stimulating learning opportunity
- Many will enjoy Creighton’s national student body and feel they went away for college, even though they stayed at Creighton
- Creighton’s national reputation, an advantage throughout their life—Creighton is Top 50 in Nation, Top 10 Catholic, Top 6 Midwest Private Univ.
- Some should attend less competitive colleges because the pace at Creighton will frustrate and demoralize them...fit is more important than all other factors
Creighton is Nationally Respected and Selective...is it a healthy fit for your child?

• Creighton’s faculty can organize their classes towards high achievers, which improves the learning environment and the value of Creighton

• 44% of the freshmen ranked in the Top 10% of their high school

• 36% were members of their National Honors Society

• 11% of the freshmen ranked in the Top 2% of the nation in National Tests: ACT/SAT... 51% ranked in the Top 12% of the National tests
The Ideal Preparation of Students for Creighton

• The Admissions Office can assist your student in determining if they have prepared well for Creighton.

• We have your student’s best interest in mind when reviewing files.
Poor Fit Hurts the Students and Creighton

• Students who are dismissed have a difficult time finding other quality options

• Creighton cannot and should not turn down other applicants who have worked harder and have more dedication to being a student at Creighton

• Students who flunk out cost themselves their self-esteem and confidence
Poor Fit Hurts the Students and Creighton

• No other selective Jesuit University admits sub-par employee children for admission, admission is based on the student’s record. Close calls win but not students well below criteria

• Students with a B or B+ average who have not taken the strongest course load and have lower ACT scores will likely be deferred and asked to transfer into Creighton after developing a plan of achievement with the admissions office
Our Services to Families if Creighton is not the Right Fit

Joe Bezousek, Senior Associate Director of Admissions and Sarah Richardson, Director of Admissions and Scholarships, will provide sessions to families that are uncertain if they have the academic strength to find Creighton a good fit. They are able to advise the family on all of their options. Feel free to contact the Admissions Office 280-2703 to arrange for an appointment.
What to do to prepare for Creighton
The Ideal Preparation of Students for Creighton

- Take the best college prep courses available that the student can achieve a B or higher
  - (today’s C is yesterday’s D)
- Minimum of 4 or 5 “academic solids” each year in high school
- Achieve a minimum B to B+ average and score a 23 or higher on the ACT
- Class performance and effort is more important than the ACT
What do we consider?

• Creighton looks for excellent students who demonstrate their abilities both in and out of class. Just because you are an employee doesn’t mean your child gets admitted.

• Students are accepted to Creighton University based on the quality of the following factors:
  – high school courses taken
  – class performance
  – test scores from either the ACT or SAT I
  – extracurricular activities
  – personal statement
  – recommendations
Recommended curriculum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Minimum units</th>
<th>Recommended units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algebra and Higher Mathematics</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Science (with labs)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Languages</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>16</strong></td>
<td><strong>21</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: A unit is equal to a year
Standardized Testing

- Creighton accepts the highest composite score on the ACT or the best combined total of Math and Verbal on the SAT I or SAT R.

- Creighton does not require or review the written portion of either test in its admission process. BUT we recommend you take the writing portion as many schools do review the writing portion.

- Test early and often to score as high as possible.
It Is Up To The Student

• Never assume you are “in”

• Always provide as much detail as possible if there is something to explain in the application file

• Start early! Most schools will begin accepting applications August 1st prior to your senior year

• Visit other campuses to reaffirm your decision to attend the school you have selected
Contact Information

• Sarah Richardson
  – sarahrichardson@creighton.edu

• Joe Bezousek
  – wdwjoe@creighton.edu
Adult Degree Completion and Graduate Program Options at Creighton

Lindsay Johnson
Director of Graduate and Adult Recruitment
Preparing to go back to school

• Share your plans with your family and friends
• Examine your own learning style
• Determine a realistic amount of time you can devote each week to courses/studying/etc.
• Plan for a minimum of 10 hours per week per course
• Discuss your plans with your supervisor
• Determine where you will study
• Vet program options, delivery types, and utilize your resources
Adult Degree Completion
College of Professional Studies

- Founded in 1983 to specifically serve the needs of adult undergraduate students.
- Formerly known as University College
- Committed to promotion of lifelong learning
- Serves students in on-ground, online, and evening courses/programs
- Provides flexible access to courses, while maintaining academic rigor
- Extends the commitments and resources of the University beyond traditional academic boundaries
Nationally Ranked

- Creighton’s Bachelor of Science in Leadership was ranked No. 20 by *US News and World Report* in Best Online Bachelor’s Programs.

- For the 12th year in a row, Creighton earned the top spot in *U.S. News & World Report* rankings for Midwest Regional Universities in “America’s Best Colleges” edition.
Online Programs

- Bachelor of Science in Leadership
  - Healthcare Management, Nonprofit Sector Management, Human Capitol Management
- Bachelor of Arts in Healthy Lifestyle Management
- Eight-week, online terms
- Five terms each year, five starts each year
- https://www.creighton.edu/online-students
  - The Student Experience
  - Online Student Resources
On-ground

- Student enrolling through the College of Professional Studies are able to seek almost every undergraduate major at Creighton
- Take courses when you need them – morning or afternoon, with the option to mix in evening and online courses as well
- Course can be taken for degree completion, professional development, and/or personal growth
Degree Completion

• Ways to earn credit
  – Transfer Credits
  – Credit by Examination
  – American Council on Education (ACE) College Credit Recommendation Service
  – Military
  – Prior Learning Portfolio
  – Credentials
  – Challenge Exams
CPS 200

- CPS 200—Making the Transition to College: Strategies for Degree Completion
- 3 elective credits to apply towards a degree
- Eight-week, online course designed for all new CPS students
- Lead by an instructor with involvement from current students and academic coaches
- Designed to foster community amongst newly enrolling students
CPS 200

• In CPS 200, you will:
  • Create your plan of study and map out your path to graduation
  • Explore student resources available to you on campus and online
  • Develop strategies for improving reading, note-taking, studying, researching and academic writing
  • Learn more about Creighton’s Jesuit, Catholic history, our Ignatian values
  • Learn about the standards of academic integrity and the culture of scholarship
Getting Started

• Request an unofficial transcript evaluation
  – Submit official or unofficial transcripts for an unofficial course transfer evaluation

• Meet with an Enrollment Specialist

• Apply at choose.creighton.edu/apply

• Submit all transcripts (high school, all college, technical business, correspondence, or professional schools)

• Personal Statement (Optional, but highly recommended)
Personal Statement

• If you’ve had poor past academic performance, explain the reasons that led to this outcome.

• If you’ve had poor past academic performance, what have you learned in the interim?

• If you’ve never attended college before, why now?

• Why are you choosing Creighton University?

• What steps have you taken now that demonstrates readiness to attend Creighton?

• What steps are you willing to take to be successful in your academic pursuits?

• Why are you returning to college now? What motivates you? Drives you? Inspires you?
Graduate Programs
Graduate Programs

• More than 35 graduate degree program options across almost every school and college including business, education, healthcare, and arts & sciences

• Several graduate certificate programs options including Business Analytics, Lifestyle Medicine, Medical Anthropology, Creative Writing and Negotiation & Conflict Resolution

• Dual Degree Options including MBA/NCR, MBA/BIA, MSL/NCR, MBA/MIMFA, MBA/M.Fin.

• Online, on-ground, and hybrid options
Next Steps

• Meet with an Enrollment Specialist to discuss program options, application requirements, and enrollment terms

• Meet with Graduate Program Director(s) to discuss personal and professional goals, program specifics, curriculum, and expectations

• Explore dual-degree options
Getting Started

- Apply at choose.creighton.edu/apply
- Submit transcripts from every college and university attended
- Most programs require submission of letters of recommendation, personal statement, and/or resume
- Some programs require completion of an entrance examination, such as the GMAT or GRE
- Some programs require submission of a writing sample
Contact Information

adultdegrees.creighton.edu
gradschool.creighton.edu
academics.creighton.edu

• Lindsay Johnson
  – lindsayjohnson@creighton.edu
Tuition Benefit Programs

Toni Parsley
Human Resources
Tuition Remission for Employees

- Eligible after 6 months of employment
- 2 classes per semester/up to six credit hours
  - Employees are responsible for books and fees
  - Undergraduate
  - Graduate Courses
    - IRS maximum is $5,250 per year
    - Any amount in excess of this, is taxable income
- Does not include Professional schools
Creighton Tuition Benefit Programs for Dependents to Attend College

Creighton has three separate tuition benefit programs:

• Tuition remission – dependents attend Creighton

• Faculty and staff Children EXchange Program (FACHEX) - dependent children attend another Jesuit institution

• Tuition Exchange Program - dependent children attend one of over 600 other participating colleges/universities
Tuition Remission Benefit

- Unique Benefit in Higher Education
- High Value to Participants
  - Currently 150 participating now
- Covers Tuition Only for Participants
Student/Employee Eligibility

- Student accepted at Creighton
- Student age up to 24*
- Student must remain “In Good Academic Standing”
- Maximum tuition remission = 136 hours
  - Most degrees can be acquired with a minimum of 128 hours

*employees hired before 10/01/2004 dependent age up to 25
Dependent Remission Benefit

Benefit eligible service requirement.

– 3 years consecutive completed service – 50%
– 4 years consecutive completed service – 75%
– 5 years consecutive completed service – 100%

*Full year must be complete prior to the first day of the term
Financial Aid and Tuition Remission

- Students eligible for both tuition remission and a CU merit scholarship will only receive the larger of the two, but may switch between years.

- Only impacts employees who are under 5 years of continuous completed service.

- Tuition Remission Fee of $2,500 per year ($1,250 per semester).
Eligible Programs & Degrees

- Arts & Sciences
- College of Business Administration
- Nursing (BSN only)
- University College
- Summer Sessions
Excluded Programs & Degrees

- Professional Schools
- Graduate School
- Independent Study Programs
- Accelerated Nursing Program
- Advanced Placement courses
- Travel Courses
- Some Study Abroad Options (FLPAs, ISEP, etc.)
Policy Dates & Rules

• Complex timing & rules

• Please read & understand policy

• Significant $$ involved

• Please follow administrative processes
  – Incoming Freshmen
FACHEX and Tuition Exchange
FACHEX and Tuition Exchange
Eligibility

• Employee must be eligible for the 100% tuition remission benefit in order to qualify for either FACHEX or Tuition Exchange

• FACHEX and Tuition Exchange are for dependent children only

• Dependent children must be full time, undergraduate, degree-seeking students in order to be part of FACHEX or Tuition Exchange
FACHEX and Tuition Exchange

Eligibility

• Eligibility for the FACHEX and Tuition Exchange benefit does not guarantee the benefit will be received.

• FACHEX and Tuition Exchange are both scholarship programs and are awarded on a competitive basis.

• The number of people who apply for and are eligible for FACHEX or Tuition Exchange may exceed the number that Creighton may certify in a given year. A point system based on consecutive length of service at Creighton and previous use of this benefit is used to determine who is selected for certification.

• The dependent children must be admitted and offered the exchange scholarship by the school of their choice. Offers of admission and scholarship are generally made based on academic criteria. These decisions are all made at the other institution, not Creighton.
FACHEX and Tuition Exchange
Imports and Exports

- FACHEX and Tuition Exchange are multi-school exchange programs.
- Creighton *exports* students to other institutions – students who are dependents of Creighton faculty and staff.
- Creighton *imports* students from other institutions – students who are dependents of faculty and staff from participating colleges/universities.
- Creighton needs to keep a balance of imports and exports, yet exports to specific institutions does not require imports from those same specific institutions.
FACHEX and Tuition Exchange Application

- Applications may be submitted online anytime during the fall semester, but must be received by December 1. Applications received after December 1 will not be accepted.

- Applications are available at: http://www.creighton.edu/hr/benefits/tuition/

- Students must follow the admission application procedures and deadlines for the schools of their choice.
FACHEX and Tuition Exchange

Tuition and Fees

• The FACHEX program pays full tuition at most institutions. Board and room charges, books, and other fees are not covered.

• Most Tuition Exchange schools pay for tuition only. A few institutions offer room and board in addition to tuition. Very expensive schools are allowed to cover only a portion of the tuition.
FACHEX and Tuition Exchange

Tuition and Fees

• No tuition changes hands between institutions

• Any uncovered tuition and fees must be paid to the institution as per that school’s procedures and deadlines

• For Tuition Exchange there is a $35 participation fee per student per year, payable to Creighton by the employee at the beginning of each academic year
FACHEX and Tuition Exchange Offer of Scholarship

• Families will learn of their FACHEX or Tuition Exchange scholarship offer generally no earlier than February and more commonly between March and April

• Notification of offer will come from the offering institution, not Creighton
FACHEX and Tuition Exchange
Acceptance of Scholarship

- A notification to the offering institution of acceptance of the scholarship will be required.

- Requirements and conditions of each scholarship program vary between institutions and need to be verified with the offering institution.
FACHEX and Tuition Exchange Acceptance and Continuation of Scholarship

• Because families will learn of their FACHEX or Tuition Exchange scholarship offers from the other institutions, the employee needs to inform Toni Parsley in Human Resources of the student’s scholarship acceptance.

• Each year a renewal is required and HR will send a communication to existing benefit recipients to validate ongoing eligibility.
# Comparison of Tuition Benefit Programs

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Tuition Remission</th>
<th>FACHEX</th>
<th>Tuition Exchange</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eligibility</strong></td>
<td>Full-time Benefit Eligible</td>
<td>Full-time Benefit Eligible &amp; certified by Creighton (limited number per year)</td>
<td>Full-time Benefit Eligible &amp; certified by Creighton based on point system (limited number per year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Requirements</strong></td>
<td>Years of Service</td>
<td>• Must be 100% TR eligible to apply</td>
<td>• Must be 100% TR eligible to apply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 3 Yrs – 50%</td>
<td>• Admitted to chosen school</td>
<td>• Admitted to chosen school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 4 Yrs – 75%</td>
<td>• Competitive selection process</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 5 Yrs – 100%</td>
<td>• Select Jesuit Universities</td>
<td>• Hundreds of institutions (tuitionexchange.org)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Award</strong></td>
<td>• Regular admissions process</td>
<td>• Limited # of awards offered by chosen school based on student record</td>
<td>• Limited # of awards offered by chosen school based on student record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Cannot be combined with an academic scholarship from Creighton</td>
<td>• If awarded, good for 8 semesters</td>
<td>• If awarded, good for 8 semesters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Award percentage is up to the issuing school</td>
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Questions?