

An aerial photograph of the New York State Capitol building in Albany, New York, taken during a sunset. The building's iconic dome and ornate architecture are the central focus. The sky is filled with soft, golden light from the setting sun, with scattered clouds catching the light. The surrounding cityscape is visible, with various buildings and streets, some of which have a light dusting of snow on their roofs. The overall mood is serene and majestic.

The Journey to Higher Education

For Parents of Stuyvesant HS Juniors

January 2024

Tonight's Agenda



- **The College Office Staff**
- **College Admission in 2024**
- **Naviance**
- **Finding the Right College**
- **Factors in the Admissions Process**
- **Junior Year Checklist**
- **Understanding Application Plans: EA, ED, & RD**
- **A Brief Look Ahead and Q & A**

Meet our College Counselors!

- **Dr. Wilson, *Associate Director***– Homerooms A-F, JA
jwilson@stuy.edu

- **Ms. Kleiman, *Associate Director***-Homerooms G, H, J, K, T, W
akleiman@stuy.edu

- **Mr. Makris, *Director of College Counseling*** – Homerooms L-Q
jmakris@stuy.edu

- **Mrs. Hughes, *Associate Director***– Homerooms R, S, X, Y, U, Z
ehughes@stuy.edu



College Admission in 2024

- highly selective colleges have seen massive growth in application volume since 2020
- most four-year colleges are now test-optional

Institution	2017	2020	***2023 (test-opt)
Harvard College	39,506	40,428	57,000+
Northeastern University	50,523	62,263	96,000+
New York University	63,000+	80,210	~120,000

College Admission in 2024 continued

Colleges haven't increased the sizes of their freshman classes...there is just more competition for those seats now:

UNIVERSITY	ADMIT RATE 2017	ADMIT RATE 2023
HARVARD COLLEGE	6%	3.45%
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY	33%	8%
NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY	28%	6.8%

An aerial photograph of a university campus during sunset. The sun is low in the sky, casting a warm orange glow over the scene. In the foreground, there is a large, multi-story brick building with a prominent American flag flying in front of it. To the left, a Gothic-style stone building is visible. The campus is filled with green trees and winding paths. In the background, a dense urban area with various buildings and two tall industrial smokestacks can be seen under the hazy sky.

But there's good news in spite of this...

- **The VAST majority of our students are enrolling at successful four-year colleges (see the Matriculation List posted in Naviance Document Resources)**
- **Adjust your expectations, engage thoughtfully in this process, and work with your expert counselor at Stuy**

Stuyvesant HS uses Naviance

- **What is Naviance?**
- **What do I use it for?**
- **How do I get access?**



NAVIANCE

Naviance Student

- **Naviance Student is a comprehensive website that students and families can use to help in making decisions about colleges and careers.**
- **Schools use Naviance to track and analyze data about college admission results; it provides up-to-date information that is specific to Stuy.**
- **College Office uses Naviance to send electronic documents to colleges in the senior year and monitor student application plans**

Accessing Naviance

- **Students must add parent/guardian information via their student account**



Student Adds Family Info; “Read More”

You are viewing Naviance Student as **Samply Sample**

Samply's Future Planning



No Path Selected

Plan for life after high school and select the path that will lead to future success.

[Select Path](#)

Welcome to Naviance

Naviance is a college & career research and planning tool for Stuyvesant students, parents, and counselors. Naviance includes of hundreds of colleges and keeps track of college admissions information from Stuyvesant's recent graduating classes for any institution with whom we have an application history. Our college counselors will use Naviance to submit important application documents to the colleges to which our seniors apply.

Now that you're here, make sure to enter information for your parents so that they may join our email listserv and stay up to date. If your parents already have a Stuy Naviance account due to your having an older sibling at Stuy, skip these steps and email



[Read More](#)

[Additional Information from Your School](#)

Career Essentials

Important Skills



Top Knowledge Sets

Tasks from My School

Relax, you have no overdue or upcoming to-dos and tasks. However, you can get ahead by going to My Planner to see what's next or create a goal or to-do.



Full Instructions

- Click on the blue circle with your initials and select "My Account"
- Click on "Parents/Guardians" and click on the red circle icon with the + in it
- Enter as much information as you can: **a working email address is most important!** Click "Save"
- If applicable, repeat for additional people.
- Email Ms. DeMasi (ademasi2251@stuy.edu), our College Office secretary, to request that she activate your adult's Naviance account. **Put "PLEASE ACTIVATE PARENT/GUARDIAN ACCOUNT" in the subject of the email, and include only your name and official class in the body of the email.**
- She will then send an email that will grant access to the accounts!

What's inside Naviance?

You are viewing Naviance Student as **Samplly Sample**

Naviance Home Self-Discovery Careers Colleges Planner

SS EN Log Out

Samplly's Future Planning

No Path Selected
Plan for life after high school and select the path that will lead you to your future.

Select Path

Account

About Me Home
My Account

Documents and Notes

Document Resources
Resume
Goals
Portfolio
Journal
Test Scores
Documents Shared with Me

Surveys

Surveys from Your School

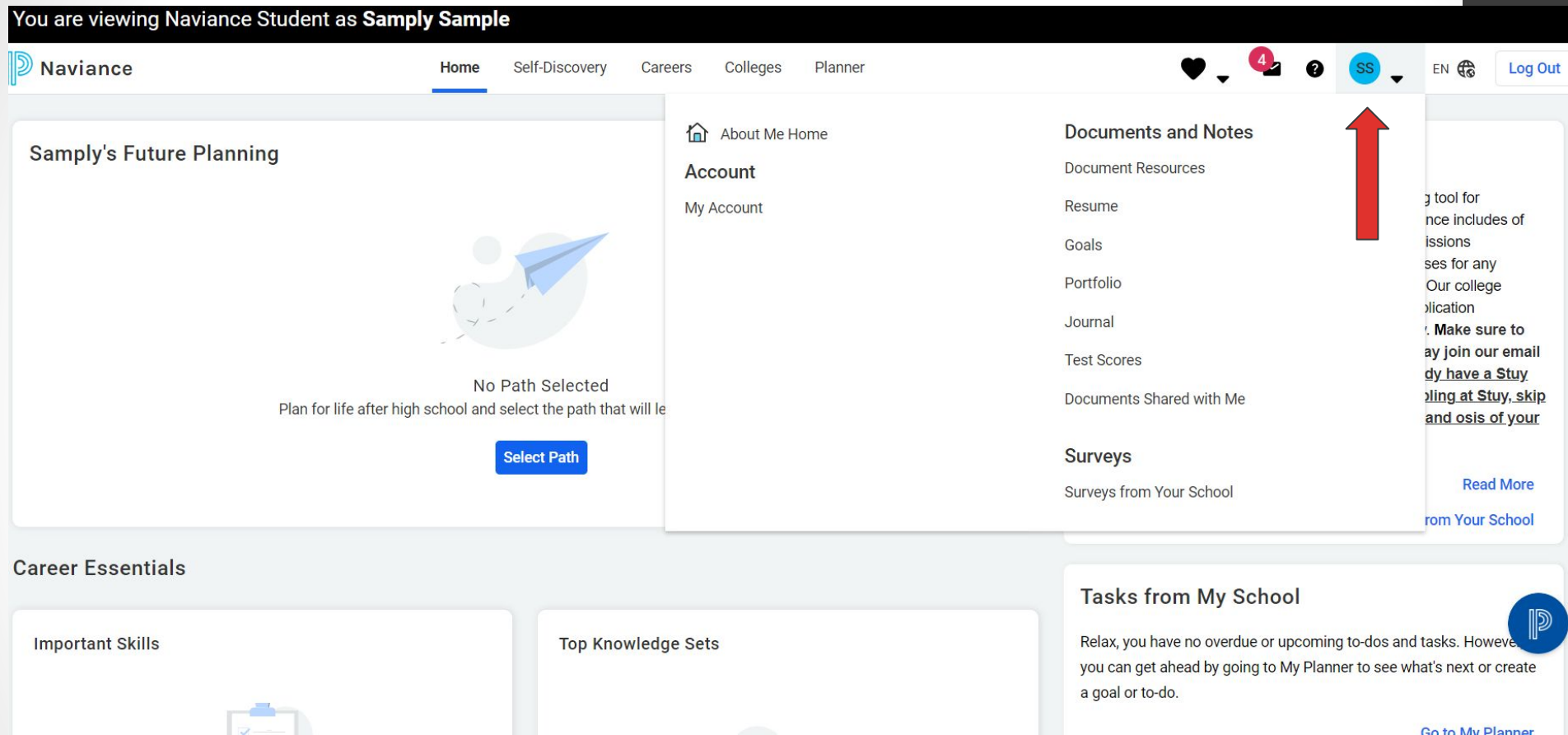
Career Essentials

Important Skills
Top Knowledge Sets

Tasks from My School

Relax, you have no overdue or upcoming to-dos and tasks. However, you can get ahead by going to My Planner to see what's next or create a goal or to-do.

Go to My Planner



Join us the evening of **February 29th** for a much more in depth demo of Naviance! (Register via the Weekly Update)

The “Colleges” Tab

You are viewing Naviance Student as **Samply Sample**

The screenshot displays the Naviance user interface for a student named 'Samply Sample'. The top navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Self-Discovery', 'Careers', 'Colleges' (the active tab), and 'Planner'. On the right side of the navigation bar, there are icons for a heart, a notification bell with a red '4', a question mark, a profile icon 'SS', and a 'Log Out' button. The main content area is organized into three columns:

- Left Column:** Features a 'College Home' link with a house icon, followed by a 'Find Your fit' section containing links for 'SuperMatch College Search', 'College Match', 'College Events', 'Scattergrams', 'Advanced College Search', and 'College Lookup'.
- Middle Column:** Titled 'Research Colleges', it includes a heart icon and 'Colleges I'm Thinking About', 'College Visits', 'College Compare', 'College Resources', 'Acceptance History', 'Enrichment Programs', and 'College Maps'.
- Right Column:** Titled 'Apply to College', it lists 'Colleges I'm Applying To' and 'Test Scores'. Below this is a 'Scholarships & Money' section with links for 'College-Specific Scholarships', 'National Scholarship Search', 'Scholarship Search', and 'Favorite Scholarships' (marked with a heart icon).

Below the main content area, there are several informational boxes:

- A box with a blue 'Select Path' button.
- A box with a 'Read More' link and the text 'Additional Information from Your School'.
- A 'Career Essentials' section with two sub-sections: 'Important Skills' and 'Top Knowledge Sets'.
- A 'Tasks from My School' section with a blue circular 'P' icon and the text: 'Relax, you have no overdue or upcoming to-dos and tasks. However, you can get ahead by going to My Planner to see what's next or create a goal or to-do.'















“Colleges I’m Thinking About...”

Colleges I’m Thinking About

Search for Colleges

 Compar...

 = extended profile available

College	Delivery Type 	Added By	Expected Difficulty*	Application Deadlines	Interest	
Carnegie Mellon University		Counselor	Reach	Deadlines 	N/A	More 
CUNY City College		Counselor	Likely	Deadlines 	N/A	More 
Cornell University		Counselor	Reach	Deadlines 	N/A	More 
 Johns Hopkins University		Counselor	Reach	Deadlines 	N/A	More 



College Profiles in Naviance

Case Western Reserve University 

Virtual Tour

Communicate 

Apply Online

Learn More 

Overview

Studies

Student Life

Admissions

Costs



AVERAGE NET PRICE 


\$17,287

Family Income

\$0 - \$30k 

[More about Cost & Aid](#)

from 2022

GRADUATION RATE 

64%

4 Year

6 Year

[More about learning environment](#)

from 2022

ACCEPTANCE RATE 

29%

[Check out Scattergrams to see how this relates to you](#)

from 2022

NEXT DEADLINE

January

15

Fall 2023 Term

Regular Decision Deadline

[See all deadlines](#)

College Profiles-Comparisons

Case Western Reserve University 

Virtual Tour

Communicate 

Apply Online

Learn More 

Overview

Studies

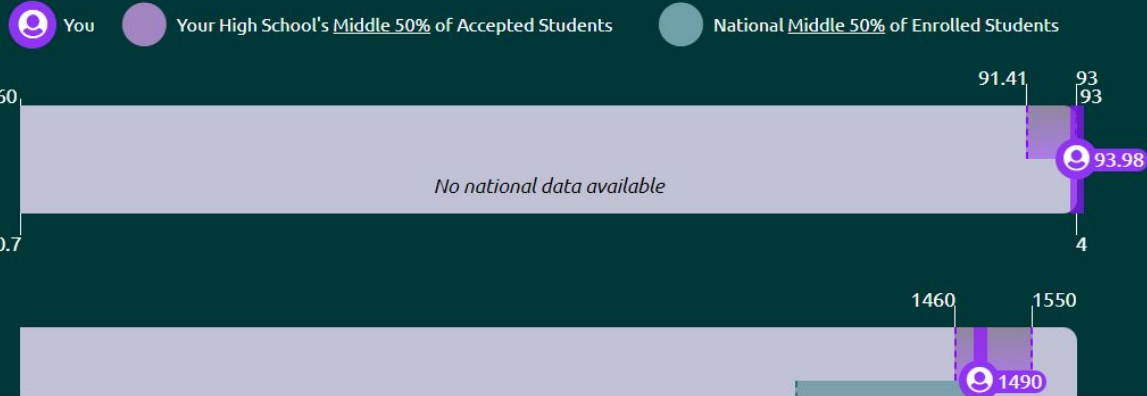
Student Life

Admissions

Costs

How you compare with others who have applied to Case Western Reserve University

This institution is a **Safety**: Your academic qualifications (GPA & test scores) **are above** the academic profile of students nationally who are typically enrolled at this institution.



College Name

117 INTERESTED IN YOU

14 THINKING ABOUT

12 APPLYING TO

MORE 



College Profile Continued-Admissions

Case Western Reserve
University

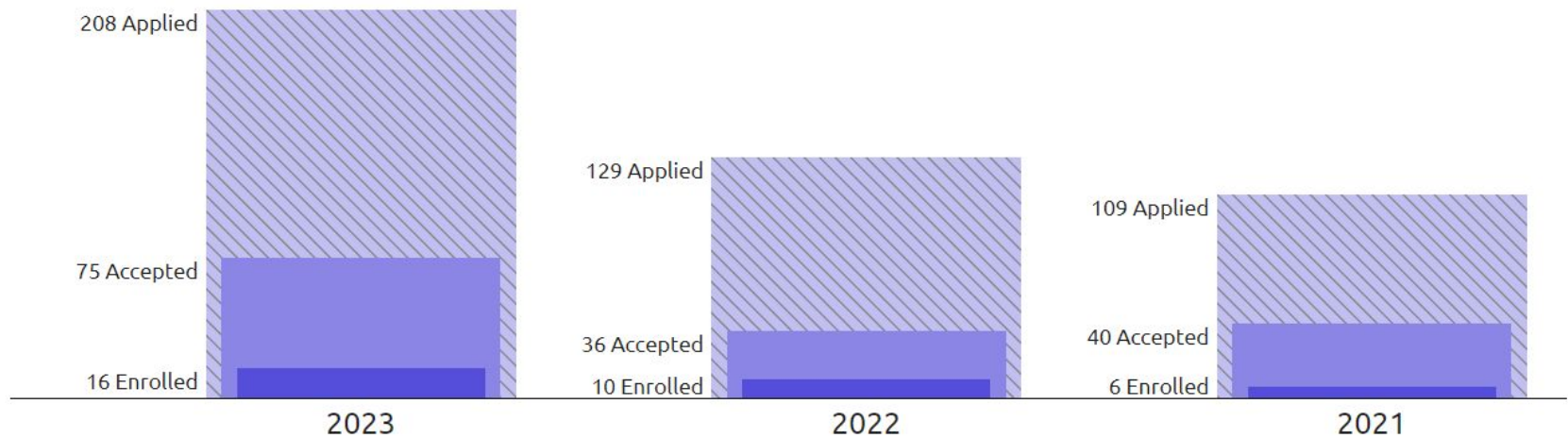


Virtual Tour

Communicate

Apply Online

Learn More ▾



Scattergrams-

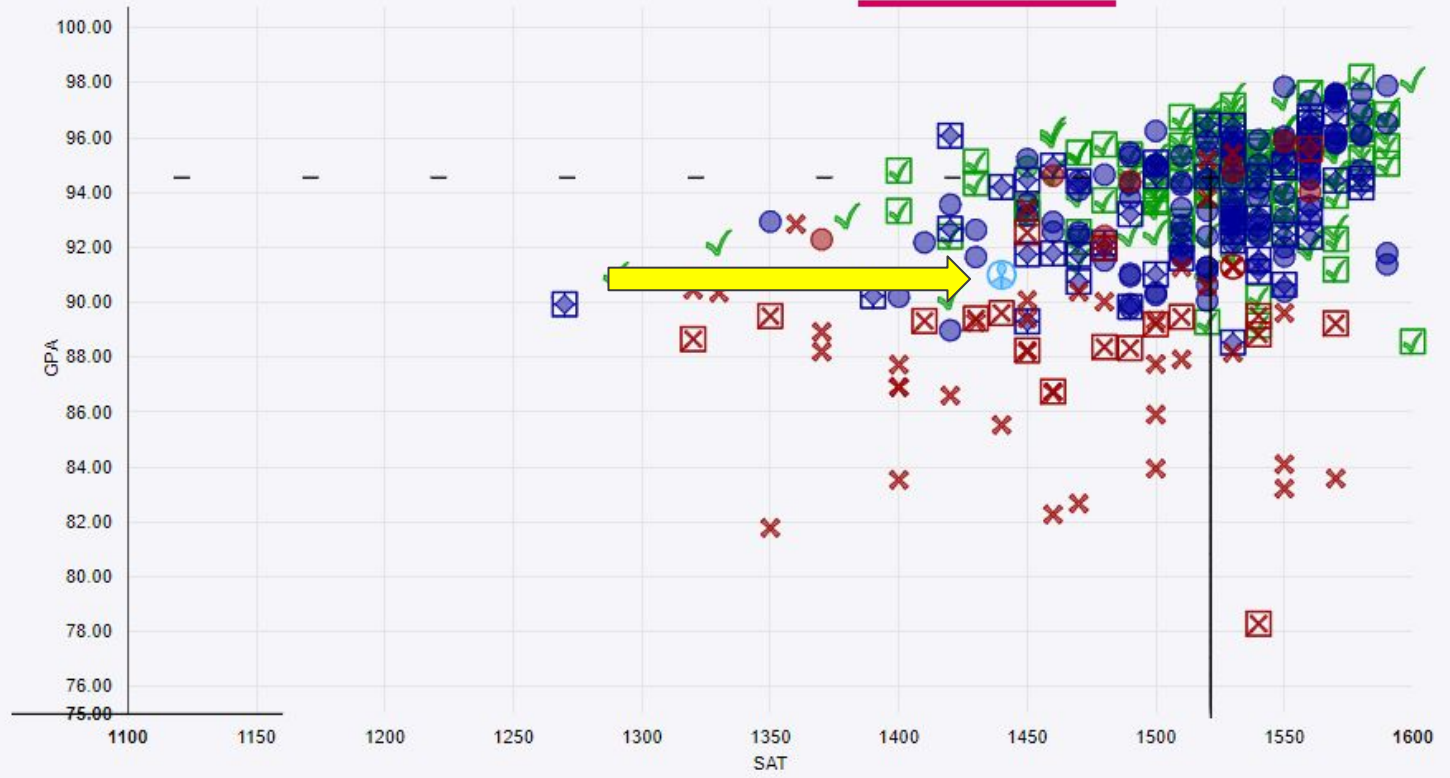
- Remember that **this is not fully reflective of holistic admissions**

Case Western Reserve University

Virtual Tour

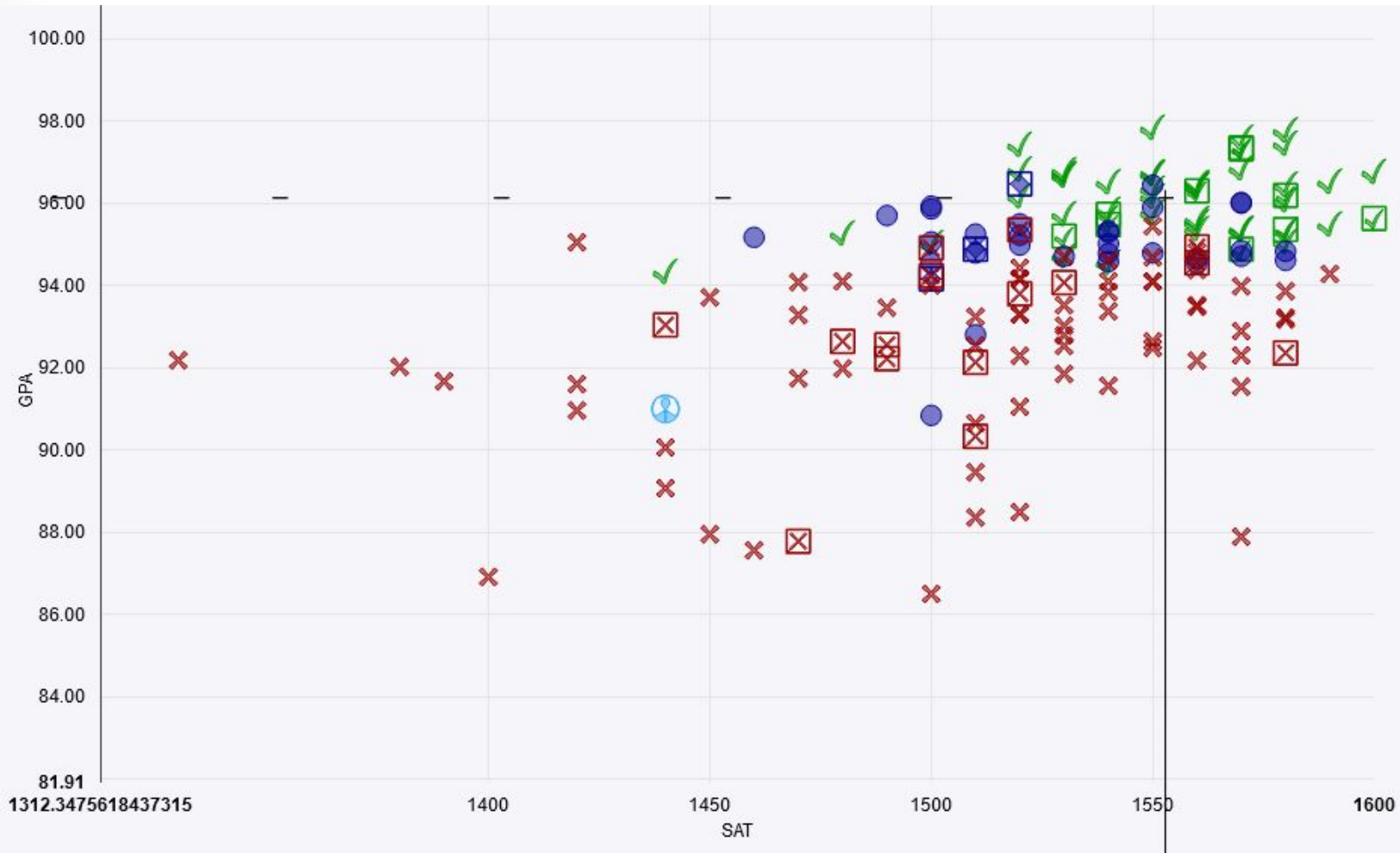
Communicate

Apply O

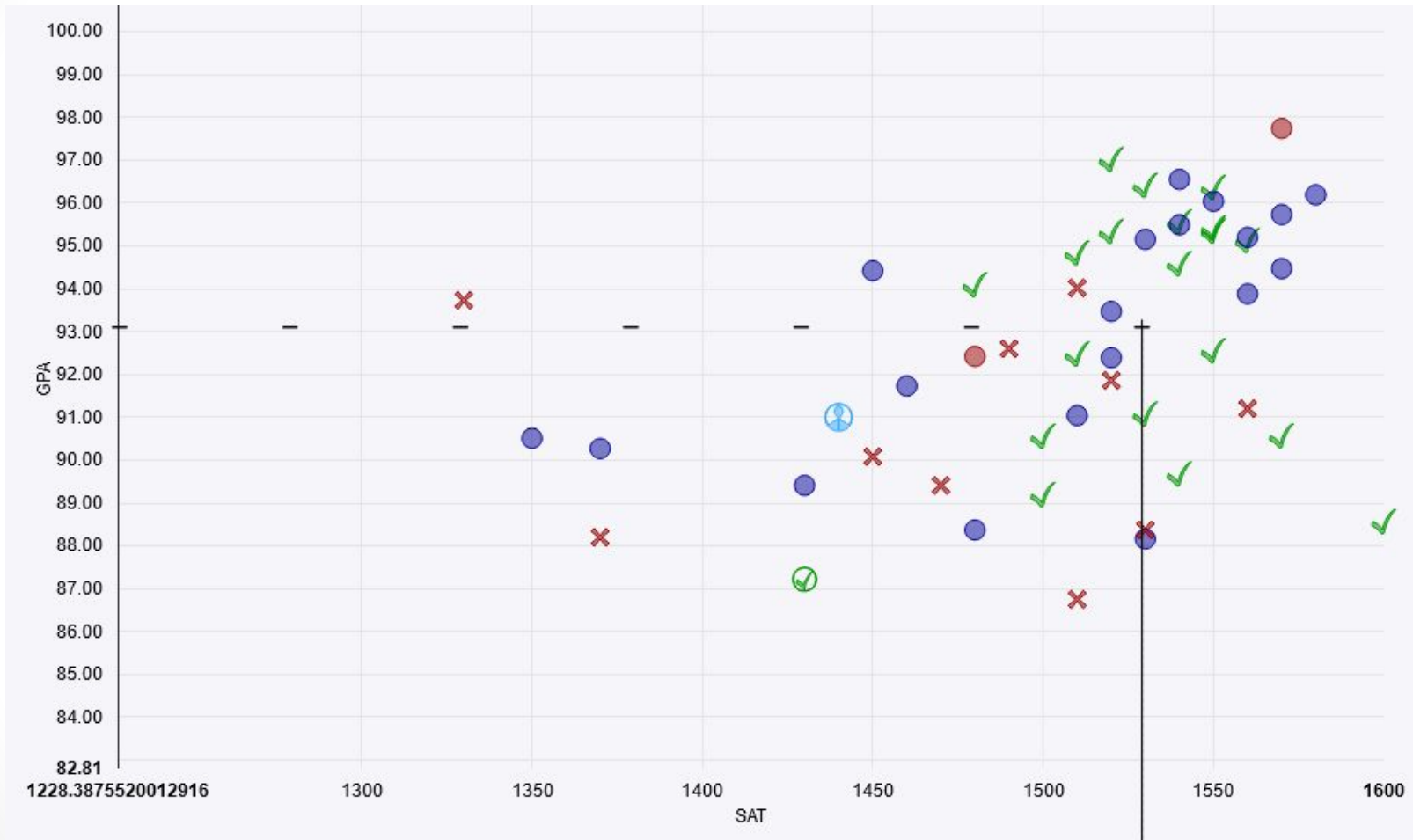


Legend	Accepted	Waitlisted/Accepted	Waitlisted/Unknown	Waitlisted/Denied	Denied
👤 You	✓ Regular Decision	● Regular Decision	● Regular Decision	● Regular Decision	✗ Regular Decision
Average GPA	✓ Early Decision	● Early Decision	● Early Decision	● Early Decision	✗ Early Decision
— Average Score	✓ Early Action	● Early Action	● Early Action	● Early Action	✗ Early Action

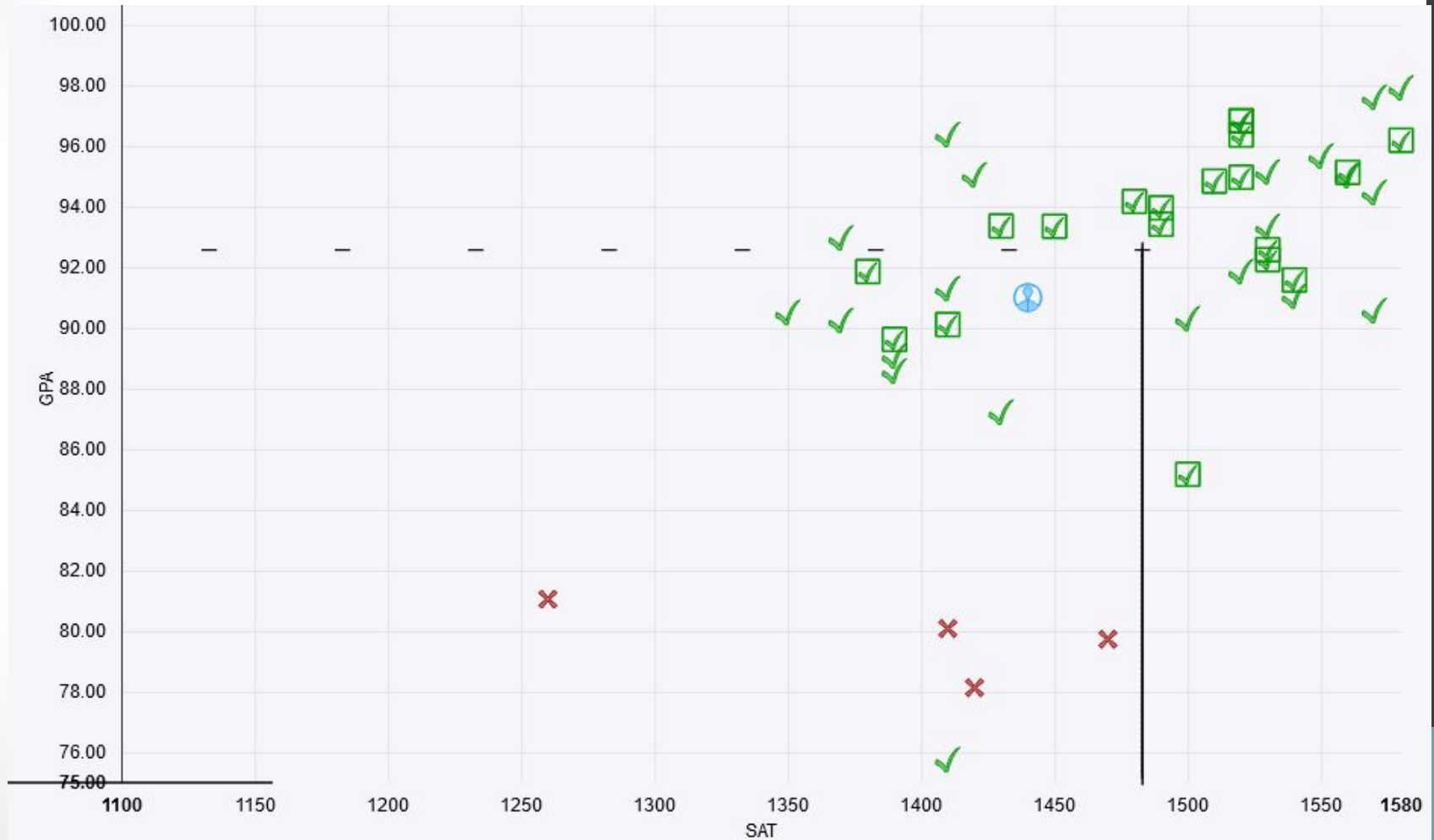
Become a Scattergram Detective



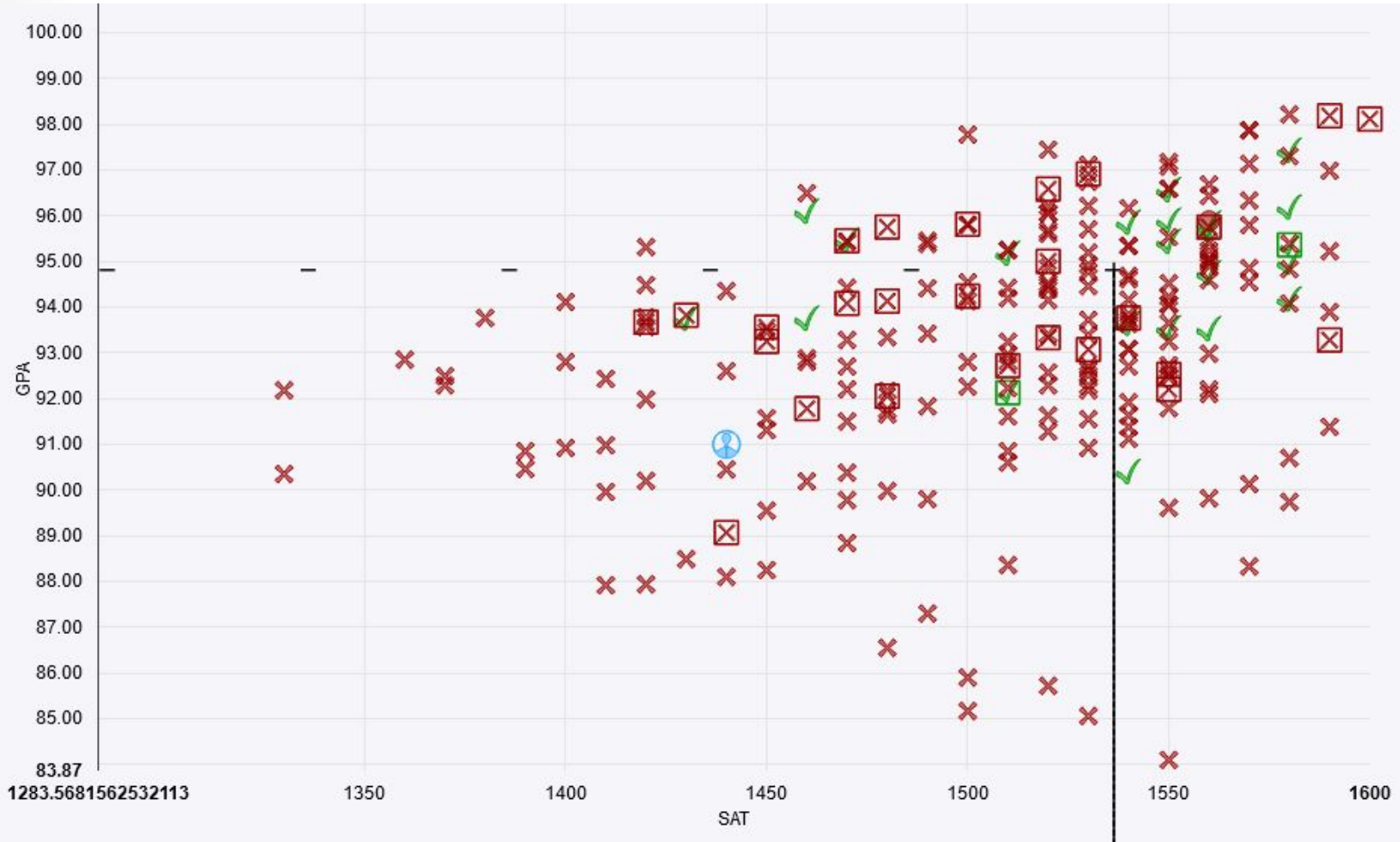
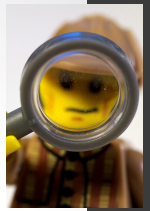
Become a Scattergram Detective



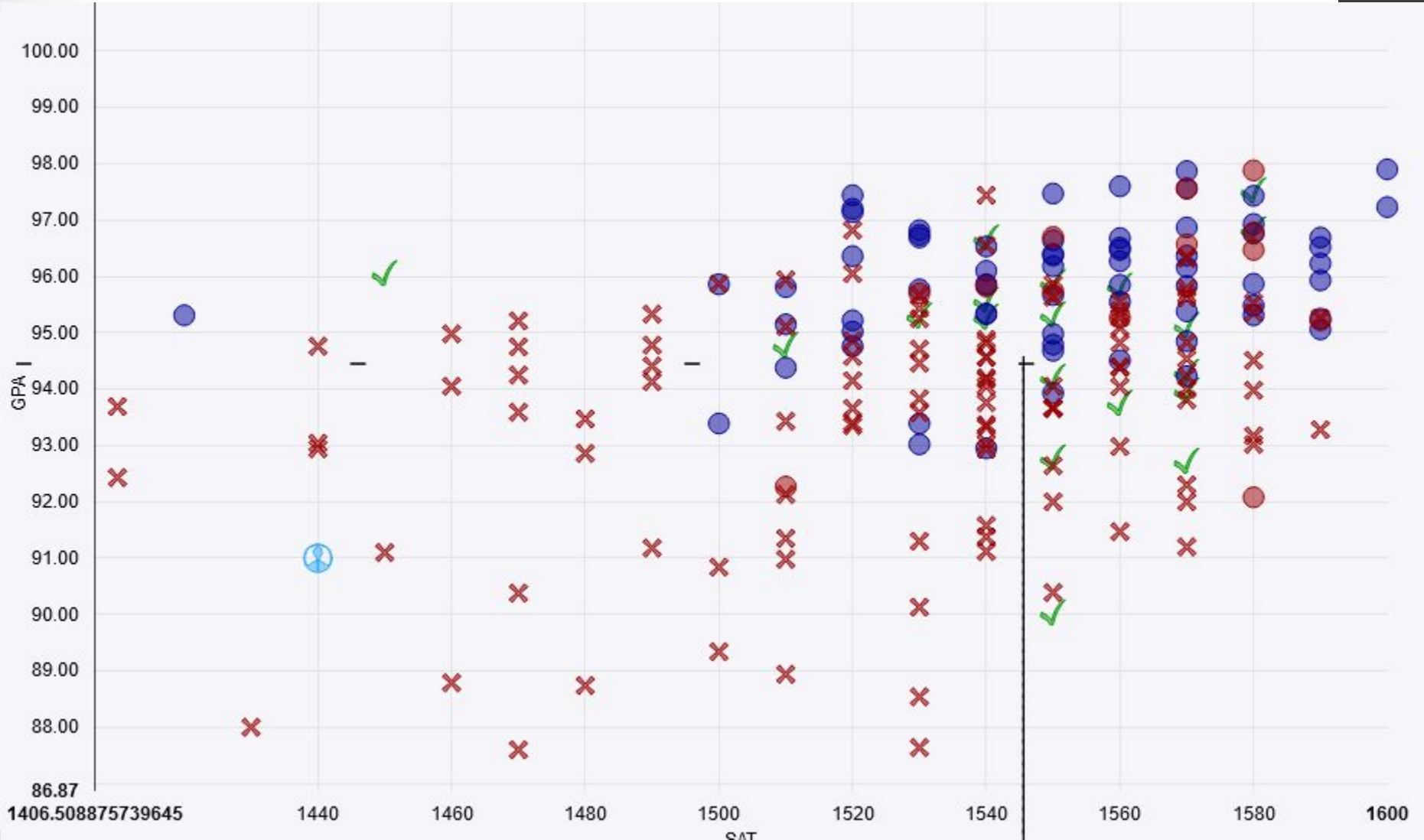
Become a Scattergram Detective



Become a Scattergram Detective



Become a Scattergram Detective



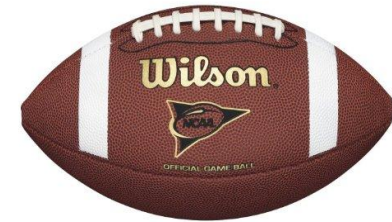
“College is a match to be made, not a prize to be won...”

Pitzer College
Established 1963

Pitzer College
Established 1963



The “Ivy League” – what is it, really?



- These are eight great institutions...but there are many schools that are equally fantastic!
- One size does NOT fit all
- There are *countless* CEOs, physicians, politicians, you name it, who did NOT go to college in this conference



CEOs of the top -10 Fortune 500 Companies as of June 2020 came from...

- **University of Arkansas**
- **Texas A&M**
- **University of Nebraska**
- **University of Kentucky**
- **Illinois State University**
- **Michigan State University**
- **University of Pittsburgh**
- **Princeton University**
- **Penn State University**
- **General Motors Institute (now Kettering U.)**

Let's play a game!

How many colleges on each of the next few slides would you see as a *successful* college outcome?

Be honest! It's no fun if you're not :)

Keep count, and keep up...the slides are quick!

Let's begin!

Group 1

American University

Amherst College

Arizona State University

Auburn University

Austin College

Barnard College

Bates College

Baylor University

**Beis Medrash Heichal Dovid Rabbinical
College**

Bentley University

Berklee College of Music

Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania

Boston College

Boston University

Bowdoin College

Brandeis University

Brigham Young University

Brown University

California Institute of Technology

**California Polytechnic State University, San
Luis Obispo**

California State University, Long Beach

California State University, Los Angeles

California State University, Northridge

Carleton College

Carnegie Mellon University

Case Western Reserve University

Centre College

Clark Atlanta University

Group 2

Colgate University

College of the Holy Cross

College of William and Mary

Columbia University, Columbia College

Cornell University

Creighton University

CUNY Baruch College

CUNY Hunter College

Dartmouth College

Dillard University

Duke University

Emory University

Ewha Womans University

Fairleigh Dickinson University

Florida State University

Fordham University

George Washington University

Georgetown University

Georgia State University

Harvard College

Haverford College

Howard University

Humboldt State University

Indiana University

Jackson State University

John Brown University

Johns Hopkins University

Kenyon College

Group 3

Korea University

Lakehead University

Lamar University

Lincoln University

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

McGill University

Michigan State University

Middlebury College

Mississippi State University

Morehouse College

Mount Holyoke College

New York University

Northeastern University

Northwestern University

Oakland University

Patrick Henry College

Peking University

Pennsylvania College of Technology

Pennsylvania State University

Point Loma Nazarene University

Pomona College

Princeton University

Providence College

Rice University

Rutgers University

SciencesPo

Scripps College

Seoul National University

Sewanee: The University of the South

Southern Methodist University

Group 4

Spelman College

St. John's University

Stanford University

Stetson University

SUNY Binghamton

SUNY Buffalo

SUNY Geneseo

Swarthmore College

Syracuse University

Temple University

Texas A&M University

Trinity College

Tufts University

United States Air Force Academy

United States Military Academy

United States Naval Academy

Universidad Iberoamericana

University College London

University of Alabama

University of Alaska

University of Arkansas

University of British Columbia

University of Calgary

University of California, Berkeley

University of California, Davis

University of California, Irvine

University of California, Los Angeles

University of California, Riverside

Group 5

University of California, San Diego

University of California, Santa Barbara

University of California, Santa Cruz

University of Chicago

University of Colorado Boulder

University of Connecticut

University of Georgia

University of Hawaii, Manoa

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

University of Iowa

University of Kansas

University of Kentucky

University of London, Queen Mary

University of London, Royal Holloway

University of Maryland

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

University of Miami

University of Michigan

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

University of Mississippi

University of Nebraska

University of Nevada, Reno

University of New Mexico

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

University of Notre Dame

University of Oklahoma

University of Oxford

University of Pennsylvania

University of Richmond

University of Southern California

Last Group!

University of St. Andrews

University of Texas at Austin

University of Texas at Dallas

University of Toronto

University of Utah

University of Virginia

University of Washington

University Of Waterloo

University of Windsor

University of Wisconsin, Madison

University of Wyoming

Vanderbilt University

Villanova University

Wake Forest University

Washington and Lee University

Washington University in St. Louis

Wellesley College

Wesleyan University

West Virginia University

Westmont College

Wheaton College

Williams College

Yale College

Yonsei University

How many colleges did you pick??

If you (or your child) decide to become a lawyer, would you consider getting admitted to Harvard Law School a successful outcome?

Guess where each of those colleges sent a student in 2022 (we just gave you a big hint)

<https://hls.harvard.edu/dept/jdadmissions/apply-to-harvard-law-school/undergraduate-colleges/>

Where you go is not who you'll be!

Thanks to Larry Alterman from Michigan State!



**Clear your
mind**

Look within

The student looks within and asks...

- Which academic subjects interest me the most?
- How would I prefer to learn? Lecture halls vs. classroom discussion?
- Location: city, a town close to a city, a rural setting, distance from home?
- What kind of campus culture/environment am I seeking?
What about the student body?
 - Princeton Review provides lists:
 - Students Study The Most
 - Class Discussions encouraged/rare
 - Most Happy Students / Least Happy Students
 - Most Liberal Students / Most Conservative Students
 - Great College Town / College Town Not So Great
 - Everyone Plays Intramural Sports / No One Plays
 - Best College Theater

Students should be seeking a good match based upon a range of factors...fit means everything



Keep in mind...

there is more than one school out there that is a GREAT match...

...students will be happy, challenged & well prepared for their future at a number of different colleges.

Work now = less stress later

- Search the college websites, attend info sessions and visit (virtual or in-person)
- Junior Year: spend 30 minutes to an hour per week researching colleges – a small time commitment that will affect four years of your life.
- Summer: spend an hour or two per week researching colleges – a small time commitment that will affect four years of your life.



Don't put it off

Where do we start?



Students should meet with their college counselor this term...one on one, or as a family.



The senior year is hectic things happen FAST...we need to get started this term!

Schedule your family meeting

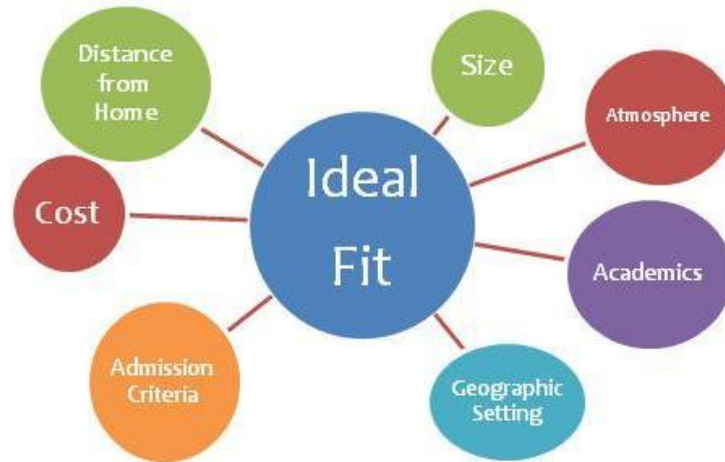
Family meetings are only offered in junior year; there can be no family meetings in the senior year.



Building a healthy college list

- Students should aim for a list of approximately 12 colleges (in addition to CUNYs)
- A mixture of:
 - “Reach” (4-5)
 - “Target/Possible (4-5)
 - “Likely/Safety” (2-3)
 - “Financial Safety” schools must be included as well
- Stuy College Handbook: “Ranking the Selectivity of Colleges” and “What Colleges Look for in Applicants”
- Admissions data in Naviance
- **Trust your Stuy college counselor...**we see what happens with *hundreds* of students each year

- What is most important to the child in their college search?



- Review the student's academic profile
- Use tools in Naviance & CollegeBoard sites to identify potential matches or explore colleges of interest
- Make sure your child completes BOTH the SSR & College Planning Surveys before their college counseling meeting
- **Research the college counselor's suggestions in "colleges I'm thinking about"** after the college counseling meeting

Connecting With Colleges

- **Campuses have been open for in -person visits**
- **Virtual substitutes are still plentiful: tours, info sessions, live chats, class observations, etc**
- **These are a great ways to discover if a college is the right fit**
- **Ask good questions and try to connect with current students/faculty when possible**

<https://nsse.indiana.edu/support-resources/students-parents/pocket-guide/index.html>

College guides can still be useful, too

- *Fiske Guide to the Colleges & Princeton Review*
- Look at each college's "overlaps"
- Don't forget the Stuyvesant College Handbook!
- Be wary of the many flaws in college rankings; read [*The Order of Things*](#) from The New Yorker

What matters in the admissions process?

- **Transcript: Grades earned & rigor of curriculum**
- **ACTs or SATs (even for test-opt colleges)**
- **Special talents, curiosity, leadership, people skills, creativity**
- **Personal statement & college specific supplemental essays**
- **Extracurricular experiences/activities**
- **Counselor and teacher rec letters**
- **Demographic & contextual factors**
- **Interview**
- **And....**

Demonstrated Interest: many colleges are concerned with whether or not an applicant will enroll if admitted

- register on college's website as a prospective student
- connect with colleges (virtually or in-person)
- interview (when possible)
- meet college admissions reps when they visit Stuy this fall

68%

**of colleges consider
DEMONSTRATED
INTEREST
in their admissions
decisions**

Regarding teacher rec letters...

- **Students often need one or two teacher rec letters and their school counselor's letter**
- **Teachers should know the student well, from major subjects, *ideally* 11th grade, *ideally* humanities & STEM**
- **Students must find two teachers (and only two) before the end of the year who agree to write a rec letter for next fall**
- **School counselors automatically write letters based upon COMPLETION of the SSR Survey in Naviance**
- **Read the Stuy Teacher rec Letter Request Guidelines posted in Naviance Document Resources**

Junior Year Student Checklist!

- ❑ complete BOTH the SSR and College Planning Surveys in Naviance
- ❑ plan for summer activity
- ❑ have SSR meeting with school counselor
- ❑ have college counseling meeting with assigned college counselor
- ❑ take the ACT or SAT (free school day SAT in March!)
- ❑ research and connect with colleges
- ❑ ask two teachers for rec letters

SUMMER:

- ❑ create account at www.commonapp.org
- ❑ start working on college essay and supplemental questions
- ❑ check if and how your prospective colleges use an interview
- ❑ do NOT submit any applications
- ❑ relax, get some rest, have some fun!



Feeling Overwhelmed Yet?



**KEEP
CALM
WE'RE
HERE TO
HELP**

How hard is it to get into college??

The average acceptance rate for a four-year college in the U.S. is...

wait for it...

about 72%!

So try to relax...your kids are going to go to college!

How will students apply
to college next fall?

www.commonapp.org



FIND A COLLEGE

Plan for college ▾

Apply to college ▾

Support your students ▾



Sign in

Create an account

Your future starts here

Apply to college for the first time or transfer to complete your degree. Navigate your entire college application journey with Common App.

Start your application

But not quite all use the CA...



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY



DEFINITIONS OF ADMISSION OPTIONS IN HIGHER EDUCATION



National Association for
College Admission Counseling
Guiding the way to higher education

STUDENTS: WHICH COLLEGE ADMISSION PROCESS BEST SUITS YOU?

Non-Restrictive Application Plans

Regular Decision

DEFINITION:

Students submit an application by a specified date and receive a decision in a clearly stated period of time.

COMMITMENT:

NON-BINDING

Rolling Admission

DEFINITION:

Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render admission decisions throughout the admission cycle.

COMMITMENT:

NON-BINDING

Early Action (EA)

DEFINITION:

Students apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular response date.

COMMITMENT:

NON-BINDING

Restrictive Application Plans

Early Decision (ED)

DEFINITION:

Students make a commitment to a first-choice institution where, if admitted they definitely will enroll. The application deadline and decision deadline occur early.

COMMITMENT:

BINDING

Restrictive Early Action (REA)

DEFINITION:

Students apply to an institution of preference and receive a decision early. They may be restricted from applying ED or EA or REA to other institutions. If offered enrollment, they have until May 1 to confirm.

COMMITMENT:

NON-BINDING

Students are not restricted from applying to other institutions and have until May 1 to consider their options and confirm enrollment.

Students are responsible for determining and following restrictions.

Should students apply ED (Early Decision)?

Early Decision MIGHT increase a student's chance of admission...but ED is not for everyone:

- Is the student ready to apply by the end of October?
- The student's academic profile must be ready, too
- Is the college a top choice/best fit for the applicant?
- ED is BINDING; You will not be able to compare financial aid packages...USE NET PRICE CALCULATORS before applying!

Brief advice re: financial aid...

- Don't let college costs deter you yet
- Middle income kids CAN get aid!
- Include CUNY & SUNY
- Use college *net price calculators*
- Apply next fall ([FAFSA](#) & [CSS Profile](#))

Common Mistakes

- not applying for financial aid or following financial aid deadlines
- not following instructions for ACT/SAT score submission
- not communicating with assigned college counselor
- applying to too many colleges
- **not looking out for interviews, videos, and SRARS
- not paying attention to target/safe schools
- not reading our emails!
- treating this process like it's life or death. It just isn't :)



D'OH!

DON'T USE STUY.EDU EMAIL!!!

- WE HAVE HAD PROBLEMS WITH THE STUY.EDU DOMAIN WHERE STUDENTS ARE NOT RECEIVING COLLEGE EMAILS
- WHEN CREATING COMMON APP, OTHER COLLEGE APPS, OR OTHERWISE REGISTERING WITH COLLEGES, **USE AN ALTERNATE EMAIL ADDRESS**
- Common App & Naviance emails do NOT need to be the same

Remember...the student is the most important player in this process!

- **Admissions officers expect applicants to be able to communicate/advocate for themselves**
- **Students must complete their own applications, essays, rec. requests, etc.**
- **Parents should provide support, but the students must take the lead**

REMINDER RE: DISCIPLINARY DISCLOSURE POLICY AT STUYVESANT HS

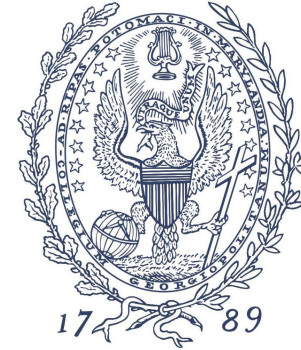
- Disciplinary infractions that result in a **superintendent level suspension** may be reported to **colleges that request this information** in their application (under **administration's discretion**).
- Common App removed question from main portion of app, but individual colleges may ask in the supplement
- If a student received (s) a supes suspension, contact your assigned college counselor for advice

Looking ahead...

May 2 is Stuy's in-person College Fair!



Spring Into College Admission Panel: tbd



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY



DARTMOUTH



Looking a bit further ahead...

- We'll send students resources & links about the college essay right before summer; we also hope to run another summer webinar
- In the fall English teachers assist seniors with essays; countless seniors use our writing center as well
- Senior College Night in **September** will provide **specific details about the application process**
- The financial aid process opens in October; **Stuy's financial aid night will be held in October**

Mandatory Reading!

Well, we can't make it mandatory...but, pretty please, read the following:

- *Stuy's College Handbook & NACAC Guide*. Find them in Naviance (Document Resources)
- *Where You Go Is Not Who You'll Be* -Frank Bruni
- Visit lesshighschoolstress.com and read through it!

***Parents, remind your
child that you love them
and will be proud of them
regardless of where they
go to college***

Q & A

