

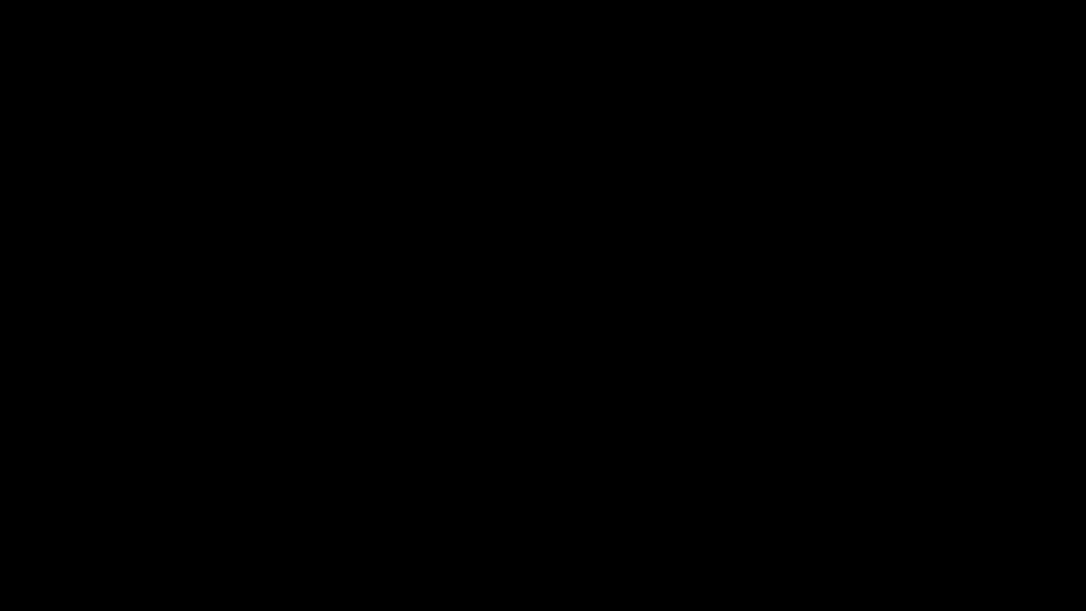
2020 Honors College Admissions Reader Training

<https://utah.hylandcloud.com>

Changes:

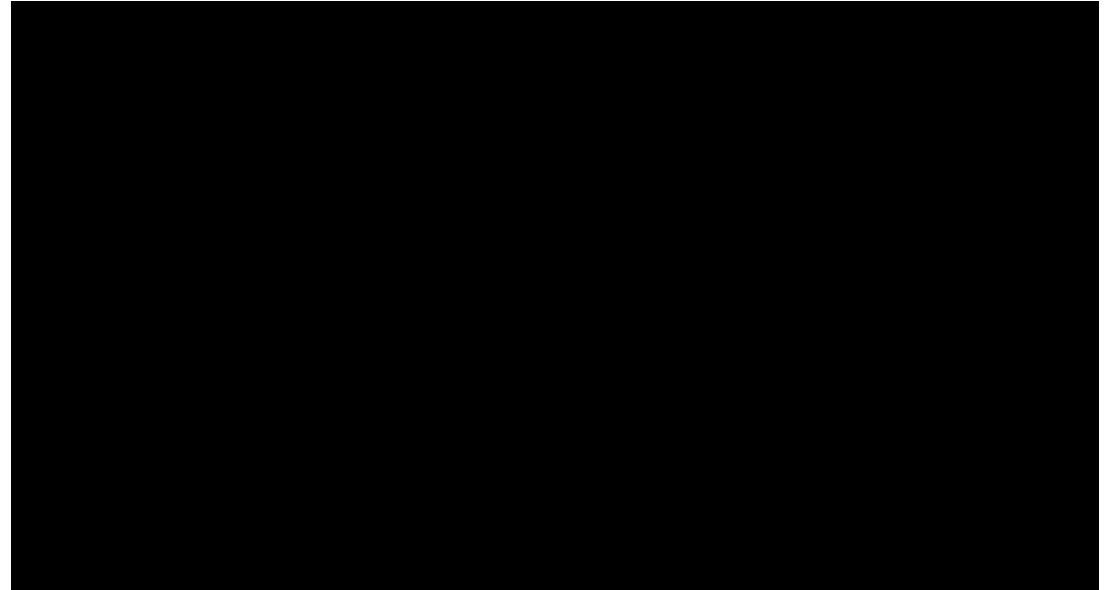
- The University and the Honors College no longer require ACT or SAT test scores for admission.
- Interested applicants must submit an essay to be considered for the Honors College-the University does not require an essay.
- Eliminating the test score requirement is a positive outcome of the in person limitations of the pandemic.

Navigating to the Online Admissions portal

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- You must first move to the **WORKFLOW** by clicking the three blue lines icon in the uppermost left-hand corner
 - Select Open Workflow
 - Then select HNR1 Read as the queue to view your assigned applications

Steps

1. Select an applicant in your queue
2. Click on one of the corresponding supporting documents in the upper left corner
3. Click on the REVIEW SHEET and overview the 1st tab: note things like parent education level, major, etc.
4. Click and view the essay and transcript, etc.
5. Click back to the VOTING SHEET
click ADD and enter your YES or NO decision
6. Do not enter a comment
7. Hit SUBMIT
8. Hit VOTING COMPLETE



Quick Decisions

- Applicants transcript: 2+ years of courses labeled IB
 - The International Baccalaureate program is very rigorous
 - Correlates with a lack of intimidation where big writing and research projects are concerned
 - IB coursework will only serve as a positive in our process. Lack of access or choosing to forgo this coursework will not count against an applicant
- Major
 - We see very few English, History, Anthropology majors. You are encouraged to accept students in majors we rarely have in our college.
- Outstanding essay
 - Standout essays can stand alone
- First-generation
 - First-gen + 3.8 cumulative gpa
- Other non-psychometric factors
 - rural + 3.8 cumulative gpa
 - English not spoken at home + 3.8 cumulative gpa
 - Hardships and/or significant life experiences + thoughtful essay
 - Some combination of the above

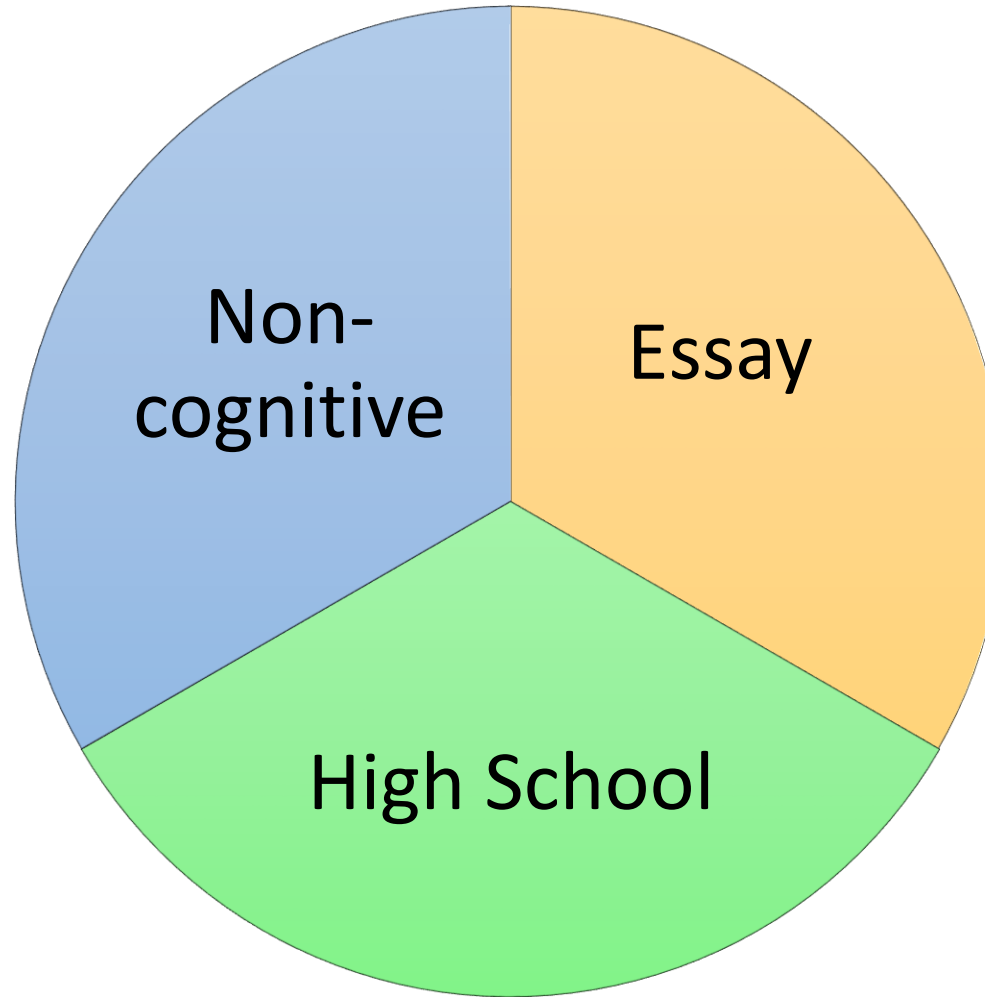
Essay

Applicants who provide a **thoughtful response, organization of thought, with care for the world**

Other

What sense do you get of the applicant's: **motivation, effort, ethics, creativity, evidence of moral character, maturity...**

AND consider how the student may lend to the diversity of experience of the incoming class: e.g., **special talents, unique interests, rural upbringing, geographically diverse, disadvantaged in opportunity, English not spoken at home, first generation, other.**



GPA

Our average accepted student has a 3.9 unweighted gpa
Rigor of coursework (AP, IB, Concurrent Enrollment) is a positive indicator
Make your recommendations within this context

Reading Recommendations

- Read 20 or so essays to get a feel for the pool
- Design your personal evaluation rubric: award 1-5 points for gpa/rigor, 1-10 points for essay, 1-5 points for bonus factors like +1 for debate team, +3 for rural, etc. Then determine your minimum score for saying 'YES'

Accept at a 55% rate

If you read in batches of 10 accept 5-6 each time

Essay Prompts

Common App has announced that the 2021 essay prompts will remain the same as the 2018–2019 essay prompts.

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma — anything of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.