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# How to Avoid Writing Homeschool High School Course Descriptions!

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Although many, if not most colleges like to see some kind of course descriptions to accompany a homeschool studentâ€™s transcript, there are several strategies for those who simply want to avoid having to write course descriptions!  One method is, of course, to search for those specific colleges who donâ€™t want course descriptions or a lot of information. Some colleges may have only five minutes to evaluate each applicant and donâ€™t have a lot of time to look at everybody closely. Sometimes these are the colleges that donâ€™t require a lot of course descriptions.  Of course, the difficulty with this is that you donâ€™t know in advance whether theyâ€™re going to need course descriptions or not. Sometimes, they donâ€™t publicize that information.

A second strategy is to use testing scores to supplement your transcripts.  This means that you provide outside documentation from tests, which can reflect the grades and the evaluation that youâ€™ve done on your children as represented on their transcripts.  Some testing options are SAT subject tests, AP exams, and CLEP exams.  If you donâ€™t have thorough documentation, sometimes colleges will ask you for a GED or ask a student to take a GED.

A third option is to have your student take courses through another classroom situation, such as community college, online classes or distance learning, essentially something that has a transcript that will come from a third party.  There are some colleges, though, that will still require course descriptions even though your child will already have some community college classes, so itâ€™s not always the perfect solution, but itâ€™s a solution.

A fourth solution to avoiding course descriptions is what I call the â€œBackdoor Strategy.â€•  This is when your student goes to community college and later on gets their foot in the door to a 4-year university. Universities want to know that a student can handle college level work, which is why they want to know information about your homeschool. Community college is college-level work, so some universities will give you direct admission and some universities in some states will require an automatic transfer agreement to public universities if your child has an AA degree (a two-year degree) from a community college.  The university may provide admission based on performance in class, and with an AA degree a student may enter as a transfer student rather than a high school senior.  If they have two years of community college and an AA, then when they apply for college they may apply as a transfer student. Of course, different rules apply, and sometimes scholarships are much less with this method.  In addition,

If youâ€™re using community college classes as a way to avoid course descriptions, then make sure that your child understands that they need excellent grades. They need to get all As and Bs at the community college in order to do really well on their college admission for the next step. You do have to be careful, as it can be a lot of hard work.

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