THE PANDEMIC’S IMPACT ON COLLEGE ADMISSIONS CRITERIA IN THE UNITED STATES

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What are the relationships among various points of emphasis expressed by higher education experts related to standardized testing for college admissions in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic?

Total of 15 op eds from Inside Higher Ed and Chronicle of Higher Education published during the pandemic (March 2020 to present) that focus on admissions testing (search term: test-optional). Limited to one per author (most recent).

Codebook developed through grounded analysis of the data (10 codes): Academic equity; Institutional prejudice; Underserved groups; Admission selectivity; Socioeconomic privilege; Holistic admissions; Transparent practices; Test prep; Exam bias; Score preference

Individual coding of entire dataset by 2 team members, followed by social moderation

Segmentation: By paragraph
Stanza: Whole conversation
Points of emphasis expressed by higher education experts on college admissions testing in the pandemic context
Points of emphasis expressed by higher education experts on college admissions testing in the pandemic context
Group 1
2 Test Preparation
2 Enrollment Management
1 Academic Faculty

Group 2
4 Academic Faculty
2 Journalist/Author

Group 3
1 Advocacy Group
1 Academic Faculty
1 Enrollment Management
1 Test Preparation