

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU WORK WITH AN IECA MEMBER CONSULTANT

Independent educational consultants begin with an evaluation, to help your student identify strengths and weaknesses, as well as educational objectives, choices, and plans.

Testing: When appropriate, the consultant will recommend testing for purposes of psychological or academic assessment. Consultants may either administer these tests themselves, or make a referral to other professionals for testing.

Options: The consultant will work with your family to consider the full range of educational possibilities, and provide a broad selection of pertinent information for consideration.

Advice: Consultants give students and families unbiased advice and recommendations based on their professional judgement of a student's needs and abilities. IECA member consultants are compensated directly by their clients, and do not receive any compensation from educational institutions.

IECA offers an international directory of educational consultants. Consultants are listed by region and specialty, so you can find the right consultant for your needs. To receive a complimentary copy of the directory, contact IECA at 703-591-4850, or via e-mail at info@IECAonline.com. You may also visit the IECA Web site at www.IECAonline.com for additional information, and to search our online directory.

ABOUT THE INDEPENDENT EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANTS ASSOCIATION

IECA was founded in 1976 as a non-profit, professional association of established educational consultants. As the nation's respected voice of the profession, IECA sets the standards, leads the discussion, and serves as the public face of educational consulting to the media, colleges, and other professionals.

IECA helps members update knowledge and maintain skills through meetings, workshops, training programs, and information exchange with colleges, schools, programs, and other consultants.

When a family chooses an independent educational consultant who is a member of IECA, they are assured that the consultant is experienced, highly trained, and committed to honest and ethical practices.



INDEPENDENT
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ASSOCIATION

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Excellence in Educational Planning

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INDEPENDENT EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANTS

ADVISING FAMILIES
ON EDUCATIONAL PLANNING



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EDUCATIONAL
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ASSOCIATION

HOW AN INDEPENDENT EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANT HELPS YOUR FAMILY

Finding the right school or college is one of the most important decisions your family will make. A correct choice will enrich and enhance your student's life, and can impact his or her future. Finding the right fit, however, can be daunting. That is where an IECA member educational consultant plays a vital role.

IECA member consultants can be trusted to meet your family's needs because they have met the highest standards in the profession.

IECA's required qualifications include: a master's degree; at least three years of admissions counseling experience; and experience working with scores of students before we will consider their applications for membership. We also require extensive campus visits—our members, on average, have visited over 150 campuses each, and continue to visit an average of 35 campuses annually.

IECA member educational consultants are first and foremost advocates for the student.

They are not affiliated with any institution or program. Consultants help your family identify the learning environment that best suits the individual needs of your student. They offer unbiased help in evaluating the pros and cons of every institution, and help sort through the glut of information that can be overwhelming.



IECA member consultants are specialists. They bring a vast knowledge to their practice with experience in secondary and higher education, school and college admissions, counseling and psychology. Depending on their specialty, some are experienced in all areas of school placement. Others focus on particular age groups or issues such as learning differences, behavioral problems, or overseas placements. IECA members pride themselves on their first-hand knowledge of educational institutions. They visit campuses to learn about their unique academic, athletic, housing and community features, and continually keep up-to-date on changes and admission trends.

IECA member consultants provide individual attention to the student and family. They will help you choose the school or college that provides the best environment for your student's educational, social, and personal growth. With their extensive knowledge of schools and colleges, consultants can broaden the potential choices, and provide vital help in weighing factors such as cost, location and curriculum. With a consultant, your student has the opportunity to explore a wider variety of options and discuss possibilities in a meaningful way. Because they are not tied to any specific school or college, IECA member consultants are not burdened with unrelated duties, and are available at the family's convenience—not just during school hours during the school year.

PRINCIPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE OF THE INDEPENDENT EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANTS ASSOCIATION

All members of IECA must adhere to the following principles:

- The consultant's primary obligation is to represent each student accurately, based upon a professional evaluation of the circumstances and requirements of each client's educational and social needs. The consulting relationship does not imply guarantee of specific placement.
- The consultant does not accept compensation from any educational institutions for placement of a child, and avoids any action that may even give the appearance of soliciting or accepting compensation.
- The consultant shall respect the integrity of the consulting relationship, and of all relevant information protecting the privacy of the family.
- The consultant shall present to the family the most appropriate choices, representing each one fairly. The consultant shall make clear the client's responsibilities in dealing with any schools, colleges, or institutions.
- The consultant strives to be cognizant of, but does not discriminate based on cultural, individual, and role differences which may arise from such factors as age, race, gender, language, religion, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation and socioeconomic level.

