

## Executive Summary

During the research for Dalphin, I got the chance to interview 7 friends and family with distinctly different backgrounds. I was able to gather data from both international and US nationalities that also had experiences with both undergraduate and graduate school application processes. To conduct my research, I used Interview and online Google Form methods to ask questions related to this project either by having a in person conversations, zoom meetings, and online communications with my international friends that live in different timezones. I decided to ask 15 questions about their experience with academic schools and application process to get more data on what they found challenging or general emotions as well.

Throughout my conversations with my subjects, I found a lot of commonalities, but at the same time complete opposite or different answers as well. Most common similarity from the overall data was how stressful of an experience it is to find a major, as well as school, especially for international students when they are just in high school. Further, it was surprising how some people from this research already knew what they wanted but most either depended on cultural/family influences or needed to be more employable for better pay. Another interesting outcome was how some subjects used up to 3 month to fill out an application form and others just few hours. These stark differences also influenced by them being either a native or an international student who has to go through 2-3 times more documentation process just to be able to count eligible. It is also important to point out that some people also had their parents as guides or influences which they also helped their kids to go through this life changing process, where others didn't. Most of the subjects I interviewed also experienced their academic lives in a different language than their native one. Additionally, it was also apparent how some subjects applied to 1 school for the following year, on the other hand, others did up to 11-12 schools for one academic year as well. When it came to