

College of Human Ecology | 2017 Transfer Application Tips

Our *Transfer Application Tips* are offered to help you thoughtfully approach the application process and present an application that most clearly reflects you as a person, an academic, and a community citizen.

Consider visiting campus during our Transfer Day program hosted each fall to learn more about our majors, admissions, and student life. Visit www.transfers.human.cornell.edu for more information as the event nears.

Understanding your interests

Understanding your interests, considering your academic strengths, and being well-informed about your options are important as you make decisions regarding your transfer.

DO: Carefully review the College of Human Ecology's viewbook, major fact sheets, and website.

DO: Schedule a phone or in-person appointment to speak with a College of Human Ecology Admissions Counselor well in advance of applying to discuss your interests, our required coursework, and the transfer application process.

DON'T: Rely solely on others to inform your college search. You might have family, friends, or others in your community who attended or are familiar with Cornell University. While these people can offer insight into their experiences, we urge you to make this your own exploration of Cornell University.

Transcripts and pursuing a "parallel curriculum"

The transcript reflects your academic rigor, preparation, persistence, and growth. Our most competitive candidates earn very strong grades in a parallel curriculum that includes our required coursework.

Completing the required foundational coursework prepares students to thrive in their transition to Cornell University and to graduate on time, and increases an applicant's competitiveness. Admission, however, is not guaranteed even if the courses have been completed.

DO: Pursue the [required preparatory coursework](#) by major listed at www.transfers.human.cornell.edu (under "Transfer Process").

DO: Demonstrate strong performance in the required and recommended coursework. A GPA of ~3.5 or above, with "As" and "B+s" in required preparatory coursework, increases an applicant's competitiveness.

DO: Know that while the College Human Ecology works with certain AP/IB scores, the credit equivalents of these exams vary by Cornell college and department. Plan to discuss specific exams and scores with an Admissions Counselor.

The application – an uncommon approach

Your essays are the best way to convey your goals, experiences, motivations, what you consider important, and how those pieces impact your desire to attend the College of Human Ecology. A thoughtful and college-specific approach to the essays and application makes for a more compelling candidacy. Recycled essays are rarely effective.

DO: Articulate a connection to the college's mission and programs when answering the academic interest question on the Cornell Supplement. Why is our program right for you? What kindled this academic interest? How will a Human

Ecology education help you achieve your academic and career goals?

DO: Draw on the combination of your experiences – academic, research, extracurricular, work, and volunteer – that makes Human Ecology a compelling and meaningful choice.

DON'T: Use the "Additional Information" section as a means to include a second personal essay. This option is best used to clarify course selection choices, provide context for grades that might seem inconsistent with past performance, etc.

Extracurricular and work experience

The Admissions Committee is interested in how you use your time in your school and greater communities, what engages, informs and tests your academic interests, and what you learned from those pursuits and how they are connected to the College of Human Ecology.

DO: Be thoughtful about which jobs, extracurricular activities, intern/externships, volunteer work, etc. you include. Only the most important and relevant are of interest to the Human Ecology Admissions Committee.

Letters of recommendation

Letters of recommendation help the Admissions Committee understand your maturity, self-motivation, initiative, character, and role in the classroom and community.

An additional letter or two from coaches, supervisors, members of the community, etc. will be considered if you choose to submit those materials.

DO: Ask a science or math faculty member to submit a letter on your behalf if you apply to one of our natural science based majors.

DEA and FSAD applicants

[Design supplements](#) are required for Design and Environmental Analysis, Fashion Design, and Fashion Design Management applicants. These materials are critically evaluated by faculty in the departments as part of the complete application. [Visit our website for more information.](#)

Miscellaneous

DO: Inform us if you have impending deadlines by which you hope to have an admissions decision. Transfer decisions are made on a rolling basis. Delays in midterm grades or other information will delay a decision. We sometimes need final grades for the current semester's classes.

DO: Submit Financial Aid application forms early. Visit <http://finaid.cornell.edu> for more information.

