

General College Planning



La Salle High School
Class of 2020



Our Agenda

- Learning About Colleges
- Six Pieces to the Admissions Puzzle
- College Resources
- Things you can do now!

Ways to Learn About Colleges

1. College Visits

- Visit early and often!
- Visit a variety of schools- in/out of state, big/small, urban/suburban
- How to register for a visit
- [Questions to ask on a visit](#)



2. Rep Visits

- Sign up in Naviance to meet with college reps when they visit La Salle

3. College Fairs

Six Pieces of the Admissions Puzzle

1. Resume/Activity Sheet
2. Standardized Testing (ACT/SAT)
3. College Essay
4. Letters of Recommendation
5. Application
6. Transcripts



1. Resume/Activity Sheet

- Awards/honors
 - Extra-curricular activities/sports
 - Volunteer/service work
 - Employment
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- Should be completed by the fall
 - Update and save information regularly in resume section of Naviance (under *About Me* tab)

2. Standardized Testing

- It is recommended that students take the ACT or SAT at least twice. (June, July, and/ or September)
- Free test prep resources are available online
- Scores must be sent directly from the testing agency to each college to which you apply. Order them from www.collegeboard.com (SAT) or www.actstudent.org (ACT).
- Check colleges for last accepted test date before priority deadline.
- Scores from the March ACT test and your ACT account need to be connected for utilization in college applications.

Upcoming Testing Dates

ACT

- April 13th
 - Late Registration deadline 3/25
- June 8th
 - Registration deadline 5/3
- July 13th
 - Registration deadline 6/14



SAT

- May 4th
 - Registration deadline 4/5
- June 1st
 - Registration deadline 5/3



- ▶ Please remember to include La Salle's CEEB code (361021) in your registration so we'll receive a copy of your test scores to add to your permanent record.
- ▶ Pay attention to registration deadlines (late fees add up).

3. Essay

- Most colleges require at least one, including Common App
- Let *your voice* come through in your essays: this is how colleges get to know you
- View Common App essay prompts for the 2019-2020 school year at [Common App Essay Prompts 2019-2020](#)
- If applying to more selective colleges, students will likely need 2 or 3 essays

4. Letters of Recommendation

- Number of needed letters vary-2 is the norm
- Choose teachers related to intended field of study if possible
- Ask early to give teachers maximum time to write (during 4th quarter)
- Be gracious in asking- letters take time and teachers write many!! Don't forget to do a thank you note.

5. Applications

Two Types

1. College-specific application: Go to the college website and create an account to complete it.
2. The Common Application
www.commonapp.org
 - Pay attention to different types of admission deadlines. “Priority” deadlines indicate full consideration for scholarships and special programs.
 - Student responsible for submitting
 - Counselor will not see application unless student asks. Parents, review applications before son submits.

Types of Admission Deadlines

Regular/Traditional

Students will be notified according to each college's notification date which generally begins in early Spring.

Rolling

Applications are reviewed as they are submitted. Applicants will receive a decision 6-10 weeks after review is complete.

Early Action (Non-Binding)

Allows students to apply early (normally in November) and receive a decision in December or January.

Early Decision (Binding)

Same as Early Action but it is binding. 'Binding' means that the applicant promises to attend the school if they are accepted.

6. Transcript

- Official record of student academic performance sent directly by the counselors via Naviance
- Must be requested by the student in writing and in Naviance for each application.
- Some schools will require a mid-year transcript. Senior year matters!
- Transcript does not include test scores
- Student must allow at least two weeks before deadline for processing

Financial Aid

Scholarships

Aid that is based on academics or special talents – must apply!

Loans

Money loaned to student or parent for education – must be repaid!

Grants

Aid that is based on financial need, some have academic requirements

Work Study

Part-time jobs, on campus through a need-based federal program

Athletes

- To play Division I or II sports you must be registered with the NCAA Clearinghouse at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net .
- If a College coach requests a transcript, complete a transcript request form in Counseling Office.
- Send all ACT/SAT scores to the NCAA Clearinghouse (code: 9999).
- Be sure to tell your counselor if you hope to play in college



Ways Naviance is used to Manage the Process

- Supermatch (research colleges for college list)
- Resume
- Senior Questionnaire
- Request Letters of Recommendation
- Create “Colleges I’m Thinking About” list
- Create “Colleges I’m Applying To” list
- Request Transcripts
- Sign Up for College Rep Visits at La Salle

Who Does What?

Student Responsibilities

Complete applications

Have test scores sent to colleges

Write essay/personal statements

Prepare resume/activity sheet

Request transcripts in Naviance and on paper

Request letters of recommendation

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

Take you on college visits if possible

Support and encourage you!

Organize and prepare information for FAFSA

Counselor Responsibilities

Prepare transcript

Write letter of recommendation (required for Common App)

Complete counselor forms

Send transcript packet through Naviance

Offer ongoing guidance through classroom lessons and individual meetings.

College Resources

- [College Board](#)
- [ACT](#)
- [Naviance](#)
- [Big Future](#)
- [NACAC](#)
- [Road2College](#)
- [Chegg](#)



Things You Can Do Now

- Check *Counselor Connection* for important information about volunteer/summer opportunities and scholarships
- Update your resume
- Request letters of recommendation
- Research colleges using Naviance Super Match College Search
- Go on a college visit- 2 excused visits each year
- Sign up for test prep if needed
- Register for the SAT/ACT if you haven't already
- Remember, this is an exciting time of your life and we are here to support you!!

