

College planning terms

Following are some key terms used in college admissions.

Credit hour – A unit of academic credit that often represents one hour of class time per week for a period of study (semester, quarter, etc.)

Open admissions – The policy of some colleges of admitting virtually all high school graduates, regardless of their high school grades and admission test scores.

Selective admissions – The policy of admitting only well-qualified applicants, based on high school grades, admission test scores, and additional personal information often provided through essays, resumes, interviews, and letters of recommendation.

Transcript – The official record of high school or college courses and grades, generally required as part of the college application.

Wait list – A list of students who have not yet been admitted to a college, but who may be admitted. By placing a student on a wait list, a college does not offer or deny admission, it extends the possibility in the future, before the admission cycle is completed.