

## STARS Counselor Tour (WashU)

March 3 – 4, 2025

Location numbers that correspond with the WashU Campus Map are noted after the location name.

<b>Monday, March 3</b>		
8:00 – 11:00 a.m.	<b>Arrival &amp; Hotel Check-In:</b> Counselors Arrive in St. Louis, check into their hotel, and enjoy free time on campus.	The Charles F. Knight Center (#145)
10:30 – 11:45 a.m.	<b>Optional Activities:</b> Counselors can visit the campus bookstore, grab coffee with a Rural Peer Ambassador, take a tour of the Summers Recreation Center, or simply explore campus.	Various locations
Noon – 1:15 p.m.	<b>Welcome Lunch:</b> Counselors and staff will enjoy a Welcome Lunch with WashU Admissions & Aid leadership. Representatives from Vanderbilt Undergraduate Admissions will also be joining us.	Classroom 340, Knight Center (#145)
1:30 – 2:15 p.m.	<b>Highly Selective Admissions Presentation</b> Counselors will learn about highly selective admissions and the holistic review process. Representatives from both WashU & Vanderbilt will be present to answer questions.	Room 276, Danforth University Center (#125)
2:30 – 3:30 p.m.	<b>Choose Your Own Adventure (Admissions Workshop)</b> Counselors may choose which workshop they would like to attend from the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Creating a School Profile: Join WashU Undergraduate Admissions as we introduce you to the school profile, a tool used in holistic admissions that provides admissions offices with an additional lens of context for your students' educational experiences. In this workshop, Undergraduate Admissions staff will share the importance of the school profile, provide concrete examples of successful profiles from other schools, and guide you through the process of creating your own school profile!</li></ul>	Room 276, Danforth University Center (#125)  Room 234, Danforth University Center (#125)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letters of Recommendation: Join Vanderbilt Undergraduate Admissions as we explore the importance of quality letters of recommendation. In this workshop, Vanderbilt Undergraduate Admissions staff will share the importance of letters of rec, discuss the difference between counselor letters and teacher letters, and guide you through the process of training your teachers to write effective letters of rec for their students.</li> </ul>	
3:45 – 4:30 p.m.	<b>Admissions and Financial Aid Overview:</b> Counselors will learn more about WashU, the university’s application process, and financial aid.	Bluedorn Presentation Room, Sumers Welcome Center (#173)
4:30 – 5:45 p.m.	<b>Campus Tour:</b> Counselors will take a walking tour of campus led by a current Admissions Bear Ambassador.	Departs from Sumers Welcome Center (#173)
5:45 – 6:30 p.m.	<b>Free time</b>	
6:30 – 6:50 p.m.	<b>Shuttle Bus Ride to The Schlafly Tap Room</b>	Departs from The Charles F. Knight Center (#145)
6:50 – 7:50 p.m.	<b>Dinner:</b> Counselors will enjoy dinner at The Schlafly Tap Room with Admissions staff from both WashU and Vanderbilt and WashU’s Rural Peer Ambassadors.	The Schlafly Tap Room
7:50 – 8:00 p.m.	<b>Walk to The Pitch at Union Station</b>	
8:00 – 9:00 p.m.	<b>Night Cap and Wheel Ride:</b> Counselors can enjoy a beverage at The Pitch and take a ride on The Wheel at Union Station.	Union Station
9:00 – 9:15 p.m.	<b>Shuttle ride back to the Knight Center</b>	

<b>Tuesday, March 4</b>		
8:00 – 8:15 a.m.	<b>Load Luggage</b> Counselors will meet the bus outside of the Knight Center to load their luggage.	The Charles F. Knight Center (#145)
8:30 – 9:30 a.m.	<b>Breakfast and Financial Aid Workshop:</b> Counselors may choose which workshop they would like to attend from the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CSS Profile Tutorial:</b> The CSS Profile: What it is, why schools use it, how to complete it, and how it benefits students.</li> </ul>	Room 017 & 018, Simon Hall (#168)

	<p>Mike Runiewicz, Assistant Vice Provost &amp; Director of Student Financial Services, will talk with you about why and how schools use the CSS Profile, focusing on differences between the FAFSA and the CSS Profile.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>SFS Case Study:</b> Join Student Financial Services as we delve into the art of reading and understanding award letters and provide insights on deciphering the complexities of institutional aid. We'll show you practical strategies for applying for institutional need-based financial aid, and guide you through the crucial process of comparing award letters from various colleges and universities, empowering you to help your students and their families make the most financially sound choices for their education.</li> </ul>	
9:30 – 10:00 a.m.	<p><b>Group Photo</b> We will take a photo of all Counselors on the steps of Brookings Hall.</p>	Brookings Hall steps (#112)
10:00 – 10:30 a.m.	<p><b>Bus Loading:</b> Counselors will gather any remaining items and load the bus for Nashville.</p>	
10:30 a.m.	<p><b>Counselors Depart from St. Louis:</b> Counselors leave WashU and head to Vanderbilt. The bus will stop for lunch in Mount Vernon, IL around noon. WashU staff will provide each counselor with a snack bag prior to leaving campus.</p>	