

TRACEY HYAMS & ASSOCIATES, LLC
YOUR PARTNERS IN COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

34 UPLAND ROAD, NEWTON, MA 02468
WWW.TRACEYHYAMS.COM

traceyhyams@gmail.com
617-699-4704

jessicaakmiquel@gmail.com
617-794-3357

APRIL 17, 2020 NEWSLETTER - UPDATE FOR SENIORS

TASK LIST FOR SENIORS:

1. **Double-check your deposit deadlines** to reserve your place at the college of your choice. Some have been [moved back to June 1](#), but many others have not.
2. **Notify the colleges you do NOT plan to attend.** Often there is a spot in the online portal. If not, a quick note to the admissions office (including your assigned applicant number) is fine. Remember that someone else may be praying for that spot!
3. **Sign up to remain on the waitlist** of any school that has offered you a spot. This is going to be a year of flux, and it is impossible to predict what will happen. Tracey can work with you on a waitlist update letter.
4. **If you are thinking of deferring or taking a gap year,** contact your college of choice ASAP to learn their policies and process for making this request. Some colleges may say no, as the financial pressure from lost tuition revenue plus room and board expenses are straining budgets. Think about what you would do with this time, as colleges may ask.
5. **Mark this wonderful accomplishment** in a way that is meaningful to you. In the absence of proms, graduations, and parties, do something that feels truly celebratory. Be creative!
6. **Take care of yourself.** These are unprecedented events with no roadmap. Be kind to yourself, connect with friends and others you miss seeing, and indulge in whatever luxuries you can find, even if it's just sleeping late, baking, or spending time with your dog.
7. **Thank everyone who helped you reach this point!** Parents, teachers, friends, tutors, mentors... everyone who believed in you. A quick hand-written note means so much.
8. **Stay healthy and safe!** We are all susceptible to this awful virus. Please take appropriate precautions.

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INTERESTING READS ON DECIDING WHICH COLLEGE TO ATTEND:

- [10 Ways to Make Your College Decision Without Visiting Campus](#)
- [The COVID College Choice: How To Pick A College During A Global Pandemic](#)
- [Grappling with the Final College Decision](#)
- [Making a Calm College Decision](#)
- [Life in College Matters for Life After College \(Gallup-Purdue study looks at links among college, work, and well-being\)](#)
- [It All Works Out](#)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO HELP YOU MAKE YOUR DECISION:

- [Steps to Research a College](#)
- [Links to Colleges Offering Virtual College Info Session & Tours](#)
- [Colleges That Have Changed Deposit Deadline to June 1, 2020 or Later](#)

AP TESTING UPDATES:

- ❖ [AP Coronavirus Updates](#): for exam changes and the new schedule.
- ❖ [All the AP exams will be open-book](#), as students will be testing from home, and most of the exams will feature several open-response questions. Language exams will have slightly different requirements, including speaking exercises.
- ❖ *Most exams will last 45 minutes*; students should *log on 30 minutes before* their scheduled exam time to make sure that they are able to access the testing platform.

TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF:

- ❖ [The COVID-19 Survival Guide: 5 Ways to Manage the Stress](#)
- ❖ [Coping in the time of Coronavirus](#), a wonderful piece by the Tulane University Director of Admissions, Jeff Schiffman.

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ACTIVITIES & IDEAS FOR QUARANTINE AND SUMMERTIME

❖ If your summer plans change due to coronavirus restrictions, you can still stay active with interesting activities and make a difference. It's very possible that colleges will ask supplemental essay questions about how you spent time during the crisis; answering "Seven hours daily on TikTok!" is not likely to make you a more competitive candidate! Try these excellent resources:

- [Things to Do From Home During a Pandemic \(Part 1\)](#)
- [Things to Do From Home During a Pandemic \(Part 2\)](#)
- [40 Resume-Worthy Activities Summer 2020](#)
- [Volunteer Ideas Summer 2020](#)

PREPARING FOR COLLEGE:

❖ [10 Ways to Prepare for Your Freshman Year of College](#)

As always, let us know if you have any questions or concerns.
Be sure to [reach out](#) to schedule a time to meet or just chat and say hello!

