



Parents of Seniors,

I hope this email finds you and your family doing well and staying healthy. I am so sad to not have the pleasure of seeing your student daily but want to remind you and your student that I am merely an email or a text away.

I will be honest; I have been very hesitant to hit send on this email because so much is still up in the air. I seem to receive an update from at least one university every hour. I am aware that a lot is in flux, but please be aware that I am doing by best to stay informed about the issues that are going to impact you and your student.

If you or a member of your household have been negatively impacted financially by this pandemic, please be aware that universities have processes in place to analyze your revised financial need based on hardship and this would certainly qualify. For example, if there has been a reduction in pay, furlough, or lay off. However, prior to that conversation, you must complete the 2020-2021 FAFSA and the university must receive that information electronically (it can take 2-10 days for transmission). The 2020-2021 FAFSA will be based on previous taxes, but that is the baseline information they will need. I worked in financial aid at two different universities for many years and am happy to provide insight if you may need it, but every university has the professional judgment to approach these circumstances in their own way. I have had these tough conversations many times so I am certainly equipped but can only get you to a point where you will need to continue the conversation with the financial aid office at the university your student plans to attend in August.

Some universities have moved their May 1st decision deadline to June 1st while others are sticking with the May 1st deadline. If you or your student would like to discuss where you are in the decision process, please let me know. There are universities that will now accept the June and even July ACT scores for scholarship consideration because the April test date was cancelled. If that impacts your student and you would like to discuss options, I am more than happy to do so.

Many seniors have registered to take AP exams in May and those details are not finalized yet. I have been in conversation with our AP teachers about the additional online resources available to AP students whether or not they are registered for the AP exam. I have encouraged every teacher to utilize those where appropriate. If you would like that link to potentially assist you while you support your student academically, here it is: <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/coronavirus-updates>. Please be aware that if your student is registered to take an AP exam, that is still going to happen electronically. My understanding is that it will be a significantly shorter exam (45-60 minutes) that can be taken on a laptop or even cell phone. I will continue to discuss these details with AP teachers and once College Board finalizes the exam process, I will communicate with all students/parents who are registered for an AP exam.

Please let me know if I can be of assistance to you and your senior during these unique circumstances.

Warm regards,

Megan Zorch
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