

got college?

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Waiting on the Wait-list

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- 1 One of the most challenging aspects of the college admissions process takes place this time of year—the dreaded “wait-list”. Not a definitive “no”, college wait-lists can confuse students and parents, leading to unnecessary stress. Here are some helpful hints if you have a student offered a place on a wait-list:
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 - 1) Consider whether your student actually wants to remain on a wait-list. Just because a wait-list spot is offered, that does not mean a student must or should accept that offer. Wait until all application responses have been received, and then consider the offer in light of all other options.
 - 2) Some campuses require students to “opt-in” after being offered a wait-list spot. Others do not. Be sure to follow instructions regarding this.
 - 3) Don’t assume that past wait-list patterns will hold for this year’s class of freshman. Each year policies change. One year a campus will offer a wait-list, the next year they may not. Last year a campus may have accepted only 1 or 2 students from the list, and then this year accepts 150 students. Relying on past data could lead to additional disappointment later on.
 - 4) If your student is on a wait-list, commit to attending another college next year and make plans accordingly. Help your student choose the college that fits them best. Have your student sign the Statement of Intent to Register, sign-up for housing, buy the sweatshirt, and share the final decision with friends and family. This will help you and your student find closure in the college admissions process and start looking forward to next year’s adventure.
 - 5) Remember, community college is an option that is always on the table. If your student was not admitted to a “strong match” college, proceed to research community colleges.
 - 6) Think about whether your student wants to share the wait-list information with others. Would the student prefer this be a private decision if he/she is admitted? Would the student prefer others not asking him/her about the waitlist for the next several months? It could be less stress for the student if the information isn’t shared.
 - 6) If your student is admitted off a wait-list, take time to reconsider. Don’t automatically switch gears and assume he/she now wants to attend that college. Sometimes students change their minds as college gets closer, and are perfectly happy with the decision already made.
 - 7) If a campus where your student is wait-listed offers acceptance and your student accepts, then make sure to decline the first campus. This is perfectly acceptable within the wait-list scenario.

Check out our website!

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Celeste Radanovich

Marna Taylor



“Like “ us on Facebook and follow our timely tips and relevant information.

Change in Classroom Course Starting in 2018

Next year the format of our popular Classroom Course will be changing slightly. Marna is heading into retirement at the end of 2017. Celeste will continue to offer the program through 3-4 Small Group Courses with 4 –5 juniors in each. Priority will be given to students who have already had a

Consultation.

Want more info? Contact Us.

Engineering and Liberal Arts: Yes, You Can Do Both

Do you have a student who thinks engineering is a possible path for college, but also is strong in English, History, Languages? A student who looks at a traditional math and science heavy engineering track and feels constrained? Then a 3-2 program at a Liberal Arts and Science College might be the answer.

What is a 3-2 Engineering Program? In these programs, a student attends a liberal arts and science college for 3 years and earns a bachelors degree, most likely in a related subject such as Physics or Chemistry. Then the student transfers to an Engineering Program on a different campus for 2 more years. After 2 years, the student receives a second bachelors degree, now in Engineering.

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Why would a student choose this path? There are several benefits of this type of program:

- 1) As freshman, liberal arts students are in small classrooms taking engineering pre-requisites. So instead of possibly being in an introductory Calculus course with several hundred students at a large university, the student is in a small setting with more attention from faculty.
- 2) Students take a wide variety of classes beyond math and science. They are able to explore history, political science, psychology, art, or other subjects of interest. In a traditional Engineering program, the requirements of the major do not allow students this flexibility.
- 3) Employers are thrilled with candidates from 3-2 programs. These students have stronger writing, presentation, public speaking, and communication skills. In a dynamic era where people work with a multitude of other professionals on a daily basis, often from different parts of the world, these skills are extremely desirable.

Other Considerations

Program requirements differ from campus to campus, but some common requirements might include:

- 1) Maintaining a certain GPA prior to transferring.
- 2) Financial aid from the first campus not transferring to the second campus
- 3) Some engineering programs require the student to com-

plete the program in 2 years. Check to see what this means in terms of course load requirements.

Finally, make sure your student looks into the overall “match” with the second campus. A strong engineering program is important, but so are the social, geographic, academic and financial programs being offered.



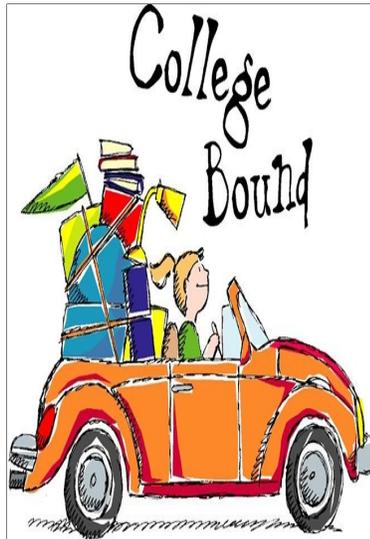
Who offers 3-2 Engineering Programs? There are many liberal arts and sciences colleges around the country that offer programs in conjunction with strong Engineering schools. Here on the West Coast we have St Mary’s College (CA), Whittier College (CA), Occidental College (CA), Reed College (OR) and Colorado College (CO). Outside the West Coast consider Mt Holyoke, Colby College, Beloit, Carleton, Eckerd and many more. Most of these colleges have relationships with 1 or 2 premier Engineering schools. While each campus has a different partnership, some of the more common partners are the University of Southern California, Washington University in St. Louis, California Institute of Technology, Columbia University and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Use our [Resources](#) page to continue researching these options.

Hidden Gems of the West Coast

It's easy to get caught up in researching and visiting those college campuses that everyone talks about—the UC campuses, the larger CSU campuses, Santa Clara University, Loyola Marymount University, University of WA, Arizona State, and more. But students should take time to look into some lesser known campuses that just might be great matches. Take a look at these gems:

Western Washington University. Located in beautiful Bellingham, WA, this mid-size college has a lot to offer, both inside and outside the classroom. Freshman can enroll in first year interest groups (FIGS) that give them priority registration for the most popular classes and a guaranteed basic schedule, thus reducing the stress of scheduling that first year. First year experience courses are also an option. These small group experiences allow students more interaction with faculty, more rigorous curriculum, and the chance to work with fellow freshman in a more structured environment. Because WWU is situated on the Pacific coast, they have a strength in marine sciences. Of particular interest for marine biology, environmental science and biology majors is the “Marine Science Distinguished Scholars Program.” This year long program is organized by faculty at WWU’s marine research center, Shannon Point Marine Center. Students learn about careers, live and take classes for 2 weeks at the Marine Center, and have opportunities for specialized internships. WWU also is known for

strong music programs, with many different types of large and small vocal and instrumental groups available on campuses. And an added bonus: WWU is a member of the [Western Undergraduate Exchange Program](#), which means California students can receive dramatically reduced tuition. WUE is competitive (average 3.9 GPA).



University of Redlands. A small private liberal arts campus in southern Cal, Redlands is an excellent option for students looking for more personal attention, small classes, and hands-on learning. Redlands faculty are dedicated to linking liberal arts and pre-professional training, resulting in students partaking in projects that not only show them how to think broadly, but how to put their ideas into action through project-based learning on campus and in the community. In the unique Johnson Center for Integrative Stud-

majors, work with professors to create contracts for courses, and receive narrative evaluations instead of grades. In addition, Redlands has a strong music program, excellent science courses for students preparing for health science related professions, as well as the very uncommon major “Communication Sciences and Disorders”. Combine these factors with their generous financial aid packages, and Redlands becomes a campus that A and B students should seriously consider.

University of Puget Sound

UPS is a stunning campus on the outskirts of downtown Tacoma, known for its natural beauty, vibrant music and arts, and liberal minded community. One of the top colleges for sending student volunteers to the Peace Corps, the campus offers many organizations for students dedicated to improving the environment and making social change. Their renowned School of Music is one of only a few liberal arts colleges that offers a conservatory-style School of Music. The innovative School of Business and Leadership is designed for students wanting to use their business degrees to make change. The program incorporates business fundamentals (accounting, law, finance, management, ethics, marketing) while combining with other liberal arts/sciences areas to produce graduates prepared to lead in the global environment. Students looking for outdoor activities will love the orientation program called “Passages” that includes hiking, kayaking, camping, backpacking and more around the base camp at Hood Canal.



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applying and choosing*

Q

Do college admissions officers consider student's social media posts as "fair game" during the application evaluation process?

A

Yes, some campuses do. A recent study by Kaplan Test Prep revealed some interesting information about how Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, Snapchat and other social media accounts are used to evaluate college applicants. Only 35% of the admissions officers say they check social media accounts, so the majority do not. We can assume that large public colleges, like UC and CSU campuses, do not have the resources for this type of individual research. However, private colleges are more likely to do so. Many admission staff indicated that they turn to social media to get a better sense of a student, and to look beyond what is on the application. Social media posts can provide a more nuanced picture of a student because it is unstructured and "less scripted". This can give staff a better idea of whether the student fits into the community they are forming with the incoming class. So while students should not necessarily be "curating" their social media accounts for the college admissions process, they should be aware that they can be accessed and should keep that in mind when posting. Alan Katzman, founder of "Social Assurity" which provides social media education to students, encourages students (age 16+) to create LinkedIn profiles to help admission officers get a better sense of who they are and what skills, interests and passions they could bring to campus. These profiles can be included on applications to provide more in-depth information.

Our Philosophy and Services

We believe that all students can find colleges where they can be successful academically and socially, and where they can grow and mature in aspirations, experiences and confidence.

Our goal is to help students develop lists of colleges to apply to that best-fit their unique interests and needs. And while the admissions process has become more complex and selective over time, we guide students and parents through steps to identify options and reduce stress, while enabling students to build their confidence and life-long decision-making skills.

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Consultation

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