

American International School of Guangzhou

廣州美國人外籍人員子女學校

CHINA

S I N C E 1 9 8 1

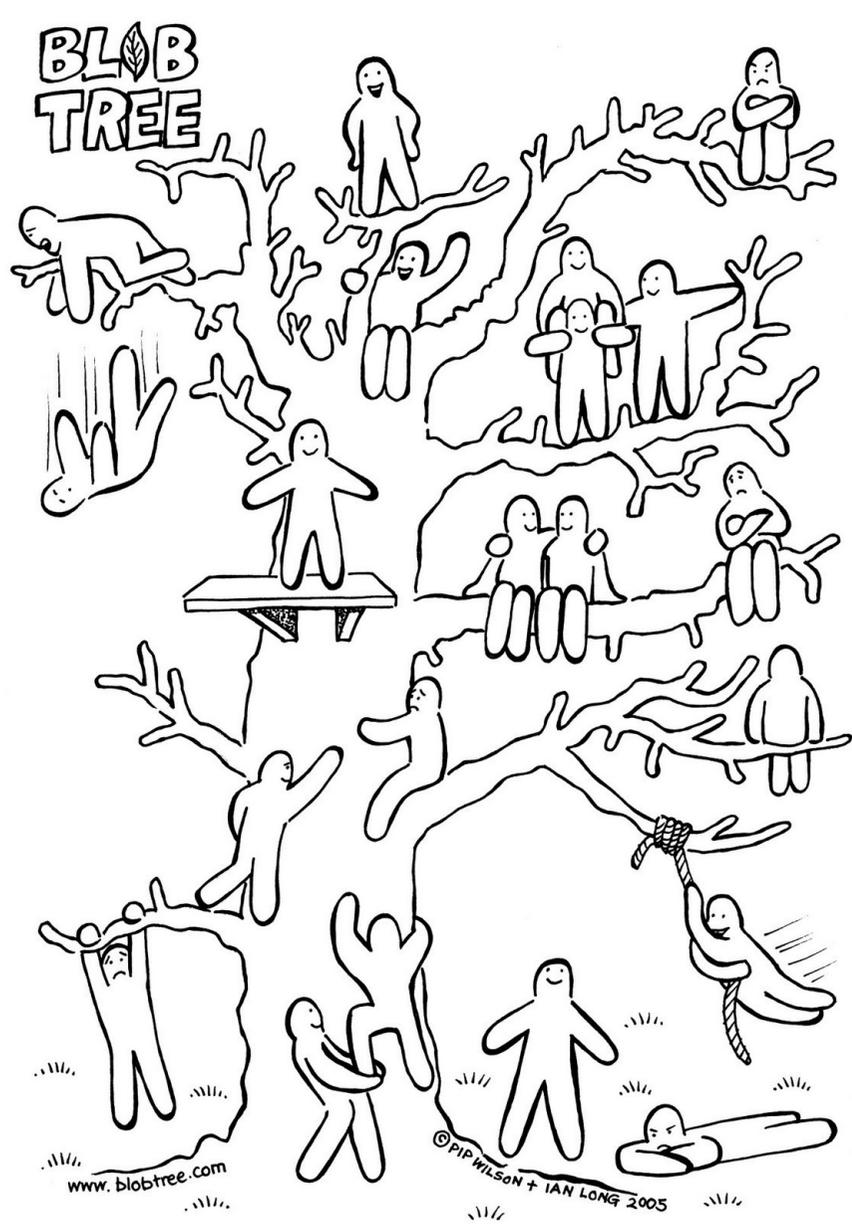
A I S G

American International School of Guangzhou

G12/Senior Retreat

What lies ahead?

23 August 2024



Agenda

- Miscellaneous announcements and reminders
- Art school video conference
- University of California (UCs) video conference
- Common App and UCAS app
- Link with Maia Learning
- Essays reminders
- Exploring and adding to Maia Learning
- Building, double checking, finalising your uni list in Maia
- Create a schedule/timeline
- Lunch/GENCO
- Alumni Association
- Alumni Panel
- Revisiting LOR
- Showcasing your honours, etc.
- Financial Assistance

Student Role:

- Complete applications
- Write university essays
- Send test scores (if using them)
- Pay application fees.
- Keep Maia Learning up to date, including requests for transcripts and all decisions.
- Remind teachers to submit letters of recommendation.
- Brag about yourselves to the university counsellor.
- Be your own advocate.

University Counsellor:

- Guide, counsel, probe, refer, suggest, and inform
- Help check applications
- Help review university essays / personal statements
- Write counsellor letters of recommendation
- Send out letters of recommendation and school documents
- Liaison between AISG and the university

Grade 11 How have we been preparing?



- Strengths and interest profile
- Best/Right fit
- Destinations and gap year options
- Researched reach/dream, target/match, likely/safety schools
- Know uni requirements and due dates
- (Mis)use of Rankings
- Taken SAT, ELP, etc. if necessary
- G11/Junior interview
- Requested letters of recommendation
- Summer options
- Essay writing
- Completed brag sheet

G12 General University Application Calendar

	USA	CAN	UK	NETH	AUS	SG	MAL	HK	JP	KOR	CHN
Academic Calendar	Sept-May	Sept-May	Sept-May	Sept-May	Feb-Nov; some Aug intake	Aug-May	Sept-May	Sept-May	Apr-Mar; some Sept intake	Mar-Dec; some Sept intake	Sept-July
App Timeline during G12/grad	Oct-Mar	Nov-Jan	Oct-Jan	Jan-May	Feb intake: Aug-Dec Aug intake: Mar-June	Oct-Mar	May-July	Sept-Feb	Apr intake: June-Oct Sept intake: Sept-Mar	Mar intake: Jul-Oct Sept intake: Jan-May	Nov-June
App System	Online, CA	Online, OUAC	UCAS	Individual unis	Individual uni, UAC, Agents	English online system	English online app	English online app	Paper app in English online app	Online app	Paper app in English, online app

General Expectation Reminders

1. Communication

- check and respond to emails and Teams chats/channels
- Attend uni rep visits
- ask questions

2. Take ownership of your process

- Meet with your university counsellor to go over your essay
- Keep your university counsellor updated about changes, etc.
- Maia Learning is the go to platform

- ## 3. Be kind, courteous, and thankful to yourself, others, and to your counsellors



Be **proactive**:
Plan ahead for
deadlines and make
them

Internal Deadline:
No less than two weeks
before a deadline

POOR PLANNING
• on your part •
does not constitute an
EMERGENCY
on my part

deadlines are not targets.

Admissions Officer from University of Exeter, UK

G12 Admissions Officer visits

Calendar invites; usually lunch time
 aisgz.org > college counselling > student resources

S I N C E 1 9 8 1 A I S G American International School of Guangzhou						
ABOUT US ADMISSIONS LEARNING ARTS, ATHLETICS, & ACTIVITIES STUDENT LIFE COMMUNITY CAREERS GIVING						
					STUDENT COUNSELING COLLEGE COUNSELING COMMUNITY SERVICE CHILD PROTECTION NO BULLY SYSTEM	
15	16	17	18	21		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University of Southern California, USA: Caregiver Coffee University of Southern California, USA visit Boston University, USA visit 				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Guangzhou University Fair
 Clifford, 20 Oct at 10 AM
 AISG Ersha, 21 Oct at 4:30 PM



G12 Getting to Know the Real You

- Keep on bragging about yourself.
- When you see me, share with me:
 - What you do for fun
 - The things happening in your activities (inside and outside of school)
 - Academic successes and/or strengths displayed in class
 - Experiences, events, and/or people in your life that influence you in making you the person you are today



G12 Getting to Know the Real You

- Your interests that may connect to your future major/degree or career
- Universities that you have visited (in person or virtually) and your impressions
- What excites you about going to university
- Anything you feel I need to know as your university counsellor



G12 Grades, GPAs, Transcripts, etc.

- 1-7 grading

- No GPAs

Unofficial GPA: 7 = 4.3, 6 = 4.0, 5 = 3.0, 4 = 2.0, 3 = 1.0 and 1 or 2 = 0.0

- Reports Cards vs. Transcripts

- SRAR



www.aisgz.org

The American International School of Guangzhou employs an experienced, full-time university admissions counsellor to assist students and caregivers through the arduous university admissions process. As a result of this expertise with the university admissions process, the counsellor assists students with all aspects of choosing and applying to universities. A wide range of university contacts ensures that students will be supported throughout the process which will include the final decision-making stage once all offers of admission are made.

Number of University Applications

- The maximum number of applications AISG will process is ten (10) per student. This is a worldwide limit.
 - Exception: within the limit of 10 applications per student, the University of California (UC), California State system (CSU), and UCAS system applications each count as one.
 - Students may apply up to 5 courses within the UCAS system.
 - Students may apply up to four (4) campuses in the UC system and CSU system within this exception.
- This policy is in the best interest of our students, encouraging them to research their 'right fit' universities carefully, choose universities of true interest to them, and focus meaningfully on each application -- thus enhancing their chances of admission. Universities are aware of this policy and wholeheartedly support it.

Internal Procedures

- All Grade 12 students MUST enter the final list of universities on Maia Learning by 1 December regardless

G11 Contract Reminders:

- ED/EA vs. RD
- 10 applications
- Deposits

- English Language Proficiency tests: TOEFL, IELTS, Duolingo
- SATs – Test Optional
- UK: UCAT, LNAT, etc.



- Interviews – alumni vs admissions officers
- Prep/Mock Interview
- Paid services?



- Gap Year
- Work Study



G12 Important Dates

All major deadlines/dates are in the Class of 2025 calendar:

- All Internal Assessments (IAs)
- 12 Aug - EE draft due
- Note: 27 Sept - PGs for uni collected
- 7 Oct - Final EE submission
- 13 Jan - TOK draft due
- 3 March - TOK final submission
- 28 April – IB exams begin
- 24 April - all CAS reflections completed
- 29 May - Graduation

Students are expected to follow these deadlines to avoid being overworked and stressed.



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S I N C E 1 9 8 1
A I S G
American International School of Guangzhou



G12 Video Conference 9:00 AM to 9:45 AM



Chicago, Illinois, USA

Ms Rose Milkowski

Applying to art school. What do they look for? Tips on how you can spruce up your portfolios at this stage in time (in their Senior year), essay tips, address concerns if you are not a full IBDP student, differences/benefits of a dedicated art school versus a larger university offering an art degree, Q&A, etc.

Animation	Art/Design & Politics	Digital Imaging
Architecture	Books & Publishing	Economic Inequality & Class
Arts Administration & Policy	Ceramics	Exhibition & Curatorial Studies
Art Education	Comics & Graphic Novels	Fashion Design
Art History, Theory, & Criticism	Community & Social Engagement	Fiber & Material Studies
Art & Science	Costume Design	Film, Video, New Media, & Animation
Art & Technology / Sound Practices	Designed Objects	Furniture Design
Art Therapy & Counseling	Digital Communication	Game Design



UC Davis - Ms San Lee

Insight into the
University of California system, why the UCs, how
they differ, tips on UC essays, entering grades, and
Q&A

G12 App Deadlines



App Due Dates Survey

Accept calendar invites and be ready for one-on-one meetings.

<https://forms.office.com/r/VLFnELMdbZ>



(Supplementary) Essay - Reminders

- Who is this person? Are you an **interesting** and **intelligent** person?
- Will this person contribute something of **value** to our campus?
- Does this person have a **mission** in life? A philosophy?
- Can this person **write**?

Each university has its own criteria and different readers respond differently.

Some may assess your writing ability. Some may look for your story. Either way, both are important.

‘Why we are a perfect match for each other’
USA essay style

Could be 100-650 words

Essence Objects

Values

Do we gain a portrait of who you are?

If you can't answer the Qs, then it's probably not the right fit.

Personal Statement:

Rest of the world style: UK, Canada, HK, etc.

Could be 4000 characters or 100-350 words

Be more direct.

Suitability for the course

What have you done?

Why this course and X university?

Anytime you have a draft, reach out to me to. Review will always be face to face.

I also need to confidently tell an admissions officer that you wrote it.

Australia/NZ: UAC (locals); individual portals

Europe (continental): individual portals

Canada: OUAC; individual portals

HK: individual portals

Japan: individual portals

Netherlands: Studielink

SG: individual portals

South Korea: individual portals

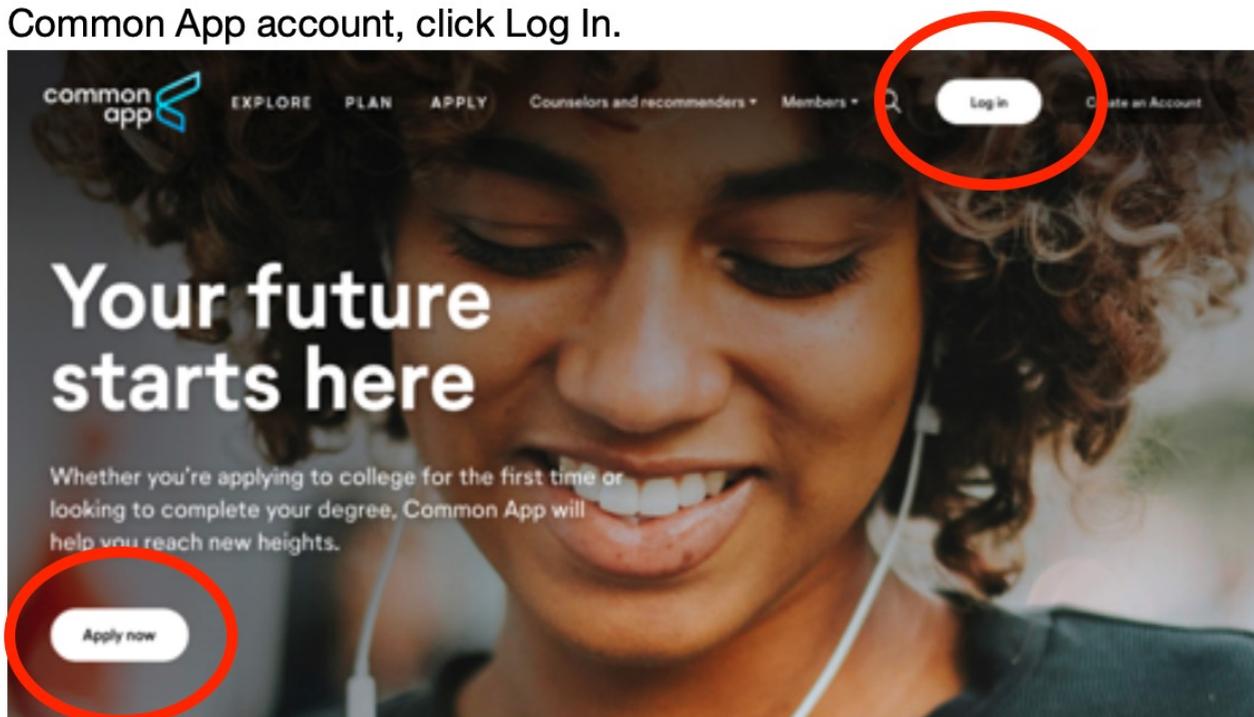
UK: UCAS

USA: Common App mostly; UC; CSU



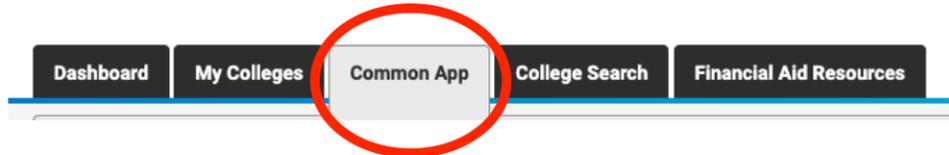
G12 Create and link your apps

- Go to www.commonapp.org (<http://www.commonapp.org>).
- If you do not have a Common App account, click on **Create an Account** or **Apply Now**. If you have an existing Common App account, click Log In.



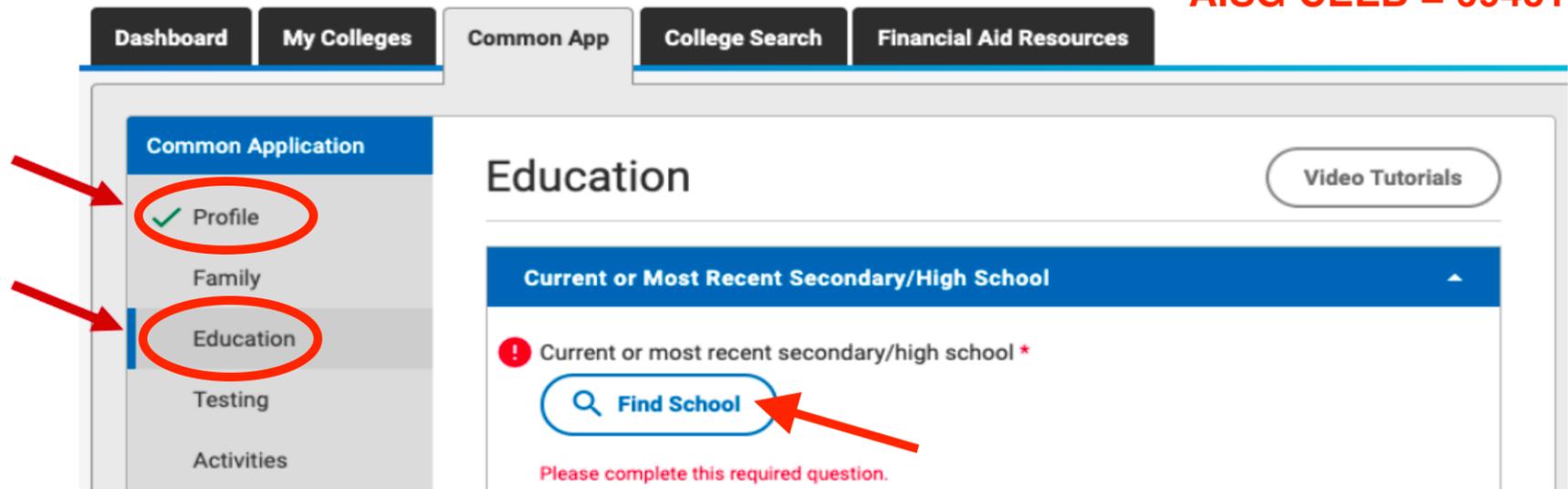
G12 Create and link your apps

- Click on the Common App Tab.



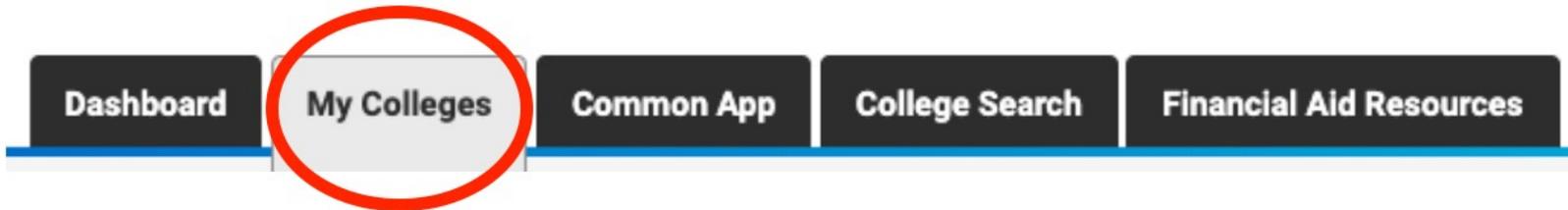
- Complete the required fields in the Profile section and enter your current or most recent Secondary/High School in the Education section at a minimum. **It is critical you select the correct school in order successfully sync your account. Search by your school's CEEB code, rather than school name, to ensure accuracy.**

AISG CEEB = 694519



G12 Create and link your apps

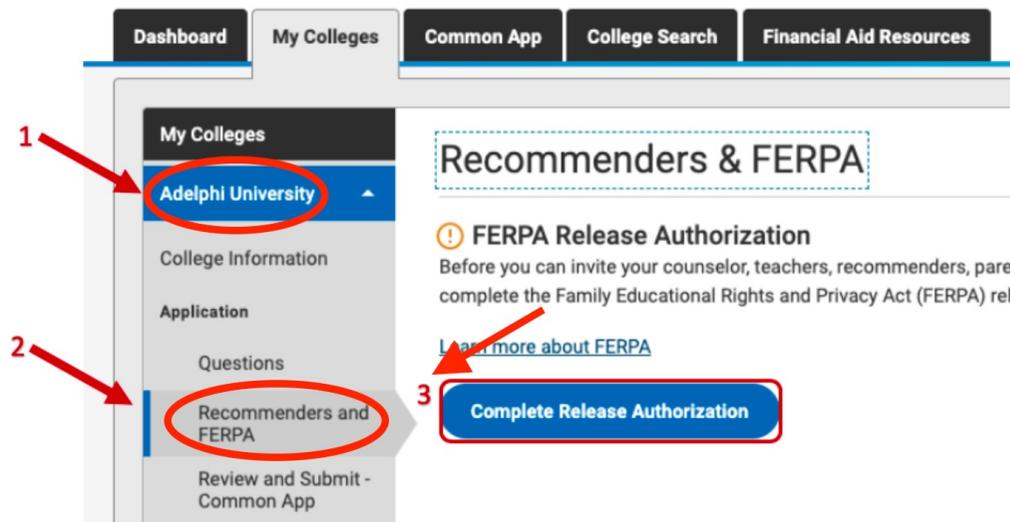
- Be sure to click the "Continue" button in each section to save your responses.
- Click on the My Colleges tab.



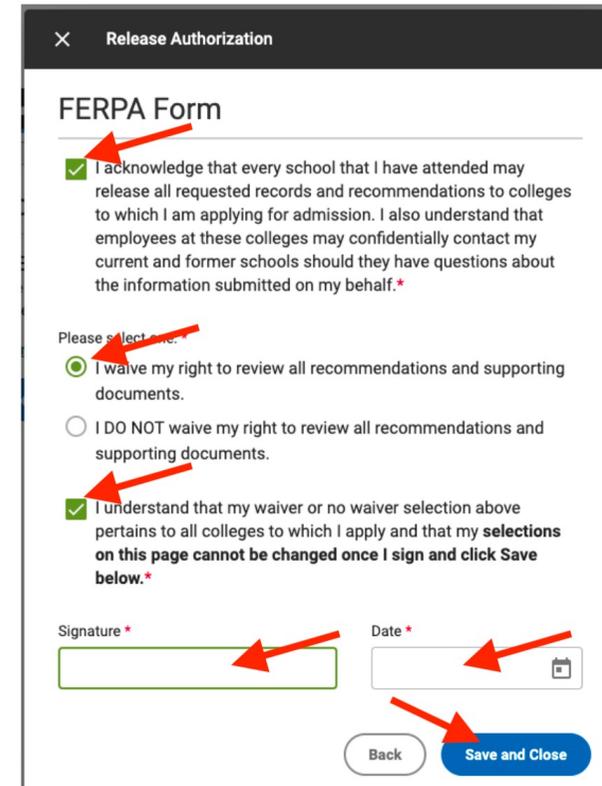
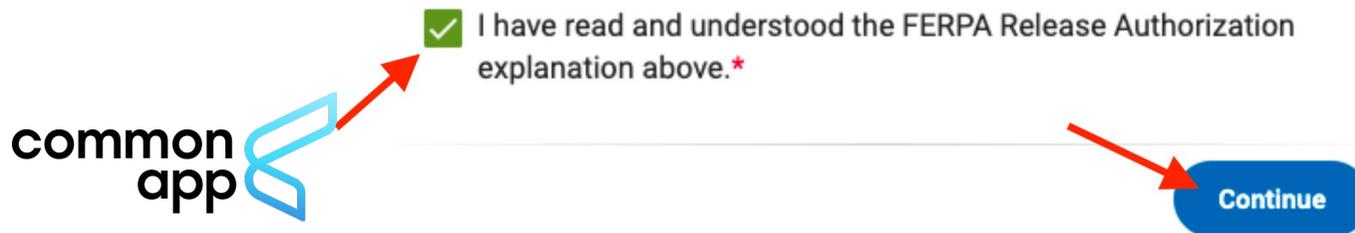
- You must have at least one college on your My Colleges list. Go to "College Search" to add one if needed.

G12 Create and link your apps

- Select one of the colleges from the My Colleges list. Select "Recommenders and FERPA" and click "Complete Release Authorization".



- A pop up with instructions will appear. Check the box next to "I have read and understood the FERPA Release Authorization explanation above" and click on Continue.



Eventually, you'll have to go back and complete all tabs before applying to a university.

In the meantime, you can link your Common App to Maia Learning



The image shows the UCAS logo centered on a blurred background of a school hallway with circular ceiling lights. The letters 'U', 'C', and 'S' are black, while the 'A' is red. The background is out of focus, showing a perspective view of a hallway with several round recessed lights on the ceiling.

UCAS



Sign in

Register

SIGN IN

Please sign in below.

Email * **Use your school email**

Password *

[Forgot your password?](#)

Sign in



Feedback

Go to ucas.com

G12 UK Applications

UCAS Further education Undergraduate Postgraduate Alternatives Careers Rose

UNDERGRADUATE AND CONSERVATOIRE APPLICATIONS DEADLINE IS NOW 18:00 (UK TIME) ON 29 JANUARY 2021

APPLICATION DEADLINE CHANGE >

YOUR HUB

- 0%** Your **to do list**
Open to do list >
- Your **preferences**
Update for a better experience >
- 2** Your **notifications**
Open notifications >

YOUR APPLICATIONS

START

[START APPLICATION](#)

FAVOURITES

TOP 5 COURSES UNI & COLLEGES LOCATIONS SUBJECTS PAGES

- Select a favourite

[VIEW ALL FAVOURITES](#)

Leaflet | © OpenStreetMap contributors

AUDITION COMING UP?

Make the most of it >

UCAS Conservatoires

APPLY TO STUDY IN THE UK

Learn more >

UCAS Conservatoires

START NEW APPLICATION

What type of application would you like to make?



Conservatoire

Undergraduate or postgraduate music, dance, drama, or musical theatre.

Select application type >



Undergraduate

Degrees, HNDs, and HNCs

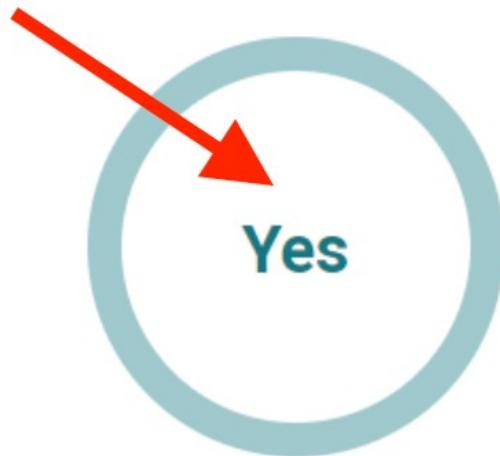
Select application type >

Can't see the application type you need?

Update year you want to start or level of study >

You will then be taken to a page where you will need to confirm you are applying from a school, college or centre.

Are you applying from a school, college, or centre?



G12 UK Applications

Read the terms, and click agree if you are happy to proceed.

Link to a school, college, or centre using a Buzzword

By entering the buzzword, you give your permission to share your application with your school, college or centre, so they can support you through the application process. To find out more about how your school, college or centre will be able to support your application and the information they will have access to please [see here](#).

Continue

Cancel

Enter your buzzword, check the details are correct and proceed.

Enter the Buzzword from your school, college, or centre

Buzzwords are case-sensitive and will be given to you by your school, college or centre.

Enter Buzzword here **2025GoRams**

Save Buzzword

Cancel

G12 UK Applications

You will then be taken to your application landing page where you can complete the sections and submit when ready.

The screenshot displays the UCAS application landing page for the 2022 Undergraduate application. At the top, the UCAS logo is visible, along with navigation links for Further education, Undergraduate, Postgraduate, Apprenticeships, Careers, and Tools. The main heading is "UCAS APPLICATION" with the subtitle "2022 Undergraduate application".

The "Application status" section shows progress indicators for various sections: Centre information (0%), CHOICES (0/5), PROFILE (0%), PERSONAL STATEMENT (0%), REFERENCE (0%), and a "Submit and submit" button.

The "Your choices" section features a prominent blue button with a plus sign and the text "Add choice". A red arrow points to this button, with the text "= adding universities" next to it. Below this button, there is a search bar for courses and a note stating: "You may add up to 5 choices to your application, and they can be edited right up until you send your application. All sections must be marked as complete before you can send your application." A "Mark complete" button is also present.

The "My profile" section includes three sub-sections: "Personal details" (Name, age, title and gender), "Contact and residency details" (Address, email, telephone and where you live), and "Education" (Qualifications and periods of study).

app.maialearning.com/v3/user-login

maialearning English [EN]

Log In

Sign in with Google

Sign in with Microsoft

Sign in with single sign on

Sign in with Clever

or

E-mail

Enter your e-mail address

Password

Enter your password

Log In

[Forgot password?](#)



G12 Update Maia Learning

student1 Test
ID: AISGZ1001 (GR: 11)

University Search

Search Considering Applying Recommendations Decisions Milestones Essays Prepare Docs Send Docs Send Summary

Search University List

United Kingdom of Great Britain & NortX Search by Bath Search

Filter Clear Filters

Universities

2 Universities found

- Bath Spa University 251 Courses
- University of Bath 178 Courses

- Searching and adding universities
- ‘Heart’ them
- Admissions data

student1 Test
ID: AISGZ1001 (GR: 11)

University Factsheet

University of Bath

College information Program List Program List Admission Counselor Notes

Admission Statistics

From 2019 To 2023

GPA vs SAT GPA vs ACT

All ED EA Roll RD

G12 Update Maia Learning

- Once you 'heart' them, they go to your 'Considering' tab.
- Fill in all the info
- I will move them to 'Applying' when you meet with me.

The screenshot displays the 'Considering' tab in the AISG application tracking system. The interface includes a navigation bar with tabs for Search, Considering (circled in red with a '1'), Applying, Recommendations, SRAR, Decisions, Milestones, Essays, Prepare Docs, Send Docs, and Send Summary. Below the navigation bar is a GPA input field and a search bar. A filter section contains buttons for 'Actively Considering', 'Deleted', 'Country', 'Applying With', 'Compare All', and 'Select', along with a 'Sort by Name: A-Z' dropdown and a 'Total: 1' indicator. A red circle highlights the view toggle icons (grid and list). The main content area shows a card for the 'United Kingdom' with one entry: 'University of Manchester'. The card includes a profile picture, name, and date '22 Aug 2024, 09:50 AM by: Cheung, Alan'. It features several fields: 'Type UCAS' (labeled '2'), 'Term Fall' (labeled '3'), 'Program English' (labeled '4'), 'Deadline Jan 31, 2025' (labeled '6'), and 'Internal Deadline Select Date' (labeled '5'). A 'To Applying' button is at the bottom right. A vertical 'Target' bar is on the far right. Red arrows point to labels '1st, 2nd, 3rd choice' and 'Reach Target Likely' pointing to the '2nd' and '5' labels respectively. Green arrows point to 'College In University Faculty of Humanities' and 'Program English'.

Curriculum Vitae aka Résumé (of your activities, etc.)

Activity 1

Activity type*
Choose an option

Position/Leadership description
(Max characters: 50)*

Organization Name
(Max characters: 100)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.
(Max characters: 150)*

Student Name
YourEmail@email.com
1234 st, 123 pl, city, state/province/country
Mobile: (123)-567-8901

Education
High School Name, City, State, Province (2021 – 2025)
IB PG: ##
TOEFL/IELTS: ##
SAT: ####

Extracurricular Experience
Founder, Global Connective Leadership Institute - (2021-2023)
Incorporated GCLI, an international nonprofit organization with 501c3 status, under Georgia State Law, worked on partnerships with Shijiazhuang City to discuss co-sponsoring next project and integrating program with school curriculum, solicited approximately \$20,000 in funding over four months through various sources, and adapted Global Citizenship Education (GCED) as center of program curriculum at the World Education Forum (WEF) held by UNESCO in May 2015 in Incheon, Korea.

Medical Volunteer Trips to Thailand - (2021-2024)
Made 18 trips since 2003; networked with local health workers and NGO officials; assisted pharmacists in delivery medicine to mountain tribes.

Brown Univ's Online Pilot Course: Making an Impact (2022-2023)
Selected participant in Brown University's Leadership Institute; analyzed social change model of leadership development and applied lessons to GCED.

If you are asked to submit one:

- Keep it to one page, two max
- Contact info, education, experience, awards, honours, skills
- Perhaps part of the application, for scholarships, for interview talking points
- Use a template
- Have your university counsellor look it over

List your hobbies, interests

- Show your **passion** through your activities or online classes, etc.
- Passion shows **commitment**.
- Commitment to a couple or a few clubs, etc. over 2 to 3 years is better than a superficial involvement.
- Could be woven into Personal Statements/essays that don't require a CV/résumé

List your hobbies, interests

How to write an amazing activity in your activities list:

- State role and organisation name in top box.
- Emphasise tangible, measurable impact.
- Use active verbs!
- To save space, use lists and cut extra words.
- No need for complete sentences.
- Aim for variety to show you're well rounded
- Avoid extreme language. Never lie. Never exaggerate.

Blah

Art

Created art and organised club

Oh!!!

Founder, Art Honours Society

Organised and ran meetings, set up museum trips, brainstormed and created group art therapy activities, published and designed newsletter to members

Identify. Choose three to practice. Share.

Role and Activity/Organisation: [name it here]

What I did	Problems I solved	Lessons learned / skills I gained	Impact I had	How I applied what I learned
Use active verbs	Problems could be: personal, family, local, community, school, national, global	Consider your values exercise	Use data or quotes to support yourself	How did you apply lessons from the activity beyond the activity itself

- ✓ Aim for a variety
- ✓ Make sure your verbs are not redundant
- ✓ Use the present tense if it's still something you do
- ✓ Limited space demands precise wording (max characters)
- ✓ Emphasise tangible, measurable impact
- ✓ Include any responsibilities that demonstrate leadership skills
- ✓ If your role was simply 'member' or 'participant', it is fine to just list the activity

**If you don't
have any
awards or
honours,
don't worry.**

If you do:

- List them in order of importance
- Specify what the award means
- Emphasise selectivity
- Explain acronyms
- Indicate money

Does it show a portrait of YOU?

Admissions officers will already
have a copy of your grades.





Lunch Break

- GenCo Speeches



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CHINA

S I N C E 1 9 8 1

A I S G

American International School of Guangzhou

AISG ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Class Ambassadors for '25

Aug 23, 2024



AISG Alumni Association

AISG DIRECTOR

AISG ALUMNI OFFICE
Operational

ALUMNI ADVISORY COUNCIL
Provides strategic guidance

Alumni Association Board Chair

Class Ambassadors

Regional Chapters

Alumni Association Board

Sub Committees

*Event Committee
Service Committee
Membership Committee
Mentorship Committee*

CLASS AMBASSADORS



Jason Chung ('98)



Kenneth Chong ('01)



Michael Chan ('05)



Thomas Huang ('12)



Sally Tian ('13)



Diana Seo ('14)



Michael Zhou ('19)



Lisa Mo ('20)



Richard Au ('20)



Ted Sha ('06)



Kenny Lim ('07)



John Tan ('08)



Jackline Raggi ('14)



Michael Ma ('15)



Yam Wun Kwan ('16)



Raymond Wei ('21)



Andy Han ('21)



Bobo Leung ('22)



Sheila Wu ('09)



Kelvin Chow ('10)



Shannon Tao ('11)



Ardeshir Takaki ('16)



Nikhil Budhdev ('17)



Kenneth Almanda ('18)



Sabrina Chu ('22)



Gwynnie Guo ('23)



Thomas Huo ('23)



Elsie Zhang ('24)



Jerry Li ('24)



Jojo Hung ('24)

Class of 2025?

Class Ambassadors

✓ Who

Connectors between the school, alumni, and the community

✓ Why

- ✓ Leadership experience
- ✓ Networking opportunities
- ✓ Personal growth
- ✓ Making a positive impact

....





Class Ambassadors

✓ What

- 1 Contact information update 
- 2 Sharing important alumni news and updates 
- 3 Attending Class Ambassador meetings 
- 4 Providing feedback 
- 5 Collecting stories from your friends 

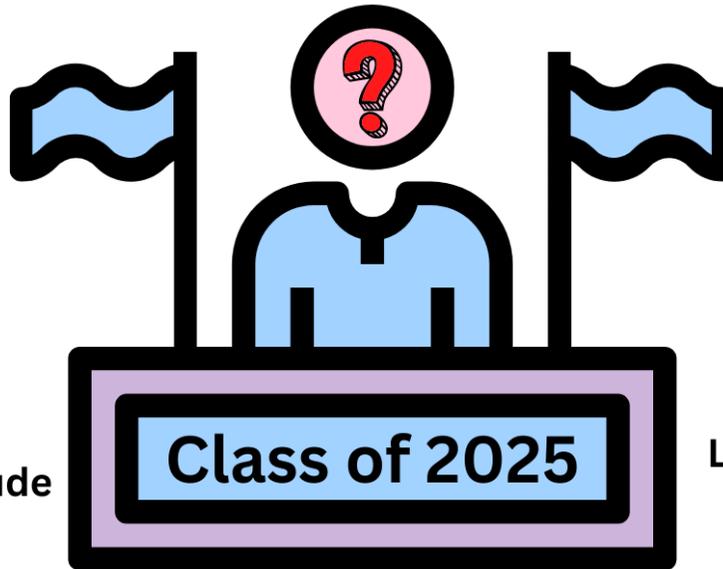
✓ **WHEN? NOW!**



Strong communication skills



Positive attitude



Responsibility

Leadership skills



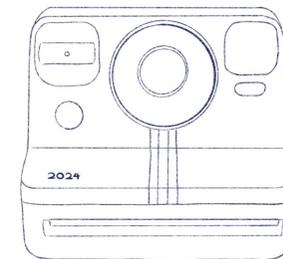
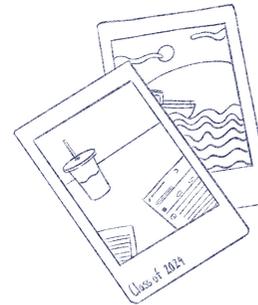
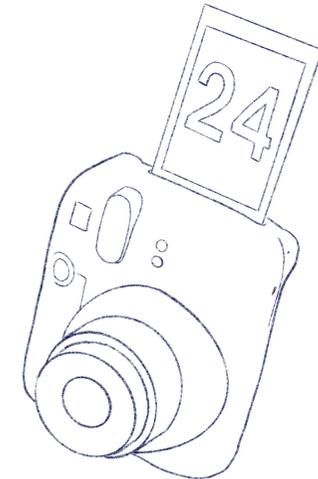
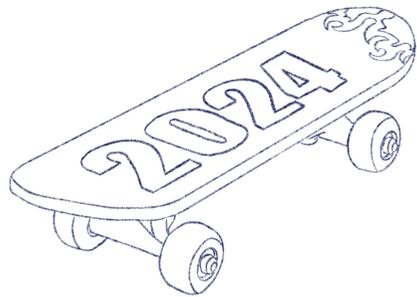
Organizational skills



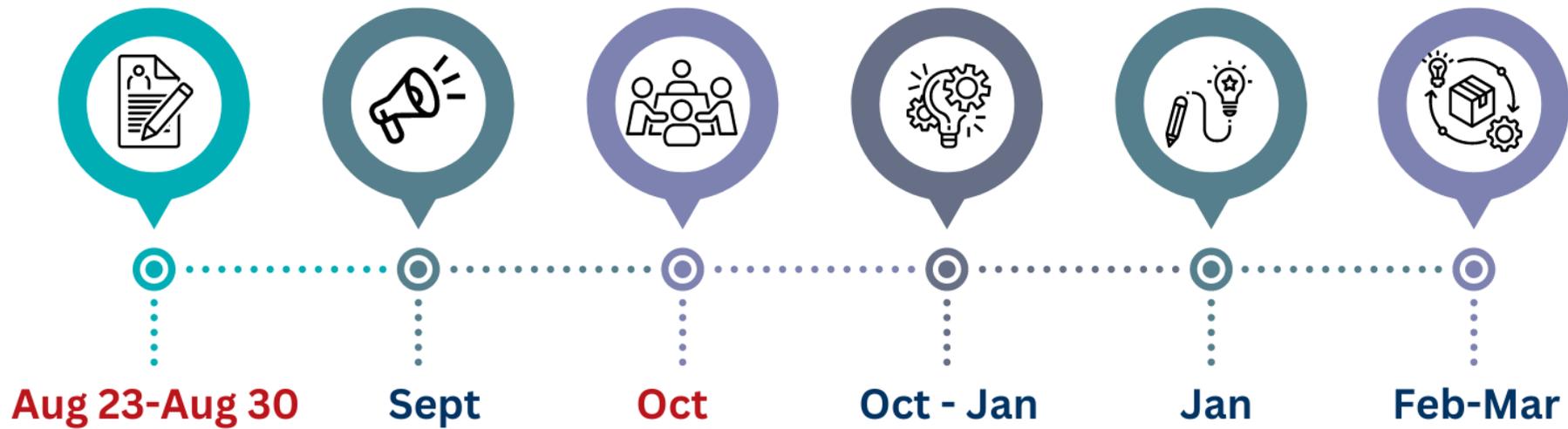
DDL: Aug 30

✓ First Task of the Class Ambassadors

Lead the class to choose your own **mascot/symbol/icon**
(can be a word/a design/a symbol/a mascot...) to represent your class



Nomination Announcement 1st Meeting 1st Project Project Design Production





Get Connected!



aisgzalumni



@aisgalumni



AISG Alumni

alumni@aisgz.org



“

Once a Ram, Always a Ram!

”

Thank you!

Creating unique, transformative learning journeys that will forge a globally connected community.

Ben Kim 2021
Yonsei University

Maxim Tian 2022
University of Toronto / University College London

David Yang 2022
New York University

Geunwoo (Jason) Byun 2023
University of Hong Kong

Myunghan Son 2023
University of Hong Kong



G12 MaiaLearning: Letters of Rec

Recommendation Requests

Search Considering Applying **Recommendations** SRAR Decisions Milestones Essays Prepare Docs Send Docs Send Summary

upload

File size must be less than 2MB
Allowed file types: PDF

Enter a note for the recommender

Cancel Save

Recommenders	Requested On	Recommendation	Type	Brag Sheet	Actions
Alexis Cupp (American International School of Guangzhou)	Jan 17, 2024	Incomplete Oct 01, 2023	Recommendation	Update Brag Sheet	Cancel Request
Habib Ulhaq	Jan 17, 2024	Incomplete Oct 01, 2023	Recommendation	Update Brag Sheet	Cancel Request

All recommenders should be listed. Uni Counsellor brag sheet sent directly.

G12 MaiaLearning: Letters of Rec



- Due 1 October
- Reminders to be done face to face
- You don't want an incomplete app.
- Gratitude; send yourself a reminder how



Snack Time





Financial Aid

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How can you help yourself?

- ✓ Eat well
- ✓ Sleeping well & enough hours
- ✓ See beyond 'the grades'
- ✓ It's ok to make mistakes as long as you fix them yourselves
- ✓ Be you
- ✓ Do your own thing/work
- ✓ Find balance
- ✓ Communicate

American International School of Guangzhou

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Thank you!

AISG is a compassionate community providing inclusive pathways to empower all learners to make a positive impact.