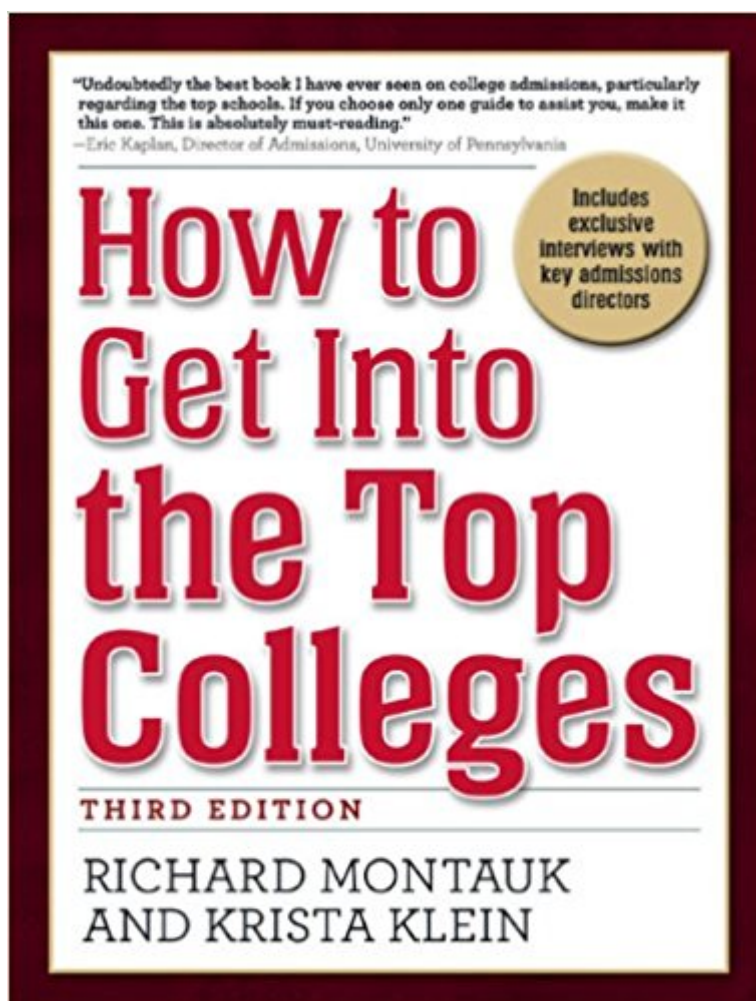


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How To Get Into The Top Colleges, 3rd Ed



Synopsis

The ultimate guide for getting into the country's most elite colleges- with insider tips straight from admissions directors. Now fully revised, *How to Get into the Top Colleges* is the definitive resource for students determined to stand out in the crowd of applicants and join the ranks at the country's most prestigious schools. This book is an in-depth and targeted resource, which shows students just what it takes to make the grade at the nation's leading private and public colleges by taking them step by step through the entire application process. Includes exclusive, invaluable, and revealing interviews with the country's leading admissions directors.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"I recommend this book very highly...must-reading for those who want to understand fully their options and increase their chances of admissions." -James S. Miller, Dean of Admissions, Brown University

Richard Montauk is the founder and president of Degree of Difference, which helps thousands of applicants get into the world's top colleges. In addition to having been a corporate lawyer and corporate strategy consultant, he is author of several bestselling admissions guides. Krista Klein, currently on the staff of Degree of Difference, is co-director of counseling for Lick-Wilmerding High School and was formerly director of College Counseling at Stuart Hall High School, both in San

Francisco. She received a B.A. from Dartmouth College and an M.A. in East Asian Studies from Harvard University. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Every college counselor should study this massive 600 page guide to college admissions. It is more detailed than most parents or students want or need. Montauk can take 50 pages to say "revise and proof your essay". The book is focused on 200 highly selective colleges that want only students whose grades and test scores put them in the top 10% of high school graduates. The advice is most useful for 8th and 9th grade students who need to select a high school program that will yield six, eight or ten AP classes, including calculus, chemistry, physics, and biology, and four years of a foreign language. For some 8th graders, such a program will require finding a different high school. Montauk gives more attention to Early Decision Admissions than other "experts". He correctly points out that binding Early Decision or non-binding single choice Early Action can double or triple the odds of being admitted to some colleges while providing zero benefit at some other colleges. So, Montauk's book can not replace the need to research each college carefully. This year, applying Early Decision doubled the odds of admission to Cornell, tripled the odds of acceptance at Duke and had ZERO advantage for applicants to Stanford. Parents and students would benefit more from Loren Pope's books "Beyond The Ivy League" and "Colleges That Change Lives". Pope shows that success in college is based on finding a good fit for a student's goals, interests and abilities. There are hundreds of good colleges that can provide a great education and open the door for successful careers. Montauk focuses on how to be admitted to an elite college. He fails to recognize the reality that 90% of high school graduates will attend non-elite colleges and that it is a more productive process to find the RIGHT college than fight for a spot in the most elite college.

not seems like a new one ...it didn't meet my expectation at all, but it is an interesting book.

I gave five stars because this book taught me with excellence each and every step from college selection to common application, from short answers to essay, and from recommendations to interview. Actually, I used this book to support my daughter on her journey through boarding school admissions. It has a chapter on strategically positioning your application, including special cases such as international students, which was specially important for her "fit and stand out" positioning.

I recommend reading this book prior to your son or daughter entering ninth grade and once again in the middle of your child's high school career. This way you'll be able to tell your child upfront what

he or she needs to do to gain admission to schools with a variety of selectivities. Although I can understand that this book is required reading for anyone aiming for a top college, it is also helpful reading for anyone aiming for any college. I read a lot about college admissions and I thought the author was right on probably 99% of the time. The author has spent years consulting with students on admission to top schools, so where we differed could be because I'm wrong. Toward the very end there are some more specific sections that can be skipped if desired by the typical applicant. One trick mentioned was to apply to British law school because those programs are done at the undergraduate level and the degree is accepted in the U.S. with very little additional coursework. The typical graduate would then take the bar exam at 22. The cost savings is probably upwards of \$300,000. Since I can't afford to pay for seven years of U.S. college, I found this tip especially useful. Each reader will likely find enough good tips in the book to make purchasing and reading this book worthwhile. This book was easy to get through and it wasn't boring.

What makes this guide really great is that it is comprehensive; it contains pretty much ALL the information a student applying to college would need. It walks you through the whole college admission process, going through steps such as choosing what colleges to apply to, filling out the application, visiting colleges, taking interviews, and finding financial aid. It also helps that every section is followed by advice from actual deans of admissions of various colleges. Another great feature is the collection of actual college essays written by students who got into their "top colleges"; each essay includes the name of the student who wrote it as well as the college that they chose to attend. I would actually suggest to get this book a bit early; either the summer after junior year or even earlier. There's actually a section in the book about what extracurricular activities to take for each year in high school. Overall, this is an excellent book; complete and well-written. It contains all or almost all information a college-bound student would need.

As both an educator and parent, I have read most of the college guides on the market written primarily for parents going through the college application and selection process for the first time. This comprehensive publication clearly explains all parts of the college application and how they are weighted by those who will ultimately determine one's admittance or rejection. The authors' explanation of the early decision and early action options are the best I have read anywhere. There are many helpful suggestions for evaluating the college rating guides, visiting campuses and writing effective essays. Selecting the right college from the 5000+ choices across the nation can be a daunting task. Today, tuitions in private colleges can run between 140,000 and 170,000 dollars for a

four year degree. Parents must become more informed and involved in this very important and expensive decision. To this end, How to Get Into the Top Colleges, is one of the best resources available to both parents and students alike. Good-luck!

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