



Top 10 Mistakes Parents Make

Parents play a crucial role in the college admissions process, but sometimes, well-intentioned actions can lead to common mistakes. Here are 10 of them to watch out for:

1

Overinvolvement: While being supportive is essential, overly controlling or micromanaging the application process can stifle a student's independence and creativity.

2

Pressure to Apply to Prestigious Schools: Pushing a child to apply exclusively to Ivy League or highly selective schools can create unnecessary stress. Encourage them to explore a range of options.

3

Choosing a Major for Their Child: Selecting a major should be the student's decision, based on their interests and goals. Forcing a particular field can lead to dissatisfaction.

4

Ignoring Financial Planning: Failing to discuss and plan for the financial aspects of college can lead to surprises and debt. It's essential to have open conversations about affordability.

5

Underestimating Safety Schools: Parents may overlook safety schools, assuming their child will get into their top choices. It's crucial to have backup options.

6

Not Seeking Professional Guidance: Parents may rely solely on their own experiences or advice from friends, missing out on valuable insights from college counselors or advisors.

7

Overemphasizing Extracurriculars: While extracurricular activities are important, a laser focus on building an impressive resume can lead to burnout. Balance is key.

8

Writing or Editing Essays Too Heavily: Parents should provide guidance but avoid rewriting their child's application essays entirely. Admissions committees want to hear the student's voice.

9

Comparing Their Child to Others: Constantly comparing their child's achievements or progress to other students can create unhealthy competition and erode self-esteem.

10

Assuming a Prestigious College Guarantees Success: While attending a prestigious school can open doors, success is ultimately determined by the student's efforts and choices.