

Advancing Undergrad Enrollment Conversion Tactics

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Overview

- Defining the Marketing Funnel
 How Each Segment Has Its Place In The Funnel
- Channel Specific Tactics
 Adjusting Your Messaging Based On Delivery
- A Mobile First Approach
 Building for A Modern World In The Palm of Your Hand
- IRL From RNL A Real-Life Approach



Defining The Individual Segments of Engagement

Consider each of your segments as a different point in your communication funnel that drives your prospects closer to the point of conversion. This allows your team the freedom to develop a more pointed conversation along with a consistent approach to your messaging within the segment.

Note: A prospect can convert at any stage of the funnel.



Search and Engagement Techniques

Methods to attract prospective students through targeted digital advertising and personalized experiences

- Engage students with <u>relevant content</u> to promote learning and curiosity.
- Convert cold prospects into inquiries by <u>communicating on various content topics</u>
 (Academic, Cost & Aid, Student Life), encouraging email engagement, and exploring campus offerings.
- Utilize an <u>omnichannel approach</u> to reach students across multiple channels and provide immediate access to additional relevant content based on their interests.

Inquiry Marketing Strategies

Techniques to enhance lead generation and capture prospective students' interest

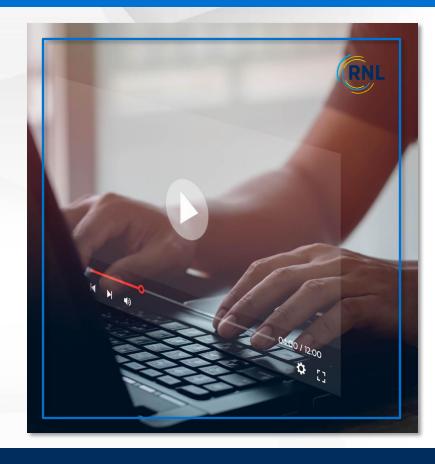
- Solicit survey responses to inform resource allocation and <u>tailored communication</u> during the inquiry stage.
- Qualify inquiries by <u>encouraging completion of the e-survey</u>, combining survey results with ForecastPlus data to identify interested and likely applicants.
- Drive survey completion through outreach emails to help campuses allocate resources effectively.
- Provide <u>tailored print and email materials</u> to students who complete the survey, addressing their specific concerns and preferences.

Secondary Goal: Engage and build affinity, create awareness, convert inquiries to applicants, and drive campus visits

Applicant Cultivator Tactics

Nurturing strategies to maintain engagement and encourage applicants to move forward in the enrollment process

- Deliver <u>engaging and relevant content</u> across multiple channels during the late summer/fall of senior year to drive application submissions.
- Target content towards <u>showcasing reasons</u> to apply to the institution and covering essential aspects.



Secondary Goal: Create awareness, engage and build affinity, qualify the inquiry pool, and drive campus visits

Admit Marketing Solutions

Strategies to convert admitted students into enrolled students through tailored communications and onboarding processes

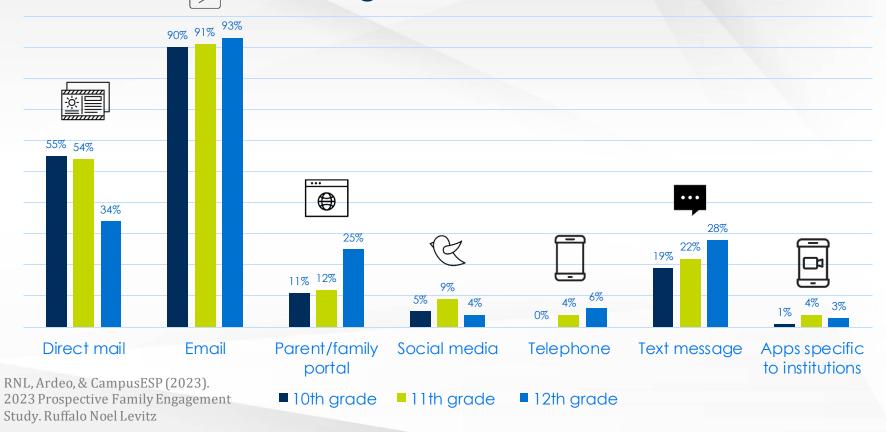
- <u>Solicit survey responses</u> to inform campus resource allocation.
- Qualify the admit pool by completing the esurvey and combining results with ForecastPlus data.
- Use survey results to allocate time and resources effectively and <u>influence the enrollment</u> of the correct student groups.



Secondary Goal: Engage and build affinity, qualify the admit pool, apply for aid and scholarships, convert to deposits



Preferred Communication Channels for High School Students



The Omnichannel Approach

Accounting for Channel Specific Messaging Tactics

Digital Advertising

- Targeted at building your funnel and telling high-level narratives that spark curiosity or support existing storylines.
- Develop your individual ad sets based on those specific purposes.

Email Marketing

This channel
 continues to push the
 conversation in an
 easy-to-digest way.
 Ultimately allowing
 your school to stay
 on the mind with
 relevant information
 to your prospects.

Direct mail

- Best suited as a lowfunnel tactic that supports and offers a point of reference during decisionmaking.
- Print also provides versatility and can still build top funnel awareness.



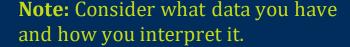
Building Effective Email Campaigns

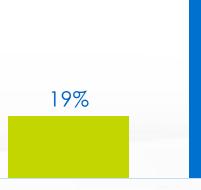
Key Points of Success













Every day

At least once a week

Whenever they have At least once a month

to share

68%

important information

Content Pillars And Their Role

The Purpose Behind Each Message

- Don't confuse your audience. Your message should be short and to the point.
- Having a specific goal for your email allows you to test and understand the effectiveness and placement in the cadence.
- How to interpret the data correctly to make informed decisions.
 - Consider multiple data points
 - +5% or greater is effective









Supporting Messaging and Functionality

How To Make It More Than Just An Email

- Increase responders and enrollment by connecting students to your campus community.
- Utilize variable video content and your existing data to generate personalized videos at scale.
- Create an immersive experience that brings your brand directly to the viewer while expanding your reach.

74%

Use an online community where students can interact

82%

Are watching videos when researching universities

73%

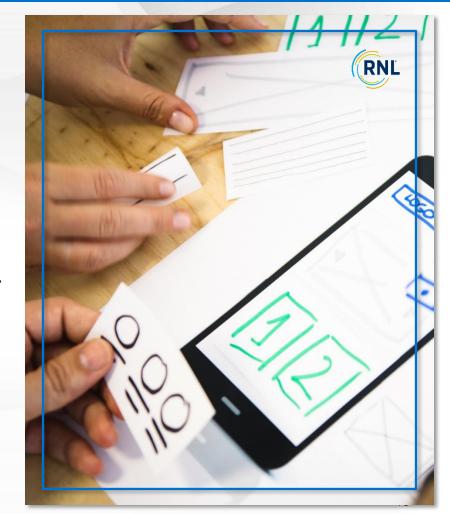
Use virtual tours or virtual reality experiences



Messaging Hierarchy

Controlling The Narrative With Multiple Messages

- It's okay to have multiple conversations within the same email. However, they should connect to the same overarching idea.
- Hit them with a big sell or your primary idea in your header. At a glance, they will decide if your message is worth their time.
- Break up the information with graphic elements or layout adjustments.

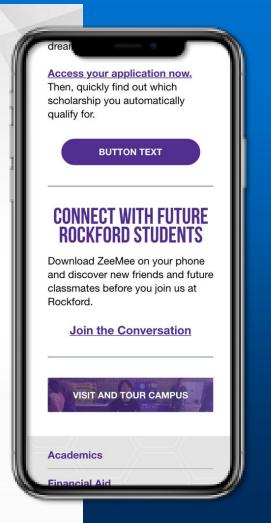




Applying Hierarchy to Multiple CTAs

How To Handle The Need for Multiple Links

- Is a button needed in your header? Yes and No. Users have been programmed to know that headers are clickable. However, a button can help notify your viewer that you have different CTAs to drive to various locations.
- Feel free to utilize different link types. You can use traditional buttons, ghost buttons, or text links. All of them carry varying levels of visual weight.
- Get creative and go beyond traditional emails. You can leverage expanded web page UX/UI tactics in your email wireframes.







Building for A Modern World In The Palm of Your Hand

Usage Statistics

Why A Mobile First Approach Is Important

- On average, Americans check their phones once every 4 minutes.
- Among Americans aged 18 29,
 61% use Gmail.
- About 75% of Gmail users access their email on a mobile device.
- Don't just make your email mobile-friendly.
 More than half of all internet users are on a mobile device.



Phone usage sourced from https://elitecontentmarketer.com/screen-time-statistics/ Gmail statistics sourced from https://emailanalytics.com/gmail-statistics/

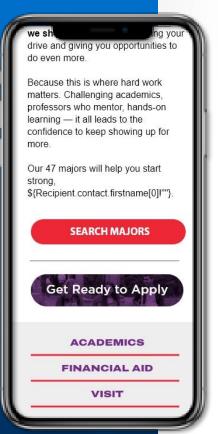


Formatting for Email

Using Best Practice UX/UI

- Design for vertical instead of horizontal.
 - Hot Tip: users will engage with vertical assets on the desktop at the same frequency as assets with horizontal formatting.
- Stop the endless scrolling. This is another reason we need to control the amount of information in each email.
- Don't be afraid of multiple buttons and links.
 - Hot Tip: Don't forget about link hierarchy
- Build for speed and beauty.







Formatting for Digital Advertising

Updating Your Approach for Conversion

- 63% of students will interact with digital advertising during their search.
- Search and social ads show the largest source of engagement across all channels.
 - Half of social media users prefer video over other types of content.
 - 91% of Instagram Users watch videos weekly.
 - Instagram videos that are around 26 seconds long receive the most comments.
 - Build and Shoot for social.

RNL, Gigg, ModernCampus, Plexuss, & StudentBridge (2023). 2023 *E-Expectations Trend Report*. Ruffalo Noel Levitz.

RNL

Video statistics sourced from Sprout Social, a leading social marketing platform https://sproutsocial.com/insights/social-media-video-statistics/

53%Google Search

50%Instagram

39%
YouTube and TikTok

Where Are Students Clicking On College Or University Ads?



Enhanced SSE Creative

An Improved User Experience

Partner Integration Applied Where Applicable

- Digital Student Engagement
- Personalized Video
- Parent Engagement
- Virtual Experiences

More effectively display and leverage the value of these services

Standard Content Pillars

Academic, Student Life, and Affordability

- Build emails around topics most important to prospects
- Written in brand voice and student mindset based on message's relevant funnel stage

Measure content impact across different campaigns

Improved UX

Expanding Executions for Enhance
User Experience

- Focused linking strategy
- Greater diversity of hero images across sequence emails
- Tighter content and design choices
- Mobile-friendly design
- Improved visual hierarchy



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rooms. This is what residence life is

supposed to be like, and it's the reality

at Augusta University.

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Check out this exclusive collection of videos to learn more about AU's academic programs, student life, campus recraision and much more. It's a great way to get a feel for campus life.

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Programs



Virtual **Financial** Tour

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Complete your survey

Let us know you're still interested!



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This is your last chance to complete your Augusta University College Compatibility Survey. Respond today to learn more about how we can support your unique goals and interests.

We're excited to show you how Augusta can help you thrive. Respond now to take the next step.

Complete Your Survey

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you and what you want from college our admissions team will be in touch with you soon.

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· Get Augusta admissions answers And so much more!

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and check out our AU Cost Estimato to get an idea what your costs migh If you have one questions reach out to

or <u>osfa@augusta.edu</u>. We're happy to work individually with you and your family to explore your options

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Your parents can get answers about financial aid, too, through our Augusta University Family Portal.



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Get to know AU before your visit

Check out this exclusive collection of videos to learn more about a range programs, student life and campus recreation. It's a great way to get a feel for campus life before your visit.









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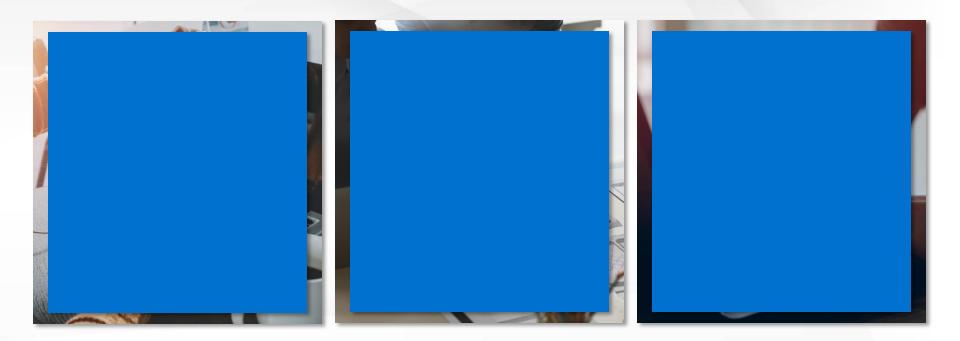






Sneak Peak

Expanding for an Ever-Changing Audience







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