Bombay Scottish School, Mahim

From the College Counselling Desk

5th August, 2024

Dear Parents and Students,

Now that the Common App and UCAS has updated its portal for students applying to college in the fall of 2025, it is time to finalize the list of colleges students wish to apply to. Please download the Foreign University Application Guidelines Booklet Foreign University Application Guidelines 2024-25 and read it to learn about our school protocol. No applications will be processed unless the school receives the request letter from the applicant's parents or guardians.

Now let us look at the important criterion for college application:
1. Are your Predicted Scores and standardized test scores within the accepted range projected by the university.
2. Have you decided your undergrad major and the opportunities for scholarships and internships?
3. Are you comfortable studying in the urban places or do you prefer smaller university towns?
4. Are you prepared to go if you do not get a substantial scholarship. Typically, there are no good scholarships for undergraduate program.
5. Does the university's vibe and academic standard match your expectations and performance and will it be the best place to nurture you into the kind of person you aspire to be.

UK university applications are done through the UCAS portal and the BUZZWORD to connect your application to Bombay Scottish School is BSSMAHIM123

UK universities only need one reference letter which is sent by the counsellor after consulting the teachers. Teachers will not give individual LORS to UK applicants. UCAS allows the student to apply to only 5 universities. In case the student does not get a University or the program of their choice the student can apply through "clearing" feature on UCAS in April and May after the ISC results are declared.

US University applications are done through the common app or through the university application. The common app has a unique feature which enables students to send LOR and recommendation requests to teachers and counsellor. You can apply to a maximum of 20 universities although it is not recommended to apply to more than 12. University of California is a separate application and is not a part of the common app. Regardless of the various campus across California, University of California is considered 1 application.

Students have to complete Canadian, Singapore and Private Indian University applications on their own and can make an appointment with the counsellor for any assistance.

Application Deadlines
UK Universities:
15th October - All courses at Cambridge and Oxford and most medicine, veterinary medicine and dentistry courses at all other institutions.
26th January - All other undergraduate courses for EU students

US Universities:
31st December 2024 unless the student is planning to do ED or EA for which the deadlines vary from 15th October to 1st November. Students are requested to submit their college list and their ED/EA choice of universities before starting their applications.
30th November 2024 for University of California

Singapore: February – May 2025
Germany: Please get in touch with DAAD, the education arm of the German Consulate
Netherlands: November 2024 to January 2025
Australia: March to May 2025

What makes a good college list?
Dream Universities – 3 or 4
Right Fit Universities – 6 or 7
Safety Universities – 3 or 4

How do I know which schools are dream, right fit and safety for me?
There has got to be a healthy mix of dream, right fit and safety colleges. Dream does not mean that you apply to colleges that are way out of your reach and seem farfetched. See if you are in the vicinity of the kind of profiles your dream university accepts. Out of your list of dream colleges choose the one which is most likely to accept you, as your ED or EA option. This implies that if you were to get accepted at this particular school you would withdraw all the other applications, so only go down this route if you are absolutely sure.

When it comes to shortlisting your safety and fit colleges, know that you will have to be brutal with yourself and act reasonably. Take a step back and examine all the elements of your application – your overall performance and predicted scores, your extracurricular and internship experience, your interests and passions. Those schools which do accept students with your profile but have low acceptance rates will go into your safety category. And, the ones which seem like sure shots and match your profile will be your right fit schools.

For ready reference, please find below the schedule of events planned at our school:

Day & Date	Time	Event
Wednesday, 7th August, 2024	11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Session with University of British Columbia & University of Waterloo, Canada for ISC students only & Parents of Gr. 10, 11 & 12
Tuesday, 20th August, 2024	11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	EWM SOP Workshop - Mr. Wai (Warwick University)
Thursday, 22nd August, 2024	11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Scottish Universities Visit
Saturday, 21st September, 2024	11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	The College Fair & Career Fest 2024 – Open to students & parents of Grades 9-12 BSS-Mahim & BSS-Powai

Regards,

Sd/-

Ms. Sunita George
Principal

APPLICATION DEADLINES

DEADLINE	EVENT	APPLICATION TYPE
1 AUG 2024	Common Application Portal opens for Fall 2025 Applications	US
EARLY AUG 2024	Universities finalize their supplemental essay prompts	US
3 SEP 2024	UCAS Applicants can begin submitting their UK applications	UK
15 OCT 2024	Official Deadline to submit UCAS application for Cambridge/ Oxford/ Medicine/ Dentistry/ Veterinary Science	UK OXBRIDGE AND UK MED
MID OCT TO EARLY NOV	Official Deadlines for Early Decision I and Early Applications for US Universities	US: EA & ED I
1 OCT TO 30 NOV 2024	University of California (UC) Applications open for application submission	US: UCS
1 TO 15 JAN 2025	Official Deadlines for Early Decision II Applications to US Universities	US: ED 2
1 JAN TO EARLY FEB 2025	Official Deadlines for Regular Applications on Common App for US Universities	US: RD
29 JAN 2025	Official Deadline to submit UCAS applications for programs other than medicine	UK
UNTIL LATE APRIL 2025	Schools with Rolling Admissions will accept application until they fill their seats	US