

SPECIAL SERVICES

Bilingual Services

For students and parents requiring Korean language skills we offer bilingual services. GPEC founder Grace Park was born in Korea and lived in Seoul before moving to the U.S. as a teenager. She is both culturally and linguistically fluent and is able to “bridge the gap” for families by communicating the significant differences between the Korean and American college application processes. Our essay coaches will be happy to assist students still mastering English to produce personal essays incorporating contemporary American idioms and writing styles.

Special Assistance

GPEC offers special assistance to students who are athletic recruits, or are applying to art school or graduate school. Applications for these students require different and/or additional preparation processes and elements. We have particular experience, for example, advising swimming recruits: choosing the right schools, communicating with coaches and advising on materials such as videos.

ABOUT US

GPEC IS AN EDUCATION CONSULTING FIRM THAT OFFERS A CUSTOMIZED, HOLISTIC APPROACH TO PREPARING FOR COLLEGE THAT RECOGNIZES EACH STUDENT'S UNIQUE TALENTS AND EXPERIENCES.



GPEC Founder Grace Park is passionate about quality education and finding ways to maximize the potential of every student. She brings 15 years of classroom experience to her role, having served as adjunct professor at Parsons School of Design and at St. Thomas Aquinas College School of Art. She has also been an Advisory Board member of the Bergen County Korean- American Parents Association since 2008 and served as PTO president for two years before being elected to the Closter Board of Education. Ms. Park is widely recognized

in the Korean-American community for her tireless efforts and leadership in Bergen County. She holds a B.F.A. from Parsons School of Design and an M.A. from the University of Michigan. GPEC was launched in 2013.

Coach and Counselor Stephanie Lee brings 20 years of college administration experience to GPEC, which she joined in 2013. She began her career in higher education as an admissions officer with Columbia University and has held administrative positions at Columbia, Penn and NYU. She also worked as a higher education consultant, with PricewaterhouseCoopers and other firms, serving colleges and universities across the country. As co-president of the PTO and a member of the Board of Education in her town, she has been actively involved in local school systems for many years. She holds a B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania and an M.S. from Columbia University.



Grace Park Education Consulting, LLC
489 Homans Avenue, Closter, NJ 07624

201.403.1054

info@GPeducationconsulting.com
www.GPeducationconsulting.com



NO TWO STUDENTS' PATHS TO COLLEGE ARE ALIKE.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

centers on the belief that attending the right college or university is an essential part of nurturing a student's lifelong love of learning and sets the stage for professional competence and achievement. Choosing the right school requires skilled strategic management at every step of the journey: from guidance on selecting high school courses and preparing for standardized tests, to identifying colleges of interest, to developing a personal portfolio of activities, experiences and community service.

The GPEC team honors each student's individual work style, goals, dreams and potential. We are committed to preparing students to be successful in college and — even more important — to be successful in life.

No two students' paths to college are alike. We believe the experience of exploring the possibilities is just as important as the outcome and offer a customized program that works for planning and negotiating the practicalities of applying to college. Individual attention, mentoring and personalized guidance are a winning combination. Just ask our graduates!

OUR SERVICES

OUR APPROACH WHICH BEGINS AS EARLY AS NINTH GRADE, HELPS CANDIDATES EXPLORE THEIR INTERESTS, STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITIES. WITH INDIVIDUAL CONSULTATION AND GUIDANCE, STUDENTS DEVELOP A STRONG ACADEMIC AND PERSONAL PROFILE, ONE STEP AT A TIME, RESULTING IN FLAWLESSLY PREPARED COLLEGE APPLICATIONS.

Preliminary Evaluation

Each GPEC student receives a comprehensive initial evaluation, covering grades, interests, activities, career goals and passions. During the interview, we begin getting to know the family's needs and priorities and develop a timeline for the student's current academic year.

Academic Guidance

Choosing the right courses and monitoring a student's progress throughout high school are important. A GPEC advisor will make recommendations annually, including for Honors, Advanced Placement and IB tracks, and will provide advice for meetings with teachers and school guidance counselors.

Exam Preparation

Which standardized tests and when to take them can be confusing and a source of stress for both students and parents. GPEC will help map out a customized schedule of exams appropriate for the student's strengths and make recommendations for tutors if necessary.

Extracurricular Activities and Community Service Recommendations

Grades and test scores are only half of a student's story. Colleges and universities want to know what passions and skills a prospective student will bring to campus. Exploring areas of interest (sports, art, music, clubs, etc.), helping to identify community service and leadership opportunities and making suggestions for worthwhile summer programs are just some of the ways we support the development of a well-rounded applicant.



Career Readiness Expertise

Internships and real-world jobs show colleges that a student is mature, career-focused and ready to take on adult responsibilities. GPEC advisors help identify opportunities to obtain work and professional experience and can assist with résumés, cover letters and interview skills.

College Search Guidance

Creating a customized list of reach, target and safety schools is one of the most critical yet exciting tasks in preparation for the formal application process. Over the course of several meetings, a student's interests, talents, academic track record and list of desired school characteristics are all taken into consideration to create a working list.

Campus Visit and Interview Preparation

Students are encouraged to visit as many college campuses as time and finances will allow. A GPEC advisor will provide guidance for visitations and a checklist to complete for later review. Preparing for personal interviews is important. Our mock interviews are a helpful tool to build a student's confidence.

Parent Communication

Clear and ongoing communication with parents is essential. Regular check-ins ensure that everyone is up to date on a student's progress and aware of next steps. Depending on a family's preference, phone calls, emails and/or meetings are flexible ways to stay in touch.

Essay Boot Camps

Test scores, grades and lists of activities and honors make up the largest segments of a college application. But there is one more place where a student can truly distinguish him- or herself: the Common Application essay and the supplemental essays most colleges require. In 650 words or fewer, students have the opportunity to share experiences, hopes, dreams, lessons learned from failure, ideals or any other stories that answer one basic question: What would you like us to know about you? Two weeks of essay boot camp — one for Common App/Coalition App essays and one for supplemental essays — are offered the summer before senior year. Our process is tight and disciplined; students leave with essays that reflect their personality and draw together all of the elements of their application.

Task Organization and Management

Preparing for standardized exams, participating in extracurricular activities, working at a job or internship, writing essays, applying for financial aid and filling in a dozen multi-part applications can overwhelm even the most organized student. Your GPEC advisor is available for guidance on managing schedules and deadlines.

Application Preparation (up to 12 schools)

Years' worth of preparation and hard work will culminate in beautifully prepared applications for up to 12 thoughtfully selected colleges and universities. By this point, we have created a unique profile for each student — a story that reflects his or her strengths, achievements, interests, skills and passions. A completed application will typically include grades, test scores, activities, letters of recommendation and at least one personal essay. Some colleges allow additional materials, such as an artist portfolio or clip of a musical performance, which a GPEC advisor will help to identify. By reviewing application requirements and highlighting important dates well in advance, families can be confident that everything will be fully completed and submitted on time.

Ongoing Support

During this intense but exhilarating journey, we offer enthusiasm, encouragement, answers to questions, access to resources and a promise of continual effort to do whatever is needed to produce the best possible outcome for each student. We are only a phone call, email or text away during the entire process.



OUR STUDENTS HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED TO SCHOOLS INCLUDING:

- Babson College
- Barnard College
- Boston College
- Boston University
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Colgate University
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- Dartmouth College
- Duke University
- Emory University
- Harvard University
- Lehigh University
- Middlebury College
- New York University
- Northeastern University
- Princeton University
- Stanford University
- Stevens Institute of Technology
- Swarthmore College
- Tufts University
- University of California at Berkeley
- University of California at Los Angeles
- University of Michigan
- University of Notre Dame
- University of Pennsylvania
- Vanderbilt University
- Yale University