## Babson College

Please briefly elaborate on one of your extracurricular activities or work experiences. (50 - 100 words)

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One way Babson defines itself is through the notion of creating great economic and social value everywhere. How do you define yourself and what is it about Babson that excites you?

We invite you to submit your answer in either essay OR video format. If you choose to submit an essay, please limit your response to 1 page. If you choose to submit a video, please limit your response to a 1-minute video, which can be submitted via a shared link to YouTube or another video hosting website. (maximum 500 words)

## Boston College

We would like to get a better sense of you. Please **select one** of the questions below and write an essay of 400 words or less providing your response.

1. What contemporary issue or trend relating to politics, culture, and society, or foreign policy particularly concerns you and why?
2. Many human beings throughout history have found inspiration and joy in literature and works of art. Is there a book, play, poem, movie, painting, music selection, or photograph that has been especially meaningful to you?
3. Contemporary higher education reflects a tension between preparing for a meaningful life and preparing for a career. What are you looking for in your undergraduate education? Which emphasis is more important to you at this time and why?
4. “Magis,” a Latin word meaning “more,” is often cited in reference to goals of Jesuit education, which seeks to help students become better, do more, and have as much impact on society as possible. How do you hope to achieve the Magis in your life?

## Boston University (under Questions)

In no more than 250 words, please tell us why BU is a good fit for you and what specifically has led you to apply for admission.

Additional Information (optional): Please use this space if you have additional information, materials, or writing samples you would like us to consider.

**Hint:** A .pdf file under 500 KB in size will be accepted.

## Brown

Why are you drawn to the area(s) of study you indicated in our Member Section, earlier in this application? If you are “undecided” or not sure which Brown concentrations match your interests, consider describing more generally the academic topics or modes of thought that engage you currently. (150 word limit)

Some schools offer students the opportunity to take national exams in areas such as math and language. These exams include, but are not limited to, AIME, AMC 10, Le Grand Concours, National Spanish Exam, National Latin Exams. If you have taken any of these exams (or any other subject-based national or international examinations), please inform us of the exams and scores you find most meaningful.

Tell us where you have lived - and for how long - since you were born; whether you've always lived in the same place, or perhaps in a variety of places. (100 word limit)

We all exist within communities or groups of various sizes, origins, and purposes; pick one and tell us why it is important to you, and how it has shaped you. (150 word limit)

Why Brown? (200 word limit)

## Cal Tech (all essays are under the Application Questions rather than Writing Supplement)

Please list three books, along with their authors, that have been particularly meaningful to you. For each book, please include a sentence explaining their influence upon you. Please note that your response is not limited to math, science or school-assigned texts.

Book 1:

Influence upon you:

Book 2:

Influence upon you:

Book 3:

Influence upon you:

Members of the Caltech community live, learn, and work within an Honor System with one simple guideline; 'No member shall take unfair advantage of any other member of the Caltech community.' While seemingly simple, questions of ethics, honesty and integrity are sometimes puzzling. Share a difficult situation that has challenged you. What was your response, and how did you arrive at a solution? (200 word max)

​

Caltech students have long been known for their quirky sense of humor, whether it be through planning creative pranks, building elaborate party sets, or even the year-long preparation that goes into our annual Ditch Day. Please describe an unusual way in which you have fun. (200 word max)

​

In an increasingly global and interdependent society, there is a need for diversity in thought, background, and experience in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. How do you see yourself contributing to the diversity of Caltech's community? (200 word max)

​

Scientific exploration clearly excites you. Beyond our 3:1 student-to-faculty ratio and our intense focus on research opportunities, how do you believe Caltech will best fuel your intellectual curiosity and help you meet your goals? (500 word max)

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If you need additional space, please explain using the upload function button below. Please do not attach a resume or upload research papers. Caltech will email you an application confirmation with information on how to upload research papers through your student portal.

Hint: A .pdf file under 500 KB in size will be accepted.

## Columbia

What single activity listed in the activity section of your Common Application are you most proud of and why? (150 words or less)

(Replaces: Briefly describe which single activity listed in the Activity section of your Common Application represents your most meaningful commitment and why.) (150 words or less)

List the titles of the required readings from courses during the school year or summer that you enjoyed most in the past year. (150 words or less)

List the titles of the books you read for pleasure that you enjoyed most in the past year. (150 words or less)

List the titles of the print, electronic publications and websites you read regularly. (150 words or less)

List the titles of the films, concerts, shows, exhibits, lectures and other entertainments you enjoyed most in the past year. (150 words or less)

**Deleted:** Please tell us what you found meaningful about one of the above mentioned books, publications or cultural events. (300 words or less)

Please tell us what you find most appealing about Columbia and why. (300 words or less)

For applicants to The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science, please tell us what from your current and past experiences (either academic or personal) attracts you specifically to the field or fields of study that you noted in the Member Questions section. (300 words or less)

Please review our instructions on [supplementary materials](http://undergrad.admissions.columbia.edu/apply/first-year/supplementary-materials" \t "_blank) and note that submission is not required. If you are submitting a professional resume for Architecture, Creative Writing, Dance, Drama and Theater Arts or Film Studies, please upload it here.

Please review our instructions on [supplementary materials](http://undergrad.admissions.columbia.edu/apply/first-year/supplementary-materials" \t "_blank) and note that submission is not required. If you are submitting a science research abstract, please upload it here.

## Cornell – Supplements don’t show up until after you select a college to apply to and a major.

Describe two or three of your current intellectual interests and why they are exciting to you. Why will Cornell's College of Arts and Sciences be the right environment in which to pursue your interests? (Please limit your response to 650 words.)

## Duke

Duke University seeks a talented, engaged student body that embodies the wide range of human experience; we believe that the diversity of our students makes our community stronger. If you'd like to share a perspective you bring or experiences you've had to help us understand you better-perhaps related to a community you belong to, your sexual orientation or gender identity, or your family or cultural background-we encourage you to do so. Real people are reading your application, and we want to do our best to understand and appreciate the real people applying to Duke. (250 word limit)

If you are applying to the Pratt School of Engineering as a first year applicant, please discuss why you want to study engineering and why you would like to study at Duke. (Please limit your response to no more than 150 words.)

## Georgetown- not Common App

## Georgia Institute of Technology

Beyond rankings, location, and athletics, why are you interested in attending Georgia Tech?

(150 word limit)

Georgia Tech's motto is: "Progress and Service." What does that mean to you? (150 word limit)

## George Washington University

Please respond to one of the following essay questions in 250 words or fewer:

#1 WE MAKE HISTORY:

GW students have the opportunity to make history and to create real change — in the university, in the community, and in the world. As a member of the GW Class of 2019, how will you make your own history?

#2 DINNER WITH GEORGE:

You are invited to dinner with George Washington during which you will have the opportunity to discuss any topic. What questions will you ask him and what do you hope to learn?

#3 YOUR COLLEGE RESEARCH:

We imagine you have spent a great deal of time researching different colleges and universities. How did you identify GW as a strong fit with your interests, talents, and goals?

## Harvard – Essay is located under Application>Questions>Other Information

Briefly elaborate on one of your extracurricular activities or work experiences. (150 word limit)

You may wish to include an additional essay if you feel that the college application forms do not provide sufficient opportunity to convey important information about yourself or your accomplishments. You may write on a topic of your choice, or you may choose from one of the following topics:  
- Unusual circumstances in your life  
- Travel or living experiences in other countries  
- What you would want your future college roommate to know about you  
- An intellectual experience (course, project, book, discussion, paper, poetry, or research topic in engineering, mathematics, science or other modes of inquiry) that has meant the most to you  
- How you hope to use your college education  
- A list of books you have read during the past twelve months

FOR STUDENTS APPLYING FROM SCHOOLS OUTSIDE THE US AND CANADA:   
What specific plan do you have, if any, for using the education you hope to receive? (50 word maximum)

## Johns Hopkins

Johns Hopkins University was founded in 1876 on a spirit of exploration and discovery. As a result, students can pursue a multi-dimensional undergraduate experience both in and outside of the classroom. Given the opportunities at Hopkins, please discuss your current interests—academic or extracurricular pursuits, personal passions, summer experiences, etc.—and how you will build upon them here. (300-500 Word limit).

## MIT – not Common App

## New York University

NYU is global, urban, inspired, smart, connected, and bold. What can NYU offer you, and what can you offer NYU? (200-400 words)

## NorthEastern

## None

## Northwestern

Northwestern Statement: What are the unique qualities of Northwestern - and of the specific undergraduate school to which you are applying - that make you want to attend the University? In what ways do you hope to take advantage of the qualities you have identified? (250 words)

## Penn State University – not Common App

## Stanford (all essays are under the Application Questions rather than Writing Supplement)

Please briefly elaborate on one of your extracurricular activities or work experiences. (150 word limit.)

**Please respond to the following seven inquiries so we can get to know you better. Do not feel compelled to use complete sentences.**

Name your favorite books, authors, films, and/or musical artists. (50 word limit.)

What newspapers, magazines, and/or websites do you enjoy? (50 word limit.)

What is the most significant challenge that society faces today? (50 word limit.)

How did you spend your last two summers? (50 word limit.)

What were your favorite events (e.g., performances, exhibits, sporting events, etc.) this past year? (50 word limit.)

What historical moment or event do you wish you could have witnessed? (50 word limit.)

What five words best describe you?

Stanford students possess an intellectual vitality. Reflect on an idea or experience that has been important to your intellectual development. (100 to 250 words)

Virtually all of Stanford's undergraduates live on campus. Write a note to your future roommate that reveals something about you or that will help your roommate -- and us -- know you better. (100 to 250 words)

What matters to you, and why? (100 to 250 words)

## Syracuse (all essays are under the Application Questions rather than Writing Supplement)

Who or what influenced you to apply to Syracuse University?

Who is the person you dream of becoming and how do you believe Syracuse University can help you achieve this?

**Deleted:** If you have had work experience, what skills and/or knowledge did you gain?

**Deleted:** Based on your interests, tell us what real-world experiences you might pursue during your education at Syracuse as part of the University's Mission, Scholarship in Action?

## University of California (all campuses) – not Common App

*All applicants must respond to two essay prompts — the general prompt and either the freshman or transfer prompt, depending on your status.*

* *Responses to your two prompts must be a maximum of 1,000 words total.*
* *Allocate the word count as you wish. If you choose to respond to one prompt at greater length, we suggest your shorter answer be no less than 250 words.*

Describe the world you come from — for example, your family, community or school — and tell us how your world has shaped your dreams and aspirations.

Tell us about a personal quality, talent, accomplishment, contribution or experience that is important to you. What about this quality or accomplishment makes you proud and how does it relate to the person you are?

## University of Central Florida – not Common App

## University of Colorado, Boulder

The University of Colorado Boulder’s Flagship 2030 strategic plan promotes exceptional teaching, research, scholarship, creative works, and service distinguishing us as a premier university. We strive to foster a diverse and inclusive community for all that engages each member in opportunities for academic excellence, leadership, and a deeper understanding of the world in which we live. Given the statement above, how do you think you could enrich our diverse and inclusive community, and what are your hopes for your college experience?

## University of Maryland, Baltimore County (other campuses are not Common App)

Yes, but dependent on college and major

## University of Michigan – (all essays are under the Application Questions rather than Writing Supplement)

If you could only do one of the activities you have listed in the Activities section of your Common Application, which one would you keep doing? Why? (Required for all applicants. Approximately 100 words)

Essay #1 (Required for all applicants. Approximately 250 words) Everyone belongs to many different communities and/or groups defined by (among other things) shared geography, religion, ethnicity, income, cuisine, interest, race, ideology, or intellectual heritage. Choose one of the communities to which you belong, and describe that community and your place within it.

Essay #2 (Required for all applicants. 500 words maximum) Describe the unique qualities that attract you to the specific undergraduate College or School (including preferred admission and dual degree programs) to which you are applying at the University of Michigan. How would that curriculum support your interests?

## University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill – (all essays are under the Application Questions rather than Writing Supplement)

In addition to the essay you provided with your Common Application, please choose one of the prompts below and respond in an essay of 400-500 words.  
  
1. Why do you do what you do?  
2.You were just invited to speak at the White House. Write your speech.  
3. What one thing should all students know before their high school graduation?  
4. What concerns you about your world? What do you hope to do to make it better?  
5. UNC Professor Barbara Fredrickson – an expert in positive emotions – has defined love as “micro-moments of connection between people, even strangers.” Tell us about a time when you experienced a “micro-moment of connection.” What did you learn?

**Hint:** A .pdf file under 500 KB in size will be accepted.

Short Answer Questions: Complete each of the following sentences about yourself. Don’t think too long or too hard; just help us get to know you better. Your responses may be as short as one word or as long as 10 words—no longer, please.  
  
1. Pet Peeve:

2. Favorite saying:

3. Favorite time of day:

4. Note to my future self:

5. Autobiography subtitle:

6. First thought when I woke up this morning:

## University of Notre Dame

*Your responses will be read by Notre Dame admissions staff as we seek to learn more about you. We encourage you to use personal examples, anecdotes, or anything that helps differentiate you from your peers.*

Why Notre Dame? (required response 150-200 words)

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Please select two of the following four prompts and provide a response of approximately 150 words (not to exceed 200 words) to each.

1. A good story starts with a good beginning. Get us hooked in the first 150 words.
2. ​Blessed Basil Moreau, the founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross, described education as “the art of helping young people to completeness.” How are you incomplete?
3. ​Notre Dame students are encouraged to learn through discovery by interacting with the world around them. Describe your ideal intellectual field trip.
4. ​Initiate an in-person conversation with someone whom you've never met but who you think might be interesting. What did you learn about that person or yourself?

## University of Pennsylvania

The Admissions Committee would like to learn why you are a good fit for your undergraduate school choice (College of Arts and Sciences, School of Nursing, The Wharton School, or Penn Engineering). Please tell us about specific academic, service, and/or research opportunities at the University of Pennsylvania that resonate with your background, interests, and goals. (400-650 words)

If you wish to submit a resume, please upload it here (not required).

**Hint:** A .pdf file under 500 KB in size will be accepted.

## University of Southern California (USC

USC students are known to be involved. Briefly describe a non-academic pursuit (such as service to community or family, a club or sport, or work, etc.,) that best illustrates who you are, and why it is important to you. (250 word limit)

(Replaced: In a short paragraph, please briefly elaborate on one of your extracurricular activities or work experiences. (250 word limit))

Describe your academic interests and how you plan to pursue them at USC. Please feel free to address your first- and second-choice major selections. (250 word limit)

**NEW:**

Describe yourself in three words. First Word:

Second Word:

Third Word:

Favorite food:

Favorite fictional character:

Greatest invention of all time:

What do you like to do for fun?

Role model:

Favorite book:

Best movie of all time:

Favorite musical performer/band or composer:

Dream job:

## University of Virginia – (all essays are under the Application Questions rather than Writing Supplement)

*Note: Under Application > Questions > Academics select a school or program to which you are applying to see your first essay question. The following question is for College of Arts and Sciences:*

1. We are looking for passionate students to join our diverse community of scholars, researchers, and artists. Answer this question, which corresponds to the school/program you selected above, in a half page or roughly 250 words.   
  
**College of Arts and Sciences** - What work of art, music, science, mathematics, or literature has surprised, unsettled, or challenged you, and in what way?

2. Required of ALL applicants, regardless of school or program. Answer one of the following questions in a half page or roughly 250 words (Please select the prompt you are responding to):



* What's your favorite word and why?
* We are a community with quirks, both in language (we’ll welcome you to Grounds, not campus) and in traditions. Describe one of your quirks and why it is part of who you are.
* Student self-governance, which encourages student investment and initiative, is a hallmark of the U.Va. culture. In her fourth year at U.Va., Laura Nelson was inspired to create Flash Seminars, one-time classes which facilitate high-energy discussion about thought-provoking topics outside of traditional coursework. If you created a Flash Seminar, what idea would you explore and why?
* While a student at U.Va., Fulbright Scholar Rowan Sprague conducted groundbreaking research aimed at protecting the complex structure of honeybee hives. We know that colonies include bees acting in a diverse range of roles, all equally important to the success of the hive. What role will you play in the U.Va. hive?
* To tweet or not to tweet?

## University of Washington – not Common App

## Yale – (all essays are under the Application Questions rather than Writing Supplement)

1.) What in particular about Yale has influenced your decision to apply? (Please answer in 100 words or less.)

2.) Please respond in 250 characters (roughly 40 words) or fewer to each of the questions below:

2a.) What excites you intellectually, ***really***?

2b.) Think about a disappointment you have experienced. What was your response?

2c.) Suite-style living - four to six students sharing a set of rooms - may be an integral part of your Yale College experience. What would you contribute to the dynamic of your suite?

2d.) What do you wish you were better at being or doing?

3.) If any of your education prior to secondary school has taken place outside of the country where you currently reside, please list the dates of attendance, institution, country and language of instruction.

5). In this essay, please reflect on something you would like us to know about you that we might not learn from the rest of your application, or on something about which you would like to say more. You may write about anything—from personal experiences or interests to intellectual pursuits. (Please answer in 500 words or less.) Before you begin, we encourage you to go to[http://admissions.yale.edu/essay](http://admissions.yale.edu/essay" \t "_blank) where you will find helpful advice.