



Start Here. Go Anywhere.

Volume 3 Issue 3

Transfer Times

Sept/Oct 2010

The Transfer Application Process

You have completed all your course work with a respectable GPA, passed the CPE, and in a few months you will be a BMCC graduate. Your career goals are clarified and you have identified several senior colleges that are the right match for you. None of this matters, however, if you do not complete your transfer applications and submit them on time. This admonition is especially important now for applicants to the CUNY senior colleges. CUNY is strictly enforcing its new application deadlines. For spring 2011, all applications and supporting documents must be postmarked by:

September 15, 2010

Applications received after this date will be considered on a space-available basis.

How to Apply to CUNY

Applications to CUNY senior colleges are submitted online at www.cuny.edu/admissions. You will need to create a portal account to gain access to the online application. List your college choices (4 choices are permitted) in the order of preference, as you will only be admitted to one college. After you submit your application, your *Application Summary Package* will be available for download. This package includes your Application Control Number (i.e.; your unique application identifier), transcript request forms, and forms that must be used when submitting supporting documents by mail. Current CUNY students do not have to pay the \$70.00 application processing fee. If you are prompted to pay

this fee after your application is submitted go to: aonline@mail.cuny.edu or call 212-997-2869 to resolve this issue.

How to Apply to SUNY

To apply to the State University go to: www.suny.edu/student/apply. After your application has been submitted, you will be directed to complete any applicable supplemental applications. Supplemental applications ask you to provide information about your activities and interests. Most supplemental applications also require an answer to an essay question.

The State University waives the \$40 application fee for up to 4 college choices for students graduating from a SUNY or CUNY two-year college and who apply directly to the State University's senior colleges. Transfer students seeking the fee waive must complete the required questions on the "My Transfer Colleges" page.

The SUNY Transfer Guarantee Program assures admission to a SUNY senior college to all New York residents who apply directly from a SUNY or CUNY two-year college with an AA or an AS degree. Be aware that although the program assures admission to a four-year college, it does not assure admission to a specific campus or program.

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Fall 2010: Transfer Fairs



Nontraditional Career Transfer Fair

Thursday, October 7, 2010

12:00pm-5:00pm

Main Lobby Promenade

Senior Colleges Transfer Fair

Wednesday, September 22, 2010

11:00am-3:00pm & 4:00pm-7:00pm

Main Lobby Promenade



Evening/Weekend Open House & Transfer Fair

Saturday, September 25, 2010

11:00am-2:00pm

Main Lobby Promenade

Informational Session Series

Baruch College	September 29	2-4	N404
Binghamton University	October 27	2-4	S757
City College	October 20	2-4	S758
Columbia University	October 13	2-4	N404
CUNY Transfer Application Workshop	November 17	2-4	S753
Hunter College	To Be Announced		
John Jay College	October 13	2-4	S757
NYU Steinhardt/CCTOP	October 6	2-4	N404
Skadden Arps Program/Legal Studies	October 20	2-4	S757
The New School	September 15	2-4	S757
Are You On Track For Transfer?	November 10	2-4	N404

To register, please contact Allana Hankey-Thomas or Karen Ehrlich in S763, or RSVP to:
ahankey@bmcc.cuny.edu or kehrlich@bmcc.cuny.edu

What You Need To Know About the College Application Essay

Although the importance of the application essay will vary from college to college, never underestimate its potential to sway an admissions officer. Students with less than perfect grades have been admitted to selective colleges because they produced a compelling and well written application essay.

If you dread writing, consider that the essay is the one component of the application packet totally under your control. It's too late to do anything about the courses you have taken, your grades, or extracurricular activities. You can, however, produce an exceptional essay.

1. Embrace the essay! This is your opportunity to stand apart from your peers and to give the admissions committee insight into your personality, values, and passions.
2. Start early and be prepared to devote as much time and energy as is necessary to produce a great essay.
3. Remember that there is no right or wrong answer to the essay topic. "*What song would you sing at a Karaoke*" was a recent application essay question for a prominent New York university. Many students agonized over the topic unnecessarily. These students were looking for the "right" answer instead of seeing it as an opportunity to show some creativity and personality.
4. Be yourself. If you are funny, write a funny essay; if you are serious, write a serious essay. This is not the time to start reinventing yourself. The essay allows you to reveal something about yourself that is not readily apparent from

the application. So, reveal something about yourself, not about a person you are pretending to be.

5. Buy a good dictionary and use it. Although English has many words that appear to be synonymous, there are nuances that distinguish one word from another. Frequent use of the dictionary can help you select the word that conveys the exact meaning you are trying to communicate. The dictionary will also help you avoid common usage errors (e.g., affect vs. effect).
6. Don't overuse the thesaurus. Simple and direct prose is usually the best choice.
7. Edit, edit, and edit. Ernest Hemingway wrote the last page of "*A Farewell to Arms*" thirty-nine times. When asked why it took so many revisions, he answered, "Getting the words right." If Hemingway needed to revise and edit, so do you. It takes time to find the words that convey the right tone and nuance. Respect the process.
8. Mechanics matter. There is no excuse for grammatical problems, punctuation errors, and spelling mistakes. Have at least one person with strong editorial skills review your work.



For additional information, visit the student web site: www.suny.edu/student/index.cfm. This site offers a campus directory, academic program search and campus contact information. You can also access the online application and check the status of your application.

How to Apply to Private Colleges

Preparing your application packet for private colleges and universities is considerably more complex than the application process for CUNY and SUNY colleges. There is no standard transfer process that applies to all institutions. Visit the web sites and find the admission requirements for transfer applicants. Follow the instructions explicitly and submit the application and all supporting documents by the deadline. The components of a typical transfer application packet are listed below:

- The application (This can usually be completed online);
- Official high school transcripts;
- Official transcripts from all colleges you have attended;
- Official score reports for the SAT or the ACT;
- Personal statement/essay;
- Academic resume;
- Letters of recommendation in individually sealed envelopes;
- Mid-term grades from your final semester course work.

Some institutions require a personal interview. Specialized programs may require an audition or a portfolio. Be sure to make copies of all documents before you submit them. Transfer credit evaluations are generally completed after you are admitted.

Remember: YOU and only you are responsible for meeting deadlines, for the completeness and accuracy of the information on your application, for the submission of all required paperwork and fees. No one can do this for you.

Math Proficiency & Transfer

All students who wish to transfer from a CUNY associate degree program to a CUNY senior college must satisfy proficiency requirements in reading, writing, and mathematics to be admitted. The skills requirement for mathematics is a bit tricky and can affect your admission to a senior college. Here's why:

The proficiency requirement in mathematics differs from college to college. This means that while you may be deemed math proficient at the community college level, your Compass math scores may not be high enough for admission to the senior college you wish to attend. However, if you pass a three credit college level math course with a grade of 'C' or better, you are considered math proficient at all the CUNY senior colleges.

Let's put these facts into perspective for transfer planning: you want a grade for a credit-bearing math course on your transcript before you submit your transfer application. In other words, avoiding math can hurt your transfer options. Do not avoid any required math remedial courses and **take your credit math course prior to your final semester at BMCC.**

