

WELCOME

COLLEGE-BOUND SENIOR NIGHT

The Fundamentals of College Planning

Allentown High School



September 29, 2022



The AHS Counselors

- Lauren Jaeger, Department Chair of Guidance
- Dana Bannon, Student Assistance Coordinator
- Jennifer Chiusano
- Mary Johnson
- Justin Sauer
- Jacqueline Ward
- Guidance Secretaries:
 - Ms. Natalicchio
 - Ms. Appel



Discussion Topics

- General timeline of the college application process
- Classification of schools
- Types of Application Deadlines
- College Admissions considerations
- SAT and ACT

Discussion Topics (continued)

- Naviance
- NCAA Eligibility for Student Athletes
- College Essay Tips
- Letters of Recommendation

Fall Responsibilities



- Meet with your counselor for follow-up meetings
- Register for the ACT or SAT (if needed)
- Narrow down your list of colleges
 - On average, 5-8 schools
 - Likes and Dislikes
 - Create pro-con list as a visual to help aid in decision

Pros/Cons List Example

College: Redbird University

Pros

- Beautiful campus
- Well-known program for my major
- Good academic fit
- Will know other people there

Cons

- Location-Too close to home
- Not a city campus
- Class sizes are large
- Expensive
- Cold Weather

Decide which bulleted points from your list mean the most to you

Fall Responsibilities (cont.)



- Complete & submit the College Application Packet
 - Transcript Release Form
 - Counselor Recommendation/Parent Brag Sheet
 - Teacher Recommendation Forms
 - Activity Sheet
- Start college applications - - Please remember the 15 day processing time for your Counselor
- **Oct. 1: FAFSA is open**
 - www.fafsa.ed.gov
 - Oct. 20th, 6:30PM is Financial Aid Night at AHS!

Fall Responsibilities (cont)



- Sign up for virtual college visits at AHS through Naviance
- Register for tours and open houses and interact with admission counselors
 - Interviews
 - Email Correspondence
 - “Coffee with a Counselor Sessions”
- Be aware of ALL DEADLINES! (Applications, Scholarship Financial Aid, and NCAA)

Classification of Schools

- Safety
- Target
- Reach



Reach, Target, Safety

Reach	Target	Safety
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academically challenging—you may not quite fit the college's academic profile. • Selective admissions. • Potentially high cost of attendance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You are likely to be admitted based on your academic profile. • You would be happy attending that college. • Would not be financially overwhelming to attend. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You are almost certain to be admitted. • You would be happy and get a good education there. • Affordable with reasonable effort.

photo found at: <https://slideplayer.com/slide/3443982/>

Types of Application Deadline

- Early Action
- Restrictive Early Action
- Early Decision
- Early Decision II
- Rolling Admissions
- Priority Application
- Regular Decision
- Instant Decision (in person with interview)
- Rutgers – Nov. 1 – Priority Early Action & Dec. 1 – Regular Admission (SRAR & Application)
- Penn State (SRAR & Application)



WHICH COLLEGE ADMISSION PROCESS BEST SUITS YOU?

Nonrestrictive Application Plans			Restrictive Application Plans	
Regular Decision	Rolling Admission	Early Action (EA)	Early Decision (ED)	Restrictive Early Action (REA)
<p>DEFINITION: Students submit an application by a specified date and receive a decision in a clearly stated period of time.</p>	<p>DEFINITION: Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render admission decisions throughout the admission cycle.</p>	<p>DEFINITION: Students apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular response date.</p>	<p>DEFINITION: Students make a commitment to a first-choice institution where, if admitted they definitely will enroll. The application deadline and decision deadline occur early.</p>	<p>DEFINITION: Students apply to an institution of preference and receive a decision early. They may be restricted from applying ED or EA or REA to other institutions. If offered enrollment, they have until May 1 to confirm.</p>
<p>COMMITMENT: NONBINDING</p>	<p>COMMITMENT: NONBINDING</p>	<p>COMMITMENT: NONBINDING</p>	<p>COMMITMENT: BINDING</p>	<p>COMMITMENT: NONBINDING</p>

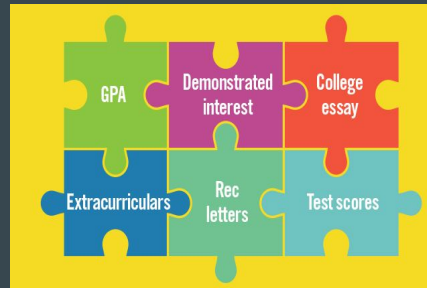
Students are not restricted from applying to other institutions and have until May 1 to consider their options and confirm enrollment.

Students are responsible for determining and following restrictions.

found at : <https://www.oakparkusd.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=1102>

Admissions Process: How Colleges Make Decisions

- Overall GPA
- Strength of Transcript
- Admission test scores (ACT, SAT)
- Essay or writing sample
- Student's demonstrated interest in the college
- Counselor recommendation
- Teacher recommendation
- Interview
- College Visit- In person and virtual



Standardized Test Dates

ACT

- www.actstudent.org
- October 22, 2022
- December 10, 2022
- February 11, 2023
- April 15, 2023
- June 10, 2023
- July 15, 2023

SAT

- www.collegeboard.org
- October 1, 2022
- November 5, 2022
- December 3, 2022
- March 11, 2023
- May 6, 2023
- June 3, 2023



SAT/ACT Score Reports

- AHS does not send SAT or ACT scores to colleges.
- Scores must be sent by students from the College Board or ACT to the colleges
- Please visit:
 - www.actstudent.org
 - www.collegeboard.org



Test-Optional

- <https://www.sparkadmissions.com/blog/what-colleges-will-be-test-optional-in-2022-2023/>
- If you are a recruited athlete, or are applying for a specific program - DOUBLE CHECK to make sure test optional policies apply to you

Types of Applications

Common Application

- Create an account for the Common Application- go to www.commonapp.org
- Complete the Common App and FERPA Statement

College Website

- Some Colleges use their own application on their website in order to apply

Coalition Application

- If colleges use this application for their admissions process, you will need to create an account at :
■ <https://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/mycoalition-intro>

Common App Updates

- The Common Application for the 2022-2023 has created a more inclusive application with the following changes:
 - The removal of the school discipline question
 - The removal of the military discharge questions
 - Revisions to the citizenship, family, and geography question
 - Revisions to the sex/gender questions
 - The removal of the religious preference question
- COVID-19 Question
 - The Common App is also continuing to include the opportunity for students to share how they were impacted (optional)

Naviance

- Requesting teachers for letters of recommendation
- Maintain an accurate and updated college list
- Requesting a transcript
- Matching Naviance to the Common Application
- Scholarship List in Naviance and Guidance webpage
- Bring a Chromebook to your School Counselor Appointment



NCAA Registration

- Register with NCAA Eligibility Center:
<https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/>
- Division I and Division II Academic Requirements:
<https://www.ncaa.org/sports/2013/11/25/academic-standards-for-initial-eligibility.aspx>
- NCAA Guide for College-Bound Student Athlete:
http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/eligibility_center/Student_Resources/CBSA.pdf

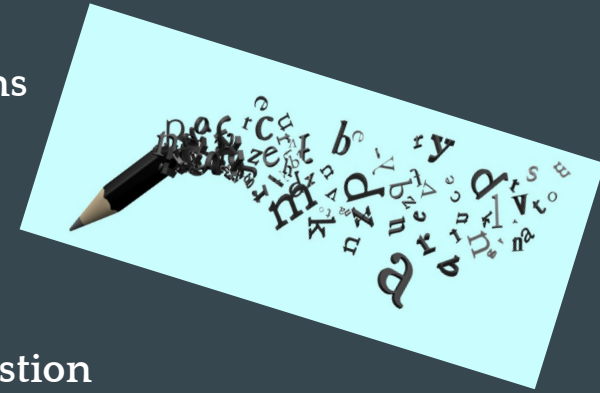
Teacher Letter of Recommendation

- Ask your teacher IN-PERSON
- Place the teacher recommendation form in their hands – be thorough
- Provide a reasonable timeline to have them complete the letter
- Add the teacher to Naviance
- **BE SURE TO THANK YOUR TEACHERS!!**



College Essay

- Be Concise
- Be Honest
- Follow Directions
- Write Well
- Be Vivid
- Be Yourself
- Be Coherent
- Answer the Question
- Have it Reviewed by the Writing Clinic



Student Responsibilities

- Turn in your Senior Packet to your School Counselor
- Match Common App and Naviance Accounts
- Complete the Transcript Request (Yellow) Form
- Send your SAT or ACT scores
- Send your updated, most current resume if required
- Turn forms into the Counseling Office at least 15 school days in advance for processing
- Remember to thank your teachers for writing your letter of recommendation

Counselor Responsibilities

- Send your transcript (after receiving yellow transcript request form)
- Complete & send the Secondary School Report (supplemental forms)
- Send Teacher recommendations
- Send School Counselor recommendation
- Other materials as necessary



Winter Season & Future Steps

- Regular decision deadlines
- Colleges may request 1st semester grades/ Mid year reports
 - Fill out Mid-Year Report Request as soon as you know college is requesting grades
(BLUE FORM)
- Get ready for Scholarship Season – prepare local and community scholarship applications
- Visit the colleges that have accepted you and invited you to attend

In the Spring, finalize your decision...

- Pay your tuition deposit by May 1
- Pay your housing deposit by May 1
- Keep in contact with your School Counselor for any last minute issues
- Complete the graduation surveys on Naviance→ We will notify you
- Remember we ALWAYS send the final transcripts to the school you decide to attend- Keep up your grades!
 - If grades drop, colleges have the right to rescind decision
- Enjoy the last couple months of High School!



College Planning Guidance Counselor Meetings

- All seniors will be contacted throughout the months of September and October for in person college planning meetings with their counselor.
- This is a follow up discussion to the Junior College Planning Meeting that took place last year.
- Students can make appointments with counselors for meetings regarding the college application process by submitting a counselor form.

Questions?

We are here to help! Contact us Directly:

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