

# COLLEGE ADMISSION

## **Definition of a Carnegie Unit / College Entrance Unit / Academic Unit**

Carnegie Units are also referred to as College Entrance Units (CEU) or Academic Units. College and Universities use these terms interchangeably. These terms are normally used by colleges to express a quantitative evaluation of high school courses acceptable as preparation for college; one full-year course is equivalent as one unit. Acceptable units are determined by the college in question and are usually given for academic preparatory courses only: English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and World Languages. Sixteen units make up the usual college minimum requirements.

## **Suggested Programs of Study for College Planning**

Colleges considered to be most competitive generally look for students to the most rigorous academic program their high school has to offer. It is recommended that students select from the wide array of offerings in order to show a perspective college that they have a well-rounded background for possible career and vocational interests.

## **Required Courses**

A required course is one which all students at Bayonne High School must successfully complete to satisfy the State and local requirements for graduation.

## **Elective Courses**

An elective course is any course other than that defined required course; electives are required and chosen to complete a student's program after the required subjects are selected. A student may select any course if he/she has meet the specific prerequisites. Electives enrich one's background, complete the entrance requirements for specific types of schools or colleges, and offer experiences in areas of special talent. Each year the choice of these courses is very important. Selection should be made only after careful consideration of the relationship of the course or course to one's needs, goals, capacities, and interests.

## **Competitiveness of Colleges**

The type and competitiveness of your academic program and the quality of work you do during your four years in high school will serve as your resume for college acceptance. Your scholastic record, submitted to a college or university on your high school transcript, is considered the most important factor in determining your chances for admission.

In preparing for college admission, you should earn at least 16 Carnegie units by graduation. This means carrying a minimum of four academic courses (English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and World Language) each year in high school. The stronger student, or the one seeking to take the most challenging program possible, should consider five or more each year. Student should pursue those courses in which they have an interest in order to be successful.

After discussing your academic options with your parents each year, students are encouraged to consult with their school counselor to select courses that offer a challenging learning experience and are aligned to the students' post-graduation plans.

**Number of Years Recommended**

|                       | <b>Community<br/>Colleges / Junior<br/>Colleges</b> | <b>Less Competitive<br/>Colleges</b> | <b>Competitive<br/>Colleges</b> | <b>Highly and Very<br/>Competitive<br/>Colleges</b> | <b>Most Competitive<br/>Colleges</b> |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| ENGLISH               | 4   | 4                                    | 4                               | 4   | 5-6                                  |
| SOCIAL<br>STUDIES     | 3   | 3                                    | 3-4                             | 3-5   | 5-6                                  |
| MATHEMATICS           | 3   | 3                                    | 3-4                             | 4-5   | 5-6                                  |
| LAB BASED<br>SCIENCES | 3   | 3                                    | 3-4                             | 3-4   | 4-5                                  |
| WORLD<br>LANGUAGE     | 1   | 2                                    | 3-4                             | 3-4   | 4-5                                  |
| CARNEGIE<br>UNITS     | 14  | 15                                   | 16-20                           | 17-22   | 23-28                                |

### **Most Competitive Colleges**

Admission criteria generally fall into the following categories:

Top 10% of graduating class; A to B+ GPA; Average 1310 - 1600 SAT (Critical Reading and Math Only); 29+ ACT (Composite); 23-28 Carnegie Units

Colleges include:

Boston College, Brown University, Bucknell University, Colgate University, The College of New Jersey, Columbia University, Dartmouth College, Harvard University, New York University, Princeton University, Stanford University, Tulane University and Yale University.

### **Highly Competitive Colleges**

Admission criteria generally fall into the following categories:

Top 20% of graduating class; B+ to B GPA; Average 1240 - 1308 SAT (Critical Reading and Math Only); 27-28 ACT (Composite); 17-22 Carnegie Units

Colleges include:

Boston University, Cornell College, Fordham University, Ramapo College of New Jersey, Rutgers (New Brunswick), Stevens Institute of Technology, University of Maryland

### **Very Competitive Colleges**

Admission criteria generally fall into the following categories:

Top 35% of graduating class; B GPA; Average 1140 - 1238 SAT (Critical Reading and Math Only); 24-26 ACT (Composite); 17-22 Carnegie Units

Colleges include:

Drew University, Drexel University, Michigan State, Monmouth University, NJIT, Penn State (College Park), Purdue University, Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, Rowan University, Rutgers (Camden), Rutgers (Newark), Temple University, Towson University, University of Delaware

### **Competitive Colleges**

Admission criteria generally fall into the following categories:

Top 50% of graduating class; B- to C+ GPA; Average 1000 - 1144 SAT (Critical Reading and Math Only); 21-23 ACT (Composite); 16-20 Carnegie Units

Colleges include:

Bloomfield College, East Stroudsburg University, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Felician College, Johnson and Wales University, Kean University, Kutztown University, Montclair State University, New Jersey City University, Rider University, Seton Hall University, St. John's University, University of Hartford, University of Rhode Island, West Virginia University, William Paterson University

### **Less Competitive Colleges**

Admission criteria generally fall into the following categories:

Top 65% of graduating class; C or lower GPA; Average 1000 SAT (Critical Reading and Math Only); 20 ACT (Composite); 15 Carnegie Units

Colleges include:

Berkley College of New Jersey, Caldwell College, Centenary College, College of St. Elizabeth, DeVry University, Georgian Court University, Lock Haven University, St. Peter's College of New Jersey, Slippery Rock University