



## Sound Consulting March Newsletter

*Special Edition:* THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON SCHOOL AND COLLEGE VISITS AND DECISIONS

Our Sound Consulting clients are no doubt concerned about how the Coronavirus situation racing across our country might or will impact their decision-making process as they consider their college, day school or boarding school acceptances. Here are some thoughts from the Sound Consulting experts for navigating this ever-changing situation:

### School/College Admitted Student Revisit Programs

- Many schools and colleges have moved to online spring terms, which significantly impacts many aspects of the admission process, most especially giving admitted students a chance to revisit (or perhaps visit for the first time) campus. We suggest that you respect a “closed” campus and not visit. That said, some schools and colleges offer online virtual tours [two well-known college search



sites— [EAB \(formerly YouVisit\)](#) and [Campus Reel](#)—offer virtual tours], chat groups or opportunities to FaceTime or Skype with current students, young alums or admission staff members. Use those avenues if needed to move to a final decision. If you were planning on visiting schools or colleges to get a head start on the '20-'21 application season, we suggest postponing for the foreseeable future.

### Communicating with the Schools or Colleges I Am Considering

- Even though you may not have 'permission' to see admission staff, coaches, music directors or the like in person, do not pass on communicating through online options, phone calls or even old fashioned letters. Don't ever stop networking during this application process. You can always find ways to communicate and advocate for your candidacy and potential matriculation.



### Have Deadlines for Commitments Changed?

- That question is best handled directly with the college or school to which you have been accepted. Do not assume that all colleges and/or schools will move their deadline. Check their website or call and speak with a school/college admission representative directly.



### Additional Resources

- Regarding COVID-19 in general, Sound Consulting recommends [using the CDC website](#) or your state or local health department. For colleges, we suggest visiting [College Kickstart for a listing of colleges](#) whose campus visits have been impacted by the Coronavirus. For independent day or boarding schools, review the websites of the [National Association of Independent Schools](#) or [The Association of Boarding Schools](#) for guidance.



As always, Chrissie Pape and David Beecher here at Sound Consulting stand ready to offer advice if needed. As you know, this COVID-19 situation changes daily. We suggest staying in touch with schools/colleges and deploying federal, state and local health authorities to help you with your decisions. We all wish you and your family a safe and healthy spring, and again, congratulations on your acceptances.