

## English Transcript for Santa Clara University: Part 2: The Application Process

Now that we've learned a little bit about Becky, and a little bit about Santa Clara, let's learn a little bit more about the application process to Santa Clara. Can you let us know what are Santa Clara's actual requirements for admission? >> Sure Santa Clara is a common-application school. So, that is the only way you can apply online is the common application. So that would be the first requirement is creating an account and starting your common application. Within the common application, we do have a writing supplement so an additional two essay, short essay questions that you can submit. Within the common application you'll be asked to forward one teacher evaluation form, and then one secondary school report form. So those would be the documents within the common application that you would complete. Outside of the common application, we would ask for an official transcript of your secondary school report. Excuse me an official transcript of your secondary schools or any leaving exams on a national curriculum. So making sure that those come in officially. We also ask for an official test score of the SAT or the ACT. And then lastly, we ask for English proficiency exam results. So we do have a long list that we accept of those English proficiency exams. The two most popular that we see are official IELTS scores or TOEFL iBT scores, but we do have many others that we accept as well. >> So now that we know the basic requirements, can you talk about your application deadlines, and the basic process of applying? >> Absolutely. Santa Clara has three deadlines for fall admissions, which is, the majority of our applicants apply for fall. So that is, to start in September. And our three deadlines are Early Decision, which is November 1st and a binding contract. And so, that is for students who know if they apply early decision, and they are accepted, that they will enroll. >> Mm-hm. >> Our second deadline is Early Action, which is also November 1st. And it is a nonbinding, so you apply early and you find out in mid December if you are accepted or not, and then if you are accepted you have until May 1st to enroll. And our last deadline is regular decision which is a January 7th deadline. You find out in mid March of your acceptance, and if you are admitted you would have until May 1st to make that decision. >> So as a school with three different deadline types, early decision, early action, and regular decision, can you share any advice to students who are trying to decide which deadline they should apply for? >> Great question. I wish more international students would ask this because I think it will vary, depend on which institutions you're looking at. For Santa Clara, I start with san, standardized tests. Because many of my international students don't plan far enough in advance, so they need to take the SAT in December and therefore, the Early Action or the Early Decision is not an option. Because the score results, we don't accept the November, December testing. So you have to plan your testing first. So figure out when you're going to sit for your SAT, what is the earliest date that's available. And the same thing for the TOEFL or the IELTS. So your standardized testing could drive the deadline, depending on how far in advance you've prepared for your US college applications. The second piece I would advice I guess I would give is, it is very difficult for an international student who doesn't have access to come visit, come see the United States, and so, the idea of applying early decision is really meant for those students who have potentially have visited who really know it's their number one choice and would be happy to not apply anywhere else if they're admitted. And so, we don't see as many international students applying Early Decision and that is okay. We understand that you don't have a chance to see all these universities to compare them. Early Action is really for students who applied early because they've got their standardized exams done, they've had all of their documents ready. They've prepared, prepared the common application by that November 1st

deadline. The benefit is you've been admitted early, and so you can sit on that admission offer and see where else you're admitted, you have time to come visit if that's possible before the May 1st deadline. For regular decision is the most popular for international students. And I believe it's the most popular because curriculums, national curriculums around the world are all different. And so students are busy, as they should be, completing their national curriculum at the highest level they can. So if you need to study for your senior leaving exams. You should do that. You should get the strongest grade you can, and work these deadlines around that process, and so I believe the regular deadline falls into a comfortable place with many national curriculums around the world. So we're prepared to have majority of our regular applicants apply. You're not at a disadvantage. The key is getting all those documents in on time and having them be the best that they can be. So I always encourage students last but not least on advice is pick the deadline that works best for you. Especially with the options that are at hand. You know yourself best, you know what dates you can sit for exams, you know when your national curriculum is going to influence this process because it does take up time. So it is most important that you pay attention to what you can handle on the deadline. And then apply and put together the strongest application you can for the deadline. >> So keeping the admissions process, the whole process in mind. Are there particular parts of the process that, in your experience, you found international students maybe don't understand or have some special difficulty with when they're completing their application. >> Absolutely. A common one that I have a lot of empathy towards is official documents. What we mean in the United States is not the same as what might be happening around the world with an official transcript, or official national leaving exams, or secondary school results. The terminology is all different around the world based on the education system that an international student might be learning in. And so, the best advice I can give for that is when in doubt, email the international admission officer, or call us and ask what we would do for, given your country's national education system. So for example oftentimes students only receive one copy of their leaving exam, and so my recommendation to those students is, get a certified copy. Have the person who's certifying it, place it in an envelope and they seal it with a stamp or a signature, and then you can still mail it to us. But, at least it's in a sealed envelope, and it's a certified copy, because we do know, at least admission, international admission counselors know, that you only receive one copy. Sometimes official copies, are have seals that are embedded into the transcript, so we have to feel the paper to know it's official. In some cases it's an ink stamp. Some of them, it's the Ministry of Education can provide it. There's wonderful resources out there that even international admission counselors will advise students to go to. Which is maybe the US Embassy or the Education USA offices in your local city because what we're the achievement of an official document is to try and get accurate, credible information. So that we bring in students that will continue and can achieve at our level of academics. And so we're trying to make sure that information is as relative, relevant as possible given the curriculum that the student's in. And it cannot work the same across all 200 coun, countries. And so we use the word official often but it may have variances depending on the curriculum that you're in. So I encourage you to reach out to organizations like Education USA or to the university that you're applying to And ask what they mean by official for your given situation. Lastly I think a piece of advice I'd give for international students is, is deadlines. Many US universities, the deadlines are not a suggestion, they're not soft, they're not flexible. So I would err on the fact that a deadline is a deadline, and what we mean by deadline is all documents to us. Not one document in. And so keeping that in mind will make sure you're ahead of schedule. And

so when a, when a university's asking telling you you're missing your English proficiency exam results, what we mean is we need the official copy in our office, not an emailed screenshot of what you're TOEFL account says. So just keeping those things in mind with deadlines would be the last pieces. That culturally in the United States, many universities' deadlines are, are hardline deadlines. >> And we'll be right back to hear about the evaluation process. [BLANK\_AUDIO]