A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN OF ADMISSIONS

Dear Colleagues,

Since March, we have all experienced many challenges and disruptions to our lives. In this new reality in which we find ourselves, and with a new academic year underway, I wanted to take a moment to directly acknowledge the importance (and uniqueness) of this year, for both you and your students, and to address some of the questions that are most topical for this year’s group of secondary school seniors.

As you prepare your students for the class of 2025 application process, I encourage you to consider some recent updates and reflections that I shared on my blog, www.page217.org. Here, you will find candid insight on topics that address standardized testing, gap year requests, waitlisted candidates, and the importance of reflection for the 2020-2021 application cycle.

I invite you to stay connected with Penn as you move through this process, and I hope that this newsletter along with our many online resources provide support to you and your students during this time. Thank you for the incredible work that you do to ensure that your students are informed and supported throughout this part of their high school journey.

With my sincerest gratitude,

Eric J. Furda, C’87
Dean of Admissions

GET TO KNOW PENN

90+ undergraduate majors
800 major & minor combinations
6:1 student to faculty ratio

THE FOUR SCHOOLS

THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
We would like to see:
• a curiosity in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences
• an ability to apply classroom knowledge to the real world
• a strong preparation in a balanced and advanced college preparatory curriculum

PENN ENGINEERING
We would like to see:
• an ability to innovate, design, and practically apply scientific discoveries
• expressed reasons for pursuing an engineering education
• a strong preparation in physics and mathematics, particularly calculus

SCHOOL OF NURSING
We would like to see:
• a commitment to patient care
• a desire to explore issues in healthcare
• a strong preparation in the sciences, particularly in chemistry

THE WHARTON SCHOOL
We would like to see:
• an interest in business to fuel positive change to advance the world’s economic and social well-being
• demonstrated leadership
• a strong preparation in mathematics, particularly calculus

A place that’s known for firsts. For greats. For sparking revolutionary ideas. For Ivy League tradition and Philly spirit. And for nurturing innovative thinkers who see that the way things are isn’t the way things have to be.

Penn is home to four undergraduate schools: College of Arts and Sciences, Penn Engineering, School of Nursing, and The Wharton School. Regardless of school or major, all Penn undergraduates are able to investigate and understand our world through the liberal arts and sciences foundation.

When applying to Penn, applicants are asked to choose one of the four undergraduate schools or coordinated dual-degree, accelerated, or specialized programs that will serve as home base throughout their academic journey.

COORDINATED DUAL-DEGREE, ACCELERATED, AND SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS

Penn offers unique opportunities to pursue intensive integrated study across multiple schools. Applicants should articulate a strong understanding of the interdisciplinary nature of the intended program.

College of Arts and Sciences and Penn Engineering
• VIPER: Roy and Diana Vagelos Integrated Program in Energy Research

Penn Engineering and the Wharton School
• M&T: Jerome Fisher Program in Management and Technology

Penn Engineering
• DMD: Digital Media Design
• NETS: Rajendra and Neera Singh Program in Networked and Social Systems Engineering

College of Arts and Sciences and the Wharton School
• Huntsman: Huntsman Program in International Studies and Business

School of Nursing and the Wharton School
• NHCM: Nursing and Health Care Management

College of Arts and Sciences and the School of Dental Medicine
• Bio-Dent: Seven-Year Bio-Dental Program
Early Decision applications due NOVEMBER 1
Regular Decision applications due JANUARY 5
Transfer Decision applications due MARCH 15

Penn evaluates all applications holistically, considering qualitative factors alongside measures of academic preparation.

Penn Admissions