



"creating academic and athletic success"

W. J. Bruce Fleming, EdD
Founder/Consultant
1605 Cambridge Lakes Drive
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464
T: 843.303.5592
E: bruce@playcollegiategolf.com
W: playcollegiategolf.com

The College Admissions Process

Creating the Best "Plan of Attack" throughout high school in preparation for the 'best fit' college experience.

Many of the families I have worked with over the past three years often want support on the college admissions process. It can be a challenging process as your junior golfer is trying to determine the 'best fit' academic and athletic environment. There are over 2100 US and Canadian schools that offer collegiate golf programs so narrowing down that pool can be very daunting. And, in reality, the high school years will provide that direction through academic choices (what may be interesting to study) and academic success (higher grades and SAT/ACT scores open more doors, obviously). Success on the golf course - competing at the national level or winning at the regional level - will also determine a post-secondary path for your junior golfer. Combine these environments to determine the 'best fit.'

Junior golfer should review the high school year by year in an effort to work towards this goal of reaching the 'best fit' academic and athletic environment. Below is a year-by-year "To Do List" of how to approach the grade 9 (Freshman), 10 (Sophomore), 11 (Junior), and 12 (Senior) years. Work through it with your junior golfer to help him or her reach the academic potential that will direct the post-secondary search for a collegiate golf experience.

Academic High School "To Do" List to prepare appropriately for the college environment...

Freshman Year Calendar

- Build strong academic, language, mathematics, and critical thinking skills by taking challenging courses.
- Meet with your high school guidance counselor and discuss your plans for the next four years.
- Browse through college literature or surf the internet to get an idea of what kinds of schools may be of interest to you.
- Know NCAA/NAIA/NJCAA requirements if you want to play collegiate golf.

Sophomore Year Calendar

- Consult your guidance counselor about taking the PSAT/PLAN in October. The PSAT is a preliminary test that will prepare you for the SAT Reasoning Test. The PLAN is a preliminary test that will prepare you for the ACT.
- Take approved courses if you want to play collegiate golf.
- Save your best work in academic courses for your personal portfolio.
- Volunteer - a great way to identify your interests and to develop skills.
- Visit your guidance counselor to browse through literature and guidebooks. Research colleges on the internet, reviewing the "Prospective Students" or "Future Students" links.

Junior Year Calendar

- Begin college selection process by attending academic fairs.
- Save samples of your best work for your academic portfolio and maintain your co-curricular record (this is your volunteering and/or community service record).
- Junior grades are extremely important in the college admissions process because they are a measure of how well you do in advanced, upper-level courses. Grades are also used to determine academic scholarships so keep them up!
- Begin to make a preliminary list of colleges you would like to investigate further. Meet with your guidance counselor to discuss your initial list in terms of how it fits your needs and interests (academic program, size, location, cost, etc.).
- Request college information from their websites.
- Visit colleges of interest, take tours, and talk with an admissions counselor to determine if the school is a good fit.

Senior Year Calendar

- Begin preparing the actual application process: draft essays; collect writing samples; assemble portfolios.
- Meet with your guidance counselor to review your application and make sure it is complete. Review your high school transcript for accuracy.
- Keep working in your classes! Grades and courses continue to count throughout the senior year.
- By May 1, decide on the one college you will attend and remit your tuition deposit. Notify the other colleges that accepted you that you have selected another college.
- BE PROUD - you have completed a difficult task.
- Ease the transition into college. Accept the fact that you will be in charge of your academic and personal life. What you do, when you do it, and how things get done will be up to you. You will have new responsibilities and challenges. Think about budgeting your time and establishing priorities. Take charge of the changes that lie ahead and eliminate or minimize pressures. Go forth with confidence and enthusiasm, willingness to adapt and determination to succeed academically and personally.

Readying for the college experience is a concerted, four year effort throughout the high school years. Take the time to build your academic portfolio and work hard on the golf course to reach your goals. Good luck!

Dr. Fleming

Dr. Bruce Fleming is the founder of Play Collegiate Golf, created to mentor young women and men interested in continuing their competitive golf careers at institutions that support their academic, athletic, and personal goals.

For more information please visit playcollegiategolf.com

Attend a Career Fair in Your First Year at College

College Survival Tip



When you get on campus, go directly to the Career Center and see what options are available for first year students. Internships, résumé workshops, and career fairs are all valuable experiences and these learning opportunities should be taken advantage of early on in the scholastic career. Many first year students don't attend a Career Fair and most don't see the value in it, unfortunately. I always built this into my First Year Experience classes as an integral component to success for *all* four years. My thinking was that getting first year students to experience the Career Fair without the added pressure of actually getting a job would be beneficial to when it actually counted! Also, many companies attending these fairs have internships and summer job opportunities. Find out when your school Career Fair is (Tip: They usually will have one each semester!) and go to it without the pressure to perform! College is all about experiential learning and this is just one more chance!