

Understanding the College Process

Where should we be with the college process at this point?

- A. Have/working on a compiled list of schools (this can change - add or take off schools)
 - 1. Create a spreadsheet with deadline dates
 - 2. Organize what is required from each school
- B. Have taken/plan to take the SAT or ACT
- C. Letters of Recommendation
- D. Begin applications (many available starting the end of September)

Sign-Up For College Visits

- Use your Naviance Account to sign-up for College Visits
 - You will meet in a small group with an admissions counselor from that specific school to discuss admissions and opportunities
 - Some schools visiting us are...
 - Temple, Rowan, LaSalle, Rider, Stockton, Gettysburg, Rutgers and many more!

What is included in a complete application?

- I. Application (including the Essay and Application Fee)
- II. Test Scores
- III. Transcript
- IV. Letters of Recommendation
- V. School Profile

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT?

THE APPLICATION - Responsibility of the Student

- A. Fill out the Application for each specific school by using...
 - 1. Common Application
 - 2. School website - University Specific
 - 3. Coalition Application
- B. The application also includes...
 - 1. Application Fee
 - 2. Essay
- C. Remember, each school determines which platform they choose to use and it is listed on their admissions webpage

THE APPLICATION-

Responsibility of the Student cont'd.

- A. Choose which admission plan is right for your student...
 - 1. Regular Decision
 - 2. Early Action
 - 3. Early Decision - binding
 - 4. Rolling Admission
 - a) In most cases, your choice will determine the deadline dates for each school

THE APPLICATION- Responsibility of the Student cont'd.

- A. Add the College that the student is applying to into their Naviance Account (Matching or Add College)
 - 1. We will show students this process (quick!) in September in their classes and in individual meetings

THE TRANSCRIPT REQUEST FORM (TRF)

– Responsibility of the Student

- A. After the application has been submitted, the student must turn in the **TRANSCRIPT REQUEST FORM**
- B. **We ask that we receive the form TWO weeks prior to the deadline (allows time to gather documentation)**
 - 1. Without this form, we will not know that your student applied to a school or what is needed to be sent
 - a) Main form of communication

TEST SCORES – Responsibility of the Student

I. Test Scores

A. Scores must be sent directly from CollegeBoard.org or ACTStudent.org using your student's account

1. Schools no longer accept scores from the Guidance Office

a) [How - to - Video to Send Scores*](#)

(1) Input ALL colleges that you are applying to (this video is just an example)

*from the University of West Georgia website

TEST SCORES-

Responsibility of the Student contd.

- I. Sending free score reports
 - A. Each student receives FOUR free send score reports when they register for the SAT/ACT
 - B. Paying for Score Sends
 1. Score reports can be sent at anytime outside of the above window for a fee
 - a) SAT - \$11.25
 - b) ACT - \$12.00

TEST OPTIONAL SCHOOLS - Information

- A. Test Optional Schools (Fairtest.org)
 - 1. Many schools require certain criteria in order to be considered for test optional admission plans
 - a) Ex. additional essays/questions, GPA, interview
 - 2. Even at Test Optional Institutions, some majors will still require test scores (depends on the school policy)
 - a) Ex. Engineering, students applying for merit scholarships

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION – Responsibility of the Student

I. Letters of Recommendation

A. Student requests letters of recommendation from their teacher face-to-face

1. Once the teacher agrees, the student then adds the teacher to their Naviance Account under “Letters of Recommendation”

a) This will generate an email to the teacher - allowing them to upload their letter into Naviance

b) FERPA – In the Common App

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) – Responsibility of the Parents/Guardians

- I. USE THIS WEBSITE ONLY! - www.fafsa.gov
- II. FAFSA is open on October 1st
 - A. Use prior-prior tax information (2017)
- III. Make sure to record the FAFSA deadline dates for each school
- IV. Contact the Financial Aid Office of each school if prior-prior tax information is currently different
 - A. Ex. loss of a job, divorce
- V. Attend Financial Aid Night
- VI. Any issues? Contact the school's Financial Aid Office -OR- the NJ Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA) at 609-584-4480

SENDING DOCUMENTATION - Responsibility of the Counseling Office

- I. Transcript
 - A. The student turns in the Transcript Request Form to generate a request for their documents to be sent to the college/university
 - B. The Counseling Office will send the transcript, letters of recommendation, and the School Profile to the school requested by the student
 - C. The School Profile accompanies the transcript to each school

THINGS TO REMEMBER...

- i. It takes about two weeks for SAT scores to be sent from CollegeBoard to the school of your choice - it then takes the school about a week or two to process these scores (sometimes longer during busy periods)...PLAN AHEAD!
- ii. When we send our documents to a school, it will still take time for the college to process that they have been received
 - A. During this time, you may still receive GENERIC emails from the college asking for your documentation - this is NORMAL!

THINGS TO REMEMBER - PART 2

- I. Use an email that you and your student can check on a daily basis
- this is the main form of communication from the college/university
 - A. READ EVERY EMAIL - they are sending it for a reason
- II. Students should create the admissions account for each school
(notified of the login and password through email)
 - A. This will have the college's application checklist - **MAKE SURE TO CHECK THIS CONSISTENTLY UNTIL ALL DOCUMENTS ARE MARKED AS RECEIVED!**

UPCOMING EVENTS

- I. College Essay Writing Workshop (Sunday, Sept. 16, 2018 at 11:00am)
- II. College Visits in the Guidance Office (multiple dates)
 - A. Students should register in their Naviance accounts
- III. Financial Aid Night (Thursday, October 4, 2018 at 6:30)
- IV. On-Site Admissions (late November)
 - A. Student's receive instant decisions from colleges in attendance (if a decision can be made by the admission counselor)

QUESTIONS!