

WACAC Share, Learn, and Connect

David Hawkins
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Becoming an Advocate

What is advocacy in the college admission counseling context? What does it mean to advocate and how do I get involved?

It's not always this →



What is advocacy in the college admission counseling context?

- Advocacy for the profession.
- Advocacy for good/ethical practice.
- Advocacy for public policy.

Advocacy for the Profession

Don't assume that everyone knows what you do, even in your immediate proximity.

- Engage with your professional organizations
- Share practice, challenges, research with colleagues
- Help tell your professional story

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

NACAC Special Interest Groups (SIGs) nurture the growing diversity in our association by providing "micro" communities within which members can network and add value to their NACAC membership experience. These smaller subsets of members are formed for the purpose of knowledge sharing and discussion among members with similar interests whether they are the specific subjects, issues or type of institution or students they serve.

NACAC SIGs

It's easy to get involved with one of NACAC's Special Interest Groups. Simply select a group below to learn more about the SIG, join the SIG's social media groups and contact the SIG's leaders.

[Expand](#) / [Collapse All](#)

Start a New SIG



To create a new SIG, a proposal must be submitted to the NACAC Member Relations Committee. The following are required: 1) SIG Mission statement articulating how the group furthers and promotes NACAC's mission. (Please note that SIGs formed for the discussion and/or promotion of a specific product or service will be discouraged.) 2) Identification of a committed leader and co-leader (to step up in the absence of the primary leader). Both must be members of NACAC. 3) Signatures* of at least 15 NACAC members. (*Emails from NACAC members indicating support of the proposed SIG and its mission can serve as 'signatures'.)

[CONTACT NACAC](#) ▶

NACAC



RESEARCH & REPORTS

NACAC is dedicated to undertaking rigorous, unbiased research exploring issues of concern to college-bound students, their parents and the educators who serve them.

[EXPLORE STUDENT-TO-COUNSELOR RATIOS BY SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

And we know that school counselors like all of the folks standing with me on this stage have played a critical role in helping us get there. *In fact, a recent study showed that students who met with a school counselor to talk about financial aid or college were three times more likely to attend college, and they were nearly seven times more likely to apply for financial aid.* – Michelle Obama, in her final speech as First Lady

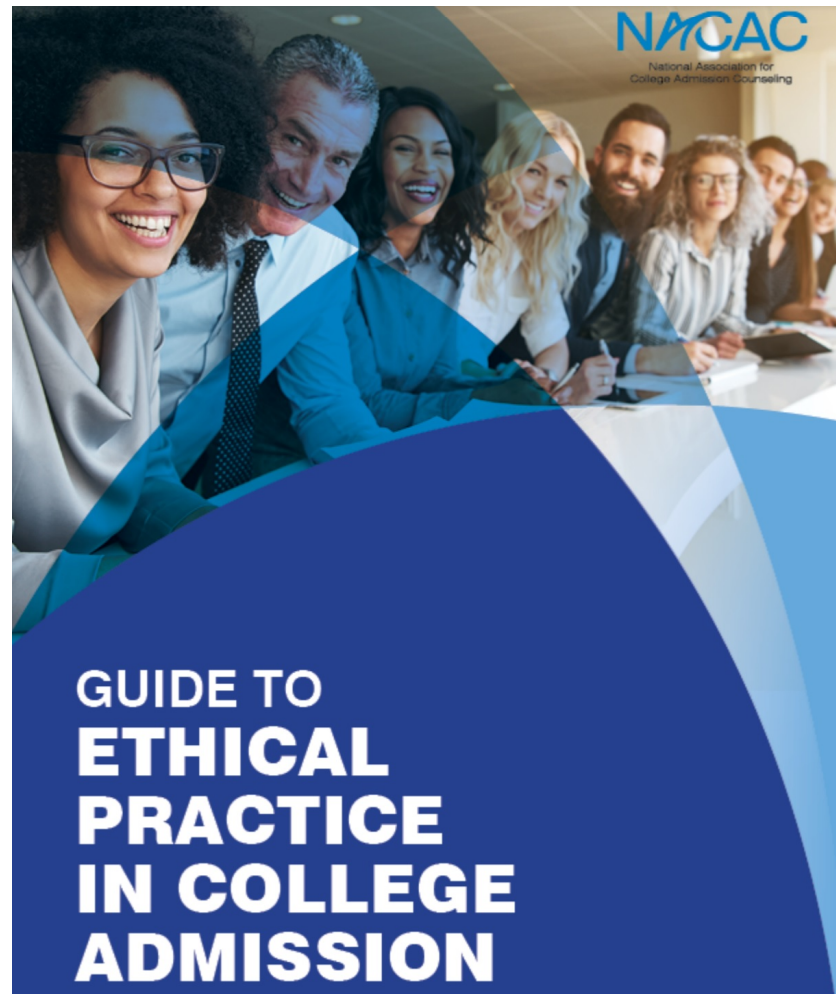
Advocacy for Good/Ethical Practice

Ask the question: “Is this good for students?”

- Read the [Guide to Ethical Practice in College Admission](#)
- Engage with NACAC and WACAC as we build a new approach to ethical practice focused on advocacy, communication, and education
- Keep this core question squarely in mind when making decisions about policies and practices

NACAC Core Values

- Education
- Access and Equity
- Professionalism
- Collegiality
- Trust
- Social Responsibility



Advocacy for Good/Ethical Practice



NACAC
National Association for
College Admission Counseling

"Testing offers an efficient and expedient tool to assist decision making. However, just because something is convenient doesn't mean it is good. We must do a better job of accessing the breadth of experiences and skills students demonstrate during their K-12 education."

—NACAC CEO Angel B. Pérez

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, March 12, 2019

Arrests Made in Nationwide College Admissions Scam: Alleged Exam Cheating & Athletic Recruitment Scheme

Defendants include CEOs, actresses, university athletic coaches, and college exam administrators

Advocacy for Public Policy

Are we affording equitable access to high-quality postsecondary education for all students?

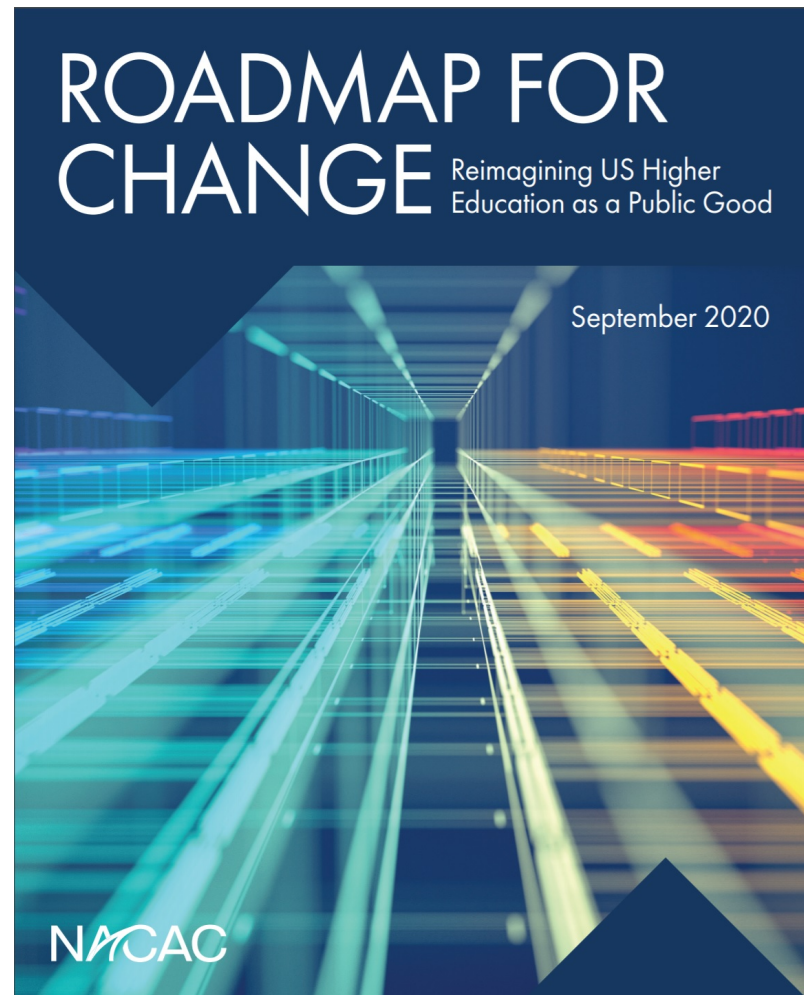
- Get to know policy affecting college admission counseling
- For areas in which you are interested, read up on the latest news and policy proposals
- Learn how to engage and take action

Higher Education as a Public Good

1. Redesign college admission policy and practice to elevate **students' interests as primary**.
2. Emphasize **transparency** in policy and practice.
3. Base state and federal policy on the premise that **education is a public good**.
4. Rectify policies that calcify or perpetuate **inequities** in education.
5. Protect **students' rights**.
6. **Fully fund** public higher education.

Full report:

https://www.nacacnet.org/globalassets/documents/about/nacac_leadership_in_college_admission_public.pdf



Promote equitable college access policies.

- Equitable funding for education and access to college preparatory curriculum
- Equitable access to school counselors and college advising
- Need-based financial aid and state higher ed funding
- DACA/DREAM Act

More:

<https://www.nacacnet.org/advocacy--ethics/initiatives/>

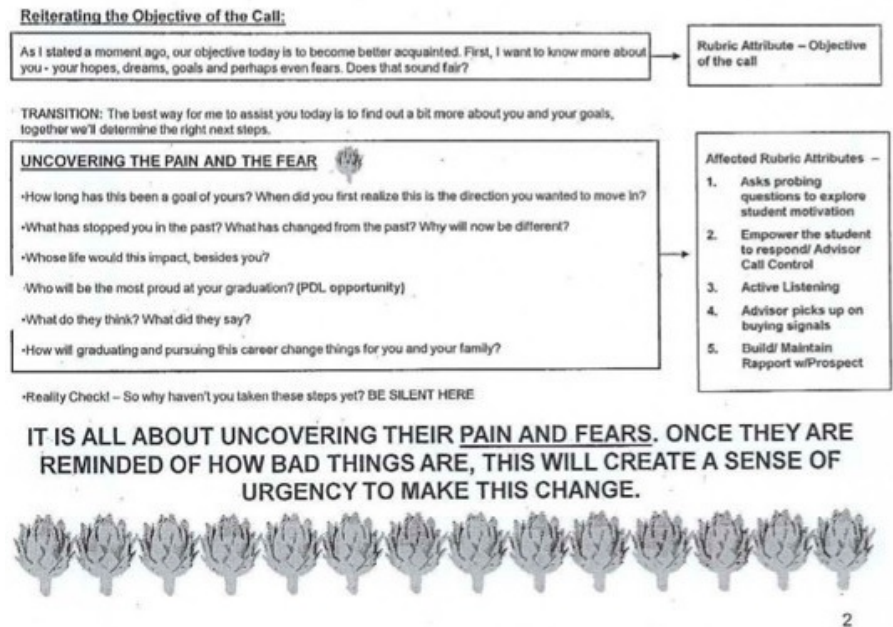


Protect Students

- Stop predatory colleges from misleading and pressuring students;
- Stop incentivizing predatory colleges with federal and state \$
- Defend students who have been defrauded

More:

<https://protectstudentsandtaxpayers.org/>



Support global student mobility

- Promote student mobility and policies that facilitate
- Ensure ethical practice and ethical treatment of students
- Education as a public good
- US education policy issues relevant to the international community

More:

<https://www.nacacnet.org/knowledge-center/international/>



How to find information and get involved

NACAC Newsroom: <https://www.nacacnet.org/news--publications/newsroom/>

NACAC Advocacy letters: <https://www.nacacnet.org/advocacy--ethics/advocacy-letters/>

General: “Advocacy & Ethics” bar on www.nacacnet.org

- NACAC Bulletin, Today in College Admission, Twitter (@NACACWonk)

Questions or comments?

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Also, give a follow to @NACACWonk on Twitter

