

Dear Director of Undergraduate Admissions

My name is XXXXXXXXXXXX and I am a high school senior attending XXXXXX High School in Rocky River, Ohio. I feel honored and thrilled to have recently been admitted to XXXXXX, as it is my number one choice. However, I'm concerned about my ability to finance my college education at your school, so I am respectfully asking for an adjustment of my financial aid award.

To be clear, I would love to attend XXXXXX. Your Intelligence Studies program is the reason for my desire to attend your school. Everyone I have spoken to in the intelligence field tells me about the quality of your program and the strength of your graduates. They have indicated that your program will teach me the analytic and critical thinking skills needed for success in this field in both a classroom setting and through real world opportunities. That is very appealing to me.

However, I am finding it difficult to accept my admission because:

1. I received a better financial aid offer from XXXXXXXX
2. My Dads business was negatively impacted by the Covid shutdowns and it is unclear if 2021 will be any better given that his business is sports and tournament related.

To be specific on the financial aid offer, here's my XXXX offer, compared to the one from XXXXXX:

- **XXXXX:** Tuition and Fees (\$5,803), Room and Board (\$5,488) which comes to \$11,291 a semester. They are also offering merit aid of \$1,000 to \$2000 per semester in Academic Scholarship (the amount to be determined in February) plus an Academic Housing scholarship of \$1,471 per semester. This aid therefore totals a minimum of \$2,471 per semester. This means my cost to attend XXXXXXXX will be \$8,820 per semester or approximately \$17,640 a year. In addition, XXXXXXXX has a policy that costs remain constant for the first 4 years of attendance.
- **XXXXXX:** Tuition and Fees (\$42,075), Room and Board (\$15,000) which come to \$57,075. You have offered me \$24,000 which makes my cost to attend \$33,075 the first year with possible further increases each year.

As you can see, XXXXXX is asking me to pay approximately \$15,435 more per year. So while XXXXXX is by far my first choice it is hard to financially justify enrolling at XXXXXX given my family's financial situation and the XXXXXXXX offer.

In addition, my Dad runs a lacrosse club in Northern Ohio. In 2020, the Covid shutdowns, stay at home orders and restrictions on gatherings had a negative impact on my Dad's business. In the second quarter (April to June) revenue in our business dropped over 90% as the shutdowns, stay at home orders and restrictions on gatherings kept people from being able to attend practice and tournaments. We did see an increase in business as the summer progressed however, the business had a second negative quarter in the October / December quarter as Covid concerns increased and governments responded with another round of shutdowns, school closings and restrictions on gatherings. We are hopeful that things rebound in 2021 and the business bounces back but we have to be cautious about expenditures while we wait to see what happens in 2021.

I appreciate your help and time in reviewing these circumstances and thank you in advance for considering an adjustment to my financial aid award package.

I look forward to hearing from you soon and hopefully finding a solution that will help me close the gap and attend XXXXXX.

Sincerely,

XXXXXXXX

Dear Chairman XXXX:

Thank you in advance for taking a few minutes to read this note.

My name is XXXXXXXXXXXX and my father and I visited with Chairman XXXX and your department last year right before the campus was closed due to Covid. Despite everything going on with Covid he arranged for us to meet with himself, several members of your department and allowed me to sit in on a class. Your department made quite an impression on both me and my dad. As we were driving home, I decided that XXXXX and your Intelligence Studies program was my top choice.

I recently received my acceptance letter and am excited to attend.

However, in my discussion with my parents, we are trying to be realistic about what we as a family can afford and what other offers I have received. I detail my offer from XXXXXXXX at the end of this letter so you can understand where I am coming from. We have requested a review of the financial aid offer and are hopeful that Admissions / Financial Aid will work with us to find a solution that bridges the gap between the two offers.

My Dad and I also reached out to your head lacrosse coach XXXX for suggestions on how to find a solution so that I could attend XXXXX. The reason we contacted him is that my dad has worked with him for many years and helped send over 12 players to his team / your school. In fact, it was coach XXXXX who suggested that we visit your school and learn more about your Intelligence Studies program in the first place. Coach XXXX suggested that we contact you directly to see if you could help us find a solution that would allow me to attend XXXXXXXX. He indicated that he had worked with you and your department many times and that it would be worth contacting you to see if we could meet in person or over the phone and work to find opportunities that would address the problem.

Therefore, I am now reaching out to you to see if you would be willing to meet with us via phone or in person to determine if there are other opportunities that you are aware of or can help us find so that I can attend XXXXX.

Specifically,

1. I graduated from high school after only 3 years. To do this I took 3 summer courses at a local college and complete 6 additional college courses in the past 2 years. I received A's in all of them. In fact I received A's in all of my classes and would graduate at the top of my class if my high school allowed early graduates to be ranked.

Given the above, is there a way to review the college courses and AP classes I have already taken and see if we can set up a plan that would allow me to graduate with an Intelligence Studies degree in 3 or 3.5 years rather than 4 years because of our financial concerns?

2. Do you know of any department specific scholarships or work opportunities that I could apply for? My sister currently attends XXXXXXXX and was able to find out about 1) a housing scholarship and 2) an opportunity to work in the business school through a meeting she and my Dad had with the head of admissions for the business school. I am hopeful that you may be able to point out similar opportunities at XXXXXXXX.
3. Are you aware of any partnerships / internships (companies or government agencies) that happen during the school year that would allow me to attend school and work part time for either credit and / or financial consideration?
4. Are there any other opportunities or solutions that you know of that could help in this situation?

I am hopeful that you would be willing to meet with my dad and me so that we can find a solution / set up a plan that will work so that I can attend XXXXX.

Sincerely,

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