



STEP AHEAD IDAHO

FURTHERING EDUCATION & TRAINING BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL

Client Testimonials

"Step Ahead gave me the tools and support I needed to succeed in the college admission process. My advisor made a process that is typically grueling and stressful much easier and more manageable. With her help I was able to find the colleges that matched me as a student and individual. She helped me speak in the language of college applications, write from my heart, and avoid cliches. With regular meetings, deadline reminders, personal help navigating some of the difficult forms and webpages, and essay edits, I showed my best self to the schools I was passionate about, and found (and got admitted to!) the college that makes me incredibly excited for the next chapter of my life." *Seth, Sage International School*

"I will be forever grateful to the open, friendly, and knowledgeable ladies at Step Ahead. The college application process can feel totally overwhelming at times, so it was so nice to have experts who knew what they were doing giving me encouragement and keeping me on track. Step Ahead was the first to introduce me to the idea of "meet-need schools", which allowed me to widen the net of colleges I was looking at and prevented me from having to take out loans for an undergraduate education. I attended their summer essay boot camp, which is a must for any rising senior. They helped me with almost every part of the application process, and kept me motivated even when spring semester rolled around. Thank you, Step Ahead!" *Laura, Boise High School*

"Step Ahead Idaho made me feel like I could accomplish my goals and allowed me to push myself to my full potential in applying for school. Helping me write essays was probably what I valued most." *Abby D, Bishop Kelly High School*

"Step Ahead Idaho helped my son Danny when he was applying for the selective MIT summer camp program. Learning how to write the personal statement essay for that summer program positioned Danny well when he started to apply for colleges. Our advisor was very experienced and dedicated. She had a heart for student success and she worked hard to see through the whole process. She also has a good way to engage my son." *Beverly T, Centennial High School*

"I like the personal attention you get from Step Ahead. During the college process it is important that your parents support you and give you the attention needed to help you succeed. This attention though can get overwhelming simply because we are high school students that don't always want to listen to our parents. Step Ahead gives you that same help and attention just through a different lens.

The most important thing I felt I got from Step Ahead is making a list of how I needed to apply to the colleges and universities I was interested in. Step Ahead knows the college ropes, they know what kind of applicant these schools are looking for. So, it helped that they took my resume and grades and showed

me which route I needed to take when applying and how I needed to write my essays.

I heard from Step Ahead through my parents. At first I wasn't entirely convinced of what this program was because I did not truly understand what they did and how important the college process was. I went in to meet with them just once to see how I felt and if it was something I wanted. After the meeting I realized how much help Step Ahead could be and that I would be a fool if I didn't allow people who have done this before help me achieve what I wanted." *Andrea S, Centennial High School*

"I like how Step Ahead Idaho provides experienced advisors to help land students into some of their dream schools. The advice was apt and very strategic. They were always available and willing to help. I thoroughly enjoyed my experience!

My advisor provided me with great advice in keeping my essays concise and on point while I was applying for the MIT summer program. She told me that I was communicating a message and not just writing a puff piece. Her tips helped add more meaning and showed admissions officers multiple facets of my personality. The things I learned from her helped me with future essays. She even volunteered to look at my college application. She always had my best interests mind and her hard work is also reflected in my essays." *Danny T, Centennial High School*

"The most important things Step Ahead provided were great personalized care, the availability of all of the volunteers, the ability to help with a large set of issues, and writing aid for the many admittance essays.

The single most important thing Step Ahead Idaho did for me was bringing to my attention the idea of "meet need" schools. While not being a school I ended up attending, discovering the existence of these types of universities made me take a longer look at the money I was looking to spend and ultimately guided me away from those that had less bang for their buck." *Gavin M, Meridian High School*

"College admissions season can be a stressful, tough time for many high school students. Step Ahead Idaho was able to provide not only honest feedback on my college applications, but also support and reassurance. The entire team at Step Ahead was always there for me when I needed guidance, and made me feel more confident about my applications. From providing essay feedback to helping me narrow down college choices, the Step Ahead team was always there to assist me in navigating through the application process.

Step Ahead Idaho was able to provide me with honest, constructive feedback on my applications, particularly with essays and other writing requirements. It can be hard and frustrating to tackle essays alone, but Step Ahead supported me through the entire process--from brainstorming essay ideas to adding finishing touches to my writing.

After attending a seminar presented by Step Ahead Idaho before my senior year of high school, I knew that they would be able to provide honest, concrete advice and help me get through the college application process. Each member of the team is always eager to help, since they have

extensive experience with helping students and know how taxing and confusing the process can be.” *Emma D, Boise High School*

“I appreciate Step Ahead's combination of beneficial presentations with personalized advice on college lists and essays, and their collective experience with the application process.

Step Ahead was extremely helpful during my essay writing and revising process. I appreciate how they provided critical advice and suggestions for new material, but still ensured that my writing was my writing, coming from my own experiences and perspective.

After attending several Step Ahead presentations about the college application process and current college students' experiences, I wanted to further explore how they could help me with this important, sometimes overwhelming step in my life. I often used the YMCA drop-in sessions, which helped me revise and greatly improve my essays.” *Zach C, Riverstone International School*

For more information send an email to: info@stepaheadidaho.org or visit: www.stepaheadidaho.org