

Pine View College Night:  
Finding Your Fit and the  
College Admissions  
Landscape 2023

April 2023

# The College Admissions Landscape and Pine View School

- An Introduction to the Admissions Landscape
- Recent Changes in Admissions - What's Different? What Do We Control?
- Pine View Student Outcomes and Recent Data for In-state Public Universities - What's True and What's Not!
- Ivy League and Highly Selective Admissions - Data-based Reality
- Data, Observations and Conclusions - What to Expect
- Counterproductive Behaviors and Their Consequences
  
- Where Are We and What Can We Do? Positive Lessons and Advice Moving Forward

# The College Admissions Landscape 2023

## What has remained constant?

- The accomplishments of our students
- Highly selective admissions remains...highly selective
- The number of 'seats' at colleges remains static

## What has changed?

- An exponential growth in applications over the past five years. Due to:
  - Increased virtual outreach and access by colleges and applicants
  - A doubling of CommonApplication colleges since 2015-2016 (500-->1000)
  - Use of Test-optional policies at most universities (not SUS of Florida)
  - Explosive growth in both international and domestic applications

# The College Admissions Landscape 2023

## What Applicants Control

- Our accomplishments and experiences
- The overall quality of our applications - What and *how* we share
- The type and number of colleges to which we apply
- *How we feel about the process and our outcomes*

- What Applicants Do Not Control

- Admissions Decisions - The 'two-sided equation'
  - Enrollment Management
  - Based on the *Institutional Priorities* of each college
  - What does this mean?

# University of Florida 2023

Total Applicants: <67,000\*

Campus Admits: 15,600

PaCE Admits: 2,800 - [Pathway to Campus Enrollment](#)

Gator Engineering: 1,100 - [Gator Engineering @ SCF/SF?](#)

UF Profile Middle 50%

GPA: 4.4 – 4.6 (weighted recalculation)

SAT: 1340 – 1490

ACT: 30 – 34

\*By comparison [40,849](#) Students applied in 2020 (36% acceptance)

# University of Florida - Pine View Data 2023

## Pine View Outcomes

134 Total Applications

81 Admitted/53 Denied - 60.4% admit rate (25 thus far)

*Of the 81 PV student admitted there were:*

*17 PaCE and 15 Gator Engineering Offers - 39.5%*

## Conclusions

- Significant *underplacement* - PaCE and GE offers
- Several *stunning* denials or PaCE/GE offers (4.0s, NM Finalists, community and class leaders)
- ***UF Enrollment Management*** used to bolster metrics and credibility of these programs, as well as quality
- Predicted decline in PV enrollment at UF (4Pace/1GE)

## Three year UF Data

**2022 Admissions** (159 Apps)

93 Admitted (38 enrolled) - 58%

19 PaCE/6 GE - 27%

66 Denied

**2021 Admissions** (121 Apps)

64 Admitted (28 enrolled) - 53%

9 PaCE/3 GE - 19%

57 Denied (8 Late/Inc)

**2020 Admissions** (114 Apps)

76 Admitted (35 enrolled) - 66%

21 PaCE/2 GE - 30%

38 Denied

# Florida State University Data 2023

Total Applicants: 71,788  
Admitted: Appx 17,066 (All offers -23%)  
Pathways: Appx 4,500

## Pine View Outcomes

- 118 Total Applications
- 102 Admitted/17 Denied - 86.4% admit rate
- 7 Pathways Offers (7% of offers)
  
- 41 enrolled so far! Five NMF Benacquisto Scholars

## Three-year FSU Data

**2022 Admissions** (122 Apps)  
98 Admitted (29 Enrolled) - 80%  
24 Denied/Unknown

**2021 Admissions** (105 Apps)  
90 Admitted (33 Enrolled) - 86%  
15 Denied/Unknown

**2020 Admissions** (111 Apps)  
95 Admitted (27 Enrolled) - 85%  
16 Denied/Unknown

# USF and UCF – Pine View Data 2023

## University of South Florida

|             |                 |                        |                  |
|-------------|-----------------|------------------------|------------------|
| <i>2023</i> | <i>110 Apps</i> | <i>109 Admit (26*)</i> | <i>1 Unknown</i> |
| 2022        | 112 Apps        | 106 Admit (29)         | 6 Deny/Unk       |
| 2021        | 38 Apps         | 34 Admit (10)          | 4 Deny/Unk       |
| 2020        | 43 Apps         | 37 Admit (8)           | 6 Deny/Unk       |

## University of Central Florida

|             |                |                      |                    |
|-------------|----------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| <i>2023</i> | <i>59 Apps</i> | <i>54 Admit (6*)</i> | <i>4 Deny/1 WL</i> |
| 2022        | 67 Apps        | 64 Admit (16)        | 3 Deny/Unk         |
| 2021        | 38 Apps        | 34 Admit (10)        | 4 Deny/Unk         |
| 2020        | 43 Apps        | 37 Admit (8)         | 6 Deny/Unk         |



# Outcomes & Data for Ivy League and Most Selective Colleges

## Keys to Remember

- PV Student accomplishments are exceptional but not unusual in these *most* competitive applicant pools (most students have similar accomps)
- The limited number of seats at selective colleges
- The exponential growth in applications over the past five years
- What we control (our experiences and the application)
  
- The Admissions side
  - The Institutional Priorities of each college
  - Enrollment management

# Ivy League Data Observations and Conclusions

- Overall applications to Ivy League colleges/universities have increased 50-60% over the past five years. Year on year + (as have PV apps)
- A more qualified and diverse applicant pool that is FAR more competitive. Colleges are able to meet institutional priorities (EM/IP)
- Pine View acceptances have typically been in the range of 0-3 students/college regardless of applicant pool size (10-year data)
- Too many applications (159) Over 20 at each despite 40 fewer kids in the Senior Class. Too unfocused and unable to make the case for fit.
- A 4.0 and 1600 is not an invitation to apply – Must have a Standout Factor or hook. Work smart.

# Most Selective Data Observations and Conclusions

- Overall applications to most Most Selective universities have increased exponentially over the past five years as well- Northwestern/Duke/Vanderbilt/Johns Hopkins/Georgetown/Tufts...
- The number of Pine View applicants to Highly Selective schools is nearly as high as Ivies. Acceptances to HS are not considerably better than Ivies for PV students (0-3)
- Seen as prestigious, these are often used as targets(!). Little consideration for fit. Students don't yield even when accepted.
- Only 28 of the 61 PV students accepted the past three years to these six colleges matriculated. Not great
- Overlap with Ivies is greatest among these colleges
- Early Decision applications have a much stronger effect at these

## Highly Selective Privates and Public Universities - Data Observations and Conclusions

- Applicant pools have exploded (Northeastern/Georgia Tech/University of Virginia/Emory/Boston University/University of Michigan)
- For most these are used as 'back ups' though data do not support these as 'safe' or likely choices (fewer and fewer acceptances)
- Students hope to 'chase dollars' at these. In most cases these opportunities do not materialize. Opportunities are limited.
- Even when accepted students don't matriculate and instead attend a Florida public university
- Harm to future yields - Enrollment management. Without yield these universities have and will continue to cut off PV admits (or waitlist and see what happens)

# A Partial List of College Acceptances "Left on the Table" for FL Public Universities 2021-23

American  
Brandeis

Boston College

Boston University

*Cornell*

Davidson

Emory

*Georgetown*

*Georgia Inst Tech*

*Middlebury*

New York University

Northeastern

Tulane

*University of Cal (6)*

*University of Colorado*

University of Miami

*University of Michigan*

*UNC - Chapel Hill*

University of SoCal

*U-T Austin*

*University of Virginia*

Wake Forest

Washington & Lee

William & Mary

*Williams*

and Tufts?

*UToronto?* Others?

# General Observations

Each year 60%.+/- of Pine View students remain in-state. Why?

- In-State tuition, Bright Futures and Florida Prepaid opportunities
- Full use of AP and DE Credits
- Long-term trajectory (graduate school)

That said, approximately 85-90% of PV Seniors apply to one or more private universities each year. Why?

- Aspirations and expectations
- Valuing of Universities based on perceived reputation/rankings
- The Lemming Effect

# Other Harmful Behaviors in the Application Process

- Misleading or untrue claims in application
- Failure to cancel RD applications after Early Decision offer (subsequently offered admission at other colleges)
- Applying ED and not matriculating
- Applying and being accepted to a need-based only colleges, then choosing to attend in-state (previous slide)
- Overapplication (NACAC). Several this year in excess of 25! The potential costs of 'application fatigue'
- Self-sabotage within the application or self-report of being 'forced' to apply to colleges

# Consequences of These Behaviors

## **Individual**

- Diffused effort and 'application fatigue'
- Unnecessary workload and anxiety (opportunity cost)
- Poorer outcomes & sadness

## **Institutional**

- Pine View reputation as a low yield institution
- Fewer RD offers of admission over time



# What does this all Mean? What to do?

## Work Smart...

- Create a diverse, balanced, and manageable college list based on your interests and priorities (Finding Your Fit presentation!)
- Properly value colleges and determine your family's willingness to pay
- Be sure to use *Net Price Calculators* to estimate the total cost of attendance *before* committing to your list
- Be curious, creative and willing to value other options
- Assess your short and long-term goals when creating your list (graduate or medical school?)

## What does this all Mean? What to do? Continued!

- Assess the role of demonstrated interest at your colleges and consider the appropriateness of an Early Decision application
- In your application be sure to make a compelling case for how and why you are a match for each institution (Stand Out Factor and angularity)
- Behave in an ethical and responsible manner, taking into consideration the effects of your actions
- Dream, but approach the process realistically, understanding the highly selective admissions environment and the central role of institutional priorities and enrollment management
- Parents: Please allow this to be a student-centered process. It is your job to listen and support your child, and when necessary to communicate clearly what is and is not possible

## A Final Reminder of What NOT To Do

- Overvalue/undervalue name or perceived status of a college (or rely upon USNWR-like 'rankings')
- Apply if you are unable or unwilling to pay (Use *Net Price Calculators*)
- Overapply to too many colleges and diffuse your effort (App fatigue)
  
- Take any decision personally or allow a decision to affect how you feel about yourself, nor judge the outcomes of others

Thank You For Coming!

**Questions?**

Finding Your Fit

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