



Crosby Scholars

For college. For life.

Securing a Crosby Scholars Advisor

The advisor/scholar relationship is an important component of the Crosby Scholars Program. In order to secure an advisor and continue as a Crosby Scholar, you must complete the advisor form available in your portal no later than **December 1**. This applies to all Crosby Scholars juniors. Below are answers to some frequently asked questions about securing an advisor.

What is the role of a Crosby Scholars Advisor?

Crosby Scholars Advisors are adults who will meet with you periodically beginning the spring semester of your junior year and continuing through graduation to provide ongoing support as you navigate a pathway to your postsecondary plans. Advisors assist scholars with direct access for answers to your questions by hosting one-on-one meetings at school; confirming a target list of colleges, application type, and timeline; completing college and financial aid applications; creating test prep and test taking plans; following timelines provided to guide you, securing essay coaching, review and mock interviews; meeting deadlines, fulfilling program requirements, and communicating with colleges; organization and time management as tools for reducing stress; reviewing admission and financial aid offers and helping you choose the college that best meets your needs for academic instruction and personal growth. Meeting topics may also include career exploration, taking the ASVAB, and interviewing skills. All advisors monitor your progress toward meeting Crosby Senior Program requirements.

Who will choose my Advisor?

Scholars are given the option to request an advisor whom they know or to request that Crosby Scholars assign them an advisor. This is an 18-month commitment, and the advisor must meet six deadlines during these 18 months. All students must complete the advisor form to indicate their preference and their post-secondary pathway.

How do I make sure that I will have an Advisor?

Consider whether you would like Crosby Scholars to assign you a staff advisor or whether you would like to choose your own advisor. Once you have discussed the options with your parents/guardians and made a decision, complete the advisor form. All juniors must submit this form by **December 1**.

Who are Crosby Scholars Staff Advisors?

Crosby Scholars Advisors are paid staff members who are trained by Crosby Scholars. Staff members are typically retired school counselors or have college admissions or counseling related work experience or are Master's in Counseling candidates who are paired with a senior staff mentor. Additionally, the Program has Near Peer Advisor Program and employs recent college graduates who are trained by Program staff and guided by an experienced mentor.

Who do scholars typically ask when selecting an advisor?

Student-selected advisors are volunteers from the community whom the scholar knows. The person might be a teacher, a parent or other family member. The advisor must be a high school graduate and is typically not the student's school counselor (because the school counselor is already a resource for that student in the college process) and must agree to attend an initial training session in January. If a student hires a professional college counselor to assist him or her, the student should choose that person as the student-selected advisor. Student-selected advisors must have agreed to act as the student's advisor prior to the student submitting the advisor form.

How do student-selected advisors receive support from Crosby Scholars?

First time student-selected advisors are required to attend an initial training session to review the role of the advisor, and to learn the Program's services and student requirements. Then six additional times throughout the 18-month advising cycle, student selected advisors are invited to attend additional training sessions. Student-selected advisors are assigned a staff member who will review completed Conference Notes, act as a guide through the process and answer any questions from the advisor. The Crosby Scholars Financial Aid team and the Crosby Scholars Junior/Senior Team aid in student-selected advisor training and support.

After the initial training session, what training is provided to advisors?

Crosby Scholars provides ongoing training throughout the 18-month advising cycle to all advisors. This is in the form of workshops, e-mail communication, newsletters and conference notes outlines and forms to guide each discussion with the scholar.

Is it better to request an assigned staff advisor or self-select an advisor?

Because each student is unique, this will depend on the preference and situation of the individual student. About 2/3 of scholars typically request that Crosby Scholars assign a staff advisor.

Where and when will I meet with my advisor?

Students and advisors will meet periodically throughout the junior and senior years to complete Conference Notes about the student's post high school planning process. The conference notes will act as an outline for each meeting to facilitate discussion between the advisor and the student. Assigned staff advisors will meet with students at their school, the Career Center, or FTCC during the school day. Student-selected advisors will meet with students at a mutually convenient location and time outside of school hours.

Can I select an advisor who does not live nearby?

Yes. Crosby Scholars will work with the advisor to offer training through either an online format and provide materials that will assist the advisor in providing guidance to the scholar. The student and the advisor can determine the meeting format that works best. All advisors submit completed conference notes electronically.

What can I expect after I submit my advisor Form?

Following the December 1 deadline, a Crosby Scholars staff member will contact the advisor to invite him/her to the initial advisor training. The scholar should also contact the advisor (if the advisor is student-selected) to confirm the advisor is aware of the training and plans to attend. Once the advisor has completed the initial training session, Crosby Scholars will confirm the

advisor assignment and the advisor's name will appear in the scholar's portal. Additionally, Program staff send an advisor confirmation email.

Are advisors required to attend the initial training session if they served as an advisor during the prior year?

No. Advisors returning from the previous year are not required to attend the initial training in the subsequent year.

What if I change my mind about my advisor assignment after the December 1 deadline?

As of December 1, Program staff will not accept additional staff advisor requests. If a student-selected advisor is not able to act as the scholar's advisor, then the scholar must identify another advisor. Scholars may request a change from a staff advisor to a student-selected advisor through the end of January.