

sponsor spotlight

Grand Fit EDUCATION

Helping Students and Their Families Find the Perfect College

Grand Fit Education owner Allison Grandits first discovered her passion for coaching high school students through the college planning process while earning her master's in professional counseling from the University of Georgia in 2014. Part of this degree program was a 600-hour internship at a metro Atlanta high school, in which Allison led a project making sure every high school senior at the school had a post-high school plan and, more broadly, felt supported. She turned this passion into a consulting business and, in 2018, Grand Fit Education was born.

Invested in Her Craft and Her Clients

College planning done properly is more than just buying a college reference book and doing a few internet searches. Grand Fit Education guides its clients through every step of the college research and application process and often helps them earn tens of thousands of dollars in financial aid as well. To that end, Allison constantly hones her craft to stay on the cutting edge of the industry and bring that knowledge to clients.

In addition to her master's, Allison has completed the Independent Educational Consultant Certificate Program from the University of California at Irvine. She is also a member of the Higher Education Consultants Association (HECA) and an associate member of the Independent Educational Consultants Association (IECA). In addition, Allison has personally visited 79 colleges, focused on the southeastern region in which most of her students attend school. She brings an extraordinary amount of subject matter knowledge to every college search she supports.

Finding the "Grand Fit"

The process through which Grand Fit leads students and their families through the college admissions process is, in a word, comprehensive. The front end of the process includes a student career assessment, several introductory conversations with the student, and an additional discussion with the entire family to zero in on college needs from the student and parent perspective. To do this, Allison uses the G.R.A.N.D. fit method, which helps families identify the factors within the categories of geography, rigor, activities, natural, and dollar. She then takes this information to develop an initial list of 8-12 target schools and the rationale for each school selected. This diverse initial list will include schools with a range of admission dates and difficulty of admission. Most importantly, based upon prior conversations, each one of these schools will be one that the student would be excited to attend.



Allison Grandits, owner of Grand Fit Education

Grand Fit also helps students through the application and essay writing process. Its service helps students identify the "deep stories" inside them about which they will write their essays. More importantly, Grand Fit empowers the students which whom they work. The student may not be number one in their class or even the strongest student in their family. But Allison and Grand Fit provide one more loud voice in their corner telling them "You can do this!"

De-Mystifying Financial Aid

Grand Fit clients will also be presented with a myriad of financial aid opportunities. Contrary to popular belief, a student does not have to have a 4.0 GPA nor attend a top 100 school to qualify for merit-based financial aid. Navigating the maze of financial aid options is daunting to most parents, but Grand Fit's support is critical here. On average, a Grand Fit client in the Class of 2020 was offered \$72,000 of merit-based financial aid over four years with the aid offered ranging from \$20,000 to \$100,000. Often, Grand Fit's consultant fee is repaid to families several times over in the financial aid earned by their student. While no guarantees can be made, of course, the results speak for themselves.

Getting Started with Grand Fit

Grand Fit Education is currently accepting high school students from the classes of 2022 through 2024. Ideally, families will



engage Grand Fit sometime during the student's sophomore year, which allows for a more leisurely "get-to-know-you" and research process. Typically, students will start with Grand Fit at some point during their junior year. However, students can even start as late as the start of their senior year and still enjoy the benefit of the company's expertise.

To get started with Grand Fit Education or learn more about its offering, please visit www.GrandFitEducation.com or call **770-654-9136**.