Overview for Members

This resource is intended to give ASC members a quick overview of the ASC Program to help get you started with the 2021-2022 application cycle. We encourage you to visit the ASC Orientation for in-depth coverage of the ASC Program and the interviewing cycle.

Overview of the ASC

The ASC is a network of alumni volunteers who share a passion for Yale and conduct interviews on behalf of Undergraduate Admissions with the goals of:

1. Providing crucial information about applicants to Yale so that the admissions committee can make better decisions as it shapes the first-year class; and
2. Establishing a Yale presence that educates the local applicants and community about Yale’s unique opportunities, values, and character.

The ASC consists of:

- 5,860 active volunteers
- Committees that represent 55 countries
- Representatives from all 14 institutions at Yale University
- Active volunteers who span eight decades, from the Yale Classes of 1942 to 2021

The Interviewing Process

1. **Student submits an application to the Admissions Office**
2. **ASC Director receives notification that applicants are available for interviews**
3. **ASC Director assigns interviewers from available volunteers**

The process of completing an alumni interview involves several phases and action items. The following diagram outlines these phases, as well as key pieces of information that provide deeper guidance at each step of the process. We hope you enjoy conducting interviews for the ASC Program!

### Why Your Work is Important

**Ambassadorship:** In many cases, the interview may be the only time the applicants have direct contact with a Yale community member. As a result, the interview can be an influential moment for the applicant, even beyond the application process. Your interaction with applicants can illuminate the University’s strengths and ethos, and for admitted students, it may contribute significantly to their choosing us over other attractive options.

**Interviews:** Perceptive written impressions help the Admissions Committee envision the personal and intellectual qualities that may make some high-achieving students stand out among others. Additionally, your reports can lend important context for the applicant. The interview report remains one of the few documents that provides a window into a spontaneous interaction with the applicant. As a result, they are some of the most frequently viewed documents in our Admissions Committee.
Important Dates and Additional Resources

Please keep the following dates and additional resources in mind during your work as an interviewer:

- **November 1st**: Early Action application deadline. While some interviews may happen before this date, this is the official kick-off of the interviewing season.
- **December 1st**: Deadline for Early Action interview reports
- **January 2nd**: Regular Decision application deadline.
- **March 1st**: Deadline for all interview reports

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**Where/How To Conduct Interviews**

Interviews tend to last between 30 minutes to 45 minutes. Anything shorter than that may miss out on important information; anything longer may feel exhausting. Unlike past years, all interviews for the 2021-2022 cycle will take place virtually. A variety of platforms are available including:

- Zoom
- Skype
- FaceTime
- Google Hangouts

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**Guidelines for Writing Interview Reports**

The impressions you form through the interview may provide key insights as we shape the class. While there is no set format for interview reports, here are a few examples of themes you may learn from the interviews:

- Intellectual strengths and energy
- Academic interests
- Flexibility in thinking, openness
- Expressive abilities
- Nonacademic interests or talents
- Personal qualities
- Distinctive or unusual talents and/or circumstances

Yale interviews are meant to be conversations rather than interrogations, where applicants learn about Yale even as volunteers are learning about applicants. Expect applicants to ask about your own Yale experiences; they’re just as curious as you are! Ultimately, we hope the interview is a meaningful interaction for both the student and the volunteer.

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**Quick Tips**

- We recommend completing your reports within 48-72 hours of the interview.
- If you have a problem completing an interview, let your ASC Director know right away. Please still submit a report if a student declines the interview or is unresponsive to your messages.
- Applicants may ask questions to which you do not know the answer. That’s okay! Feel free to direct them to the admissions office for accurate information at asc@yale.edu.