Senior Year –Application Process

CVHS Student Services
Mrs. Kunkel (A-F)
Mrs. O'Malley (G-N)
Mrs. Boyd (O-Z)

Senior Year – Timeline
Fall Semester

1. Finalize list of (4-8) colleges to apply
2. Apply!
3. Request transcripts & letters of recommendations
4. Retake the SAT or ACT if necessary
5. Register to meet with the college representatives
6. Visit colleges
7. Apply for scholarships
8. Complete FAFSA After Oct 1st
9. Attend Financial Aid Night (Nov 25 @6:00p)

COLLEGE APPLICATION RESOURCES

School Counselors

(Mrs. Kunkel, Mrs. O'Malley, and Mrs. Boyd)

-write Counselor letter of recommendation (only if required)

-sends transcripts and letters of recommendations to colleges

-provides applications and SAT/ACT fee waivers

NAVIANCE STUDENT

https://student.naviance.com/chartiersvhs

- VIEW ADMISSIONS DATA (SPECIFIC TO CV)
- SEARCH COLLEGES
- VIEW AND REGISTER TO MEET WITH COLLEGES
- TEST PREP (PREPME)
- COMPLETE TEACHER/COUNSELOR FORMS & REQUEST LETTERS
- LIST OF SCHOLARSHIPS
- INDICATE WHERE YOU HAVE APPLIED/DECISION

ADD YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS TO NAVIANCE STUDENT TO RECEIVE IMPORTANT INFORMATION – CHECK YOUR EMAIL!

VISIT CAMPUS!!!!

-Take a campus tour

-Visit as many schools as possible

-Open House, Information session, interview

-Three school days for visits to college campuses are permitted junior and senior year (College Visit form in Student Services Office)

The application

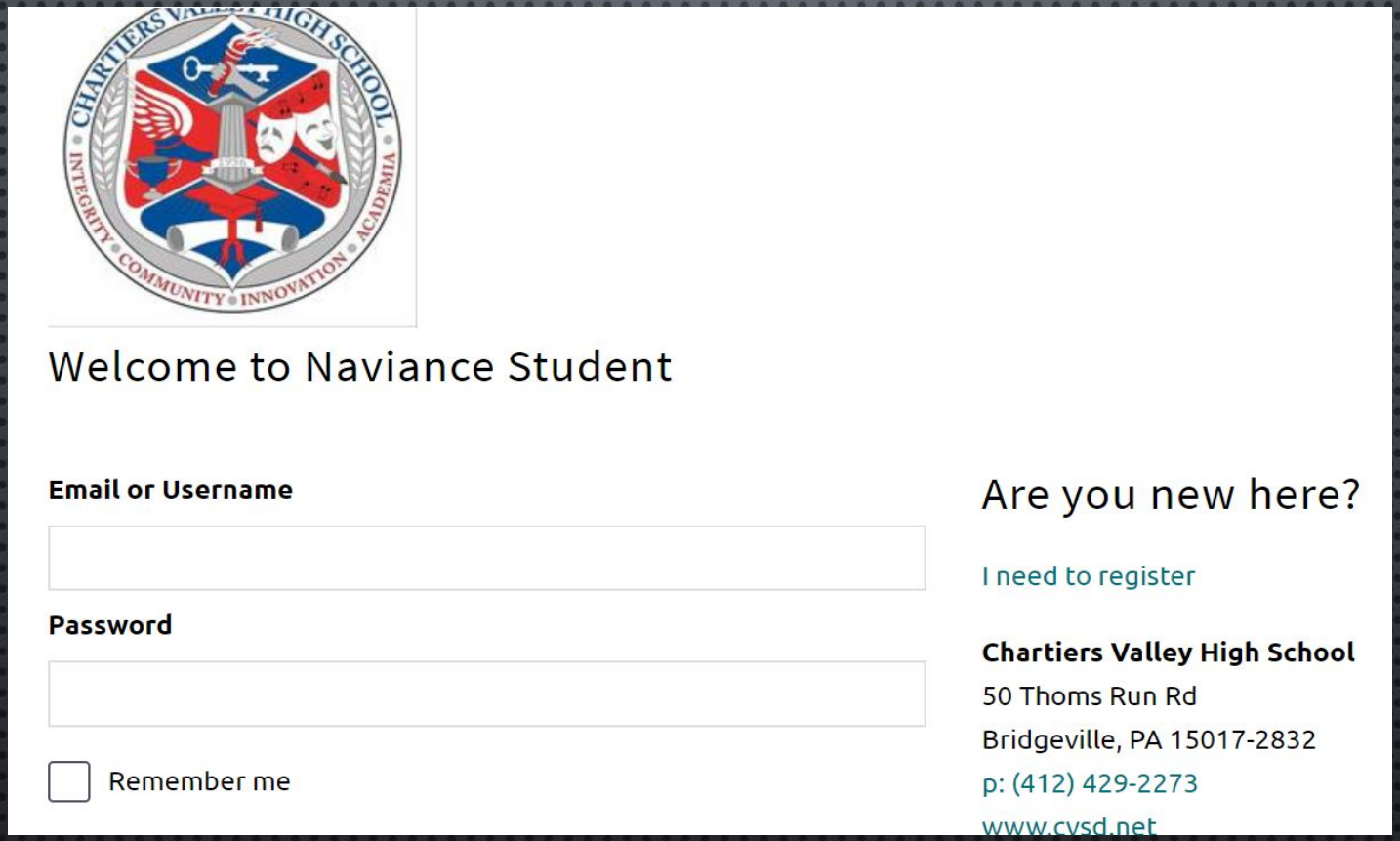
Apply only to colleges you

WANT to ATTEND!!

STEP 1: APPLY

Step 2: NAVIANCE STUDENT

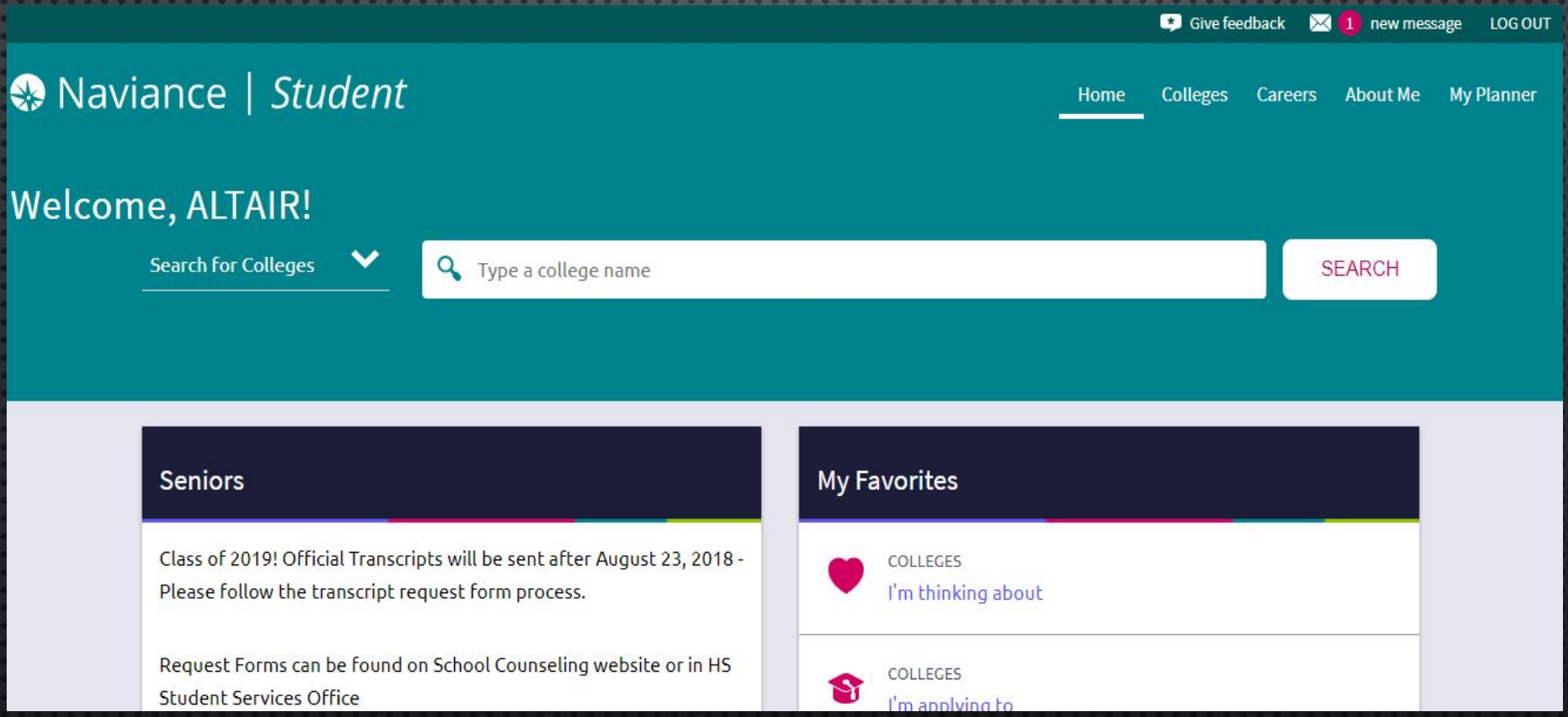
https://student.naviance.com/chartiersvhs



USERNAME: 5 digit cafeteria code 'student id number'
PASSWORD: Date of birth using 8 digits (11261999)

YOUR HOME PAGE

Click on COLLEGES tab - then
Colleges I'm Applying To
Match Common App account and
Add ALL colleges you will apply to



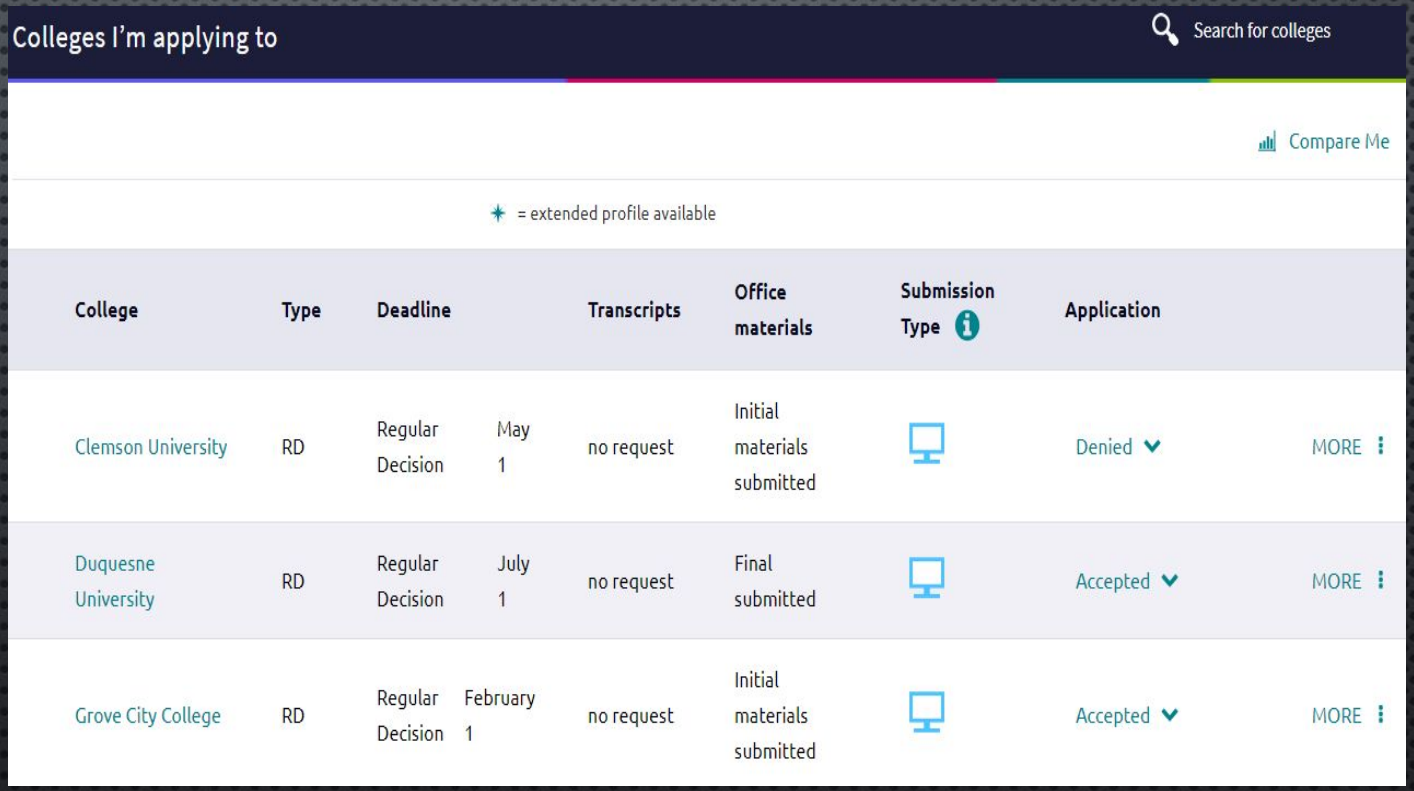
COLLEGES I'M APPLYING TO….

Indicate type of application.

-The search feature allows you to find the college by name or state.

-After you have applied, check "I have submitted my application"

-Click on "Add ApplicationS"



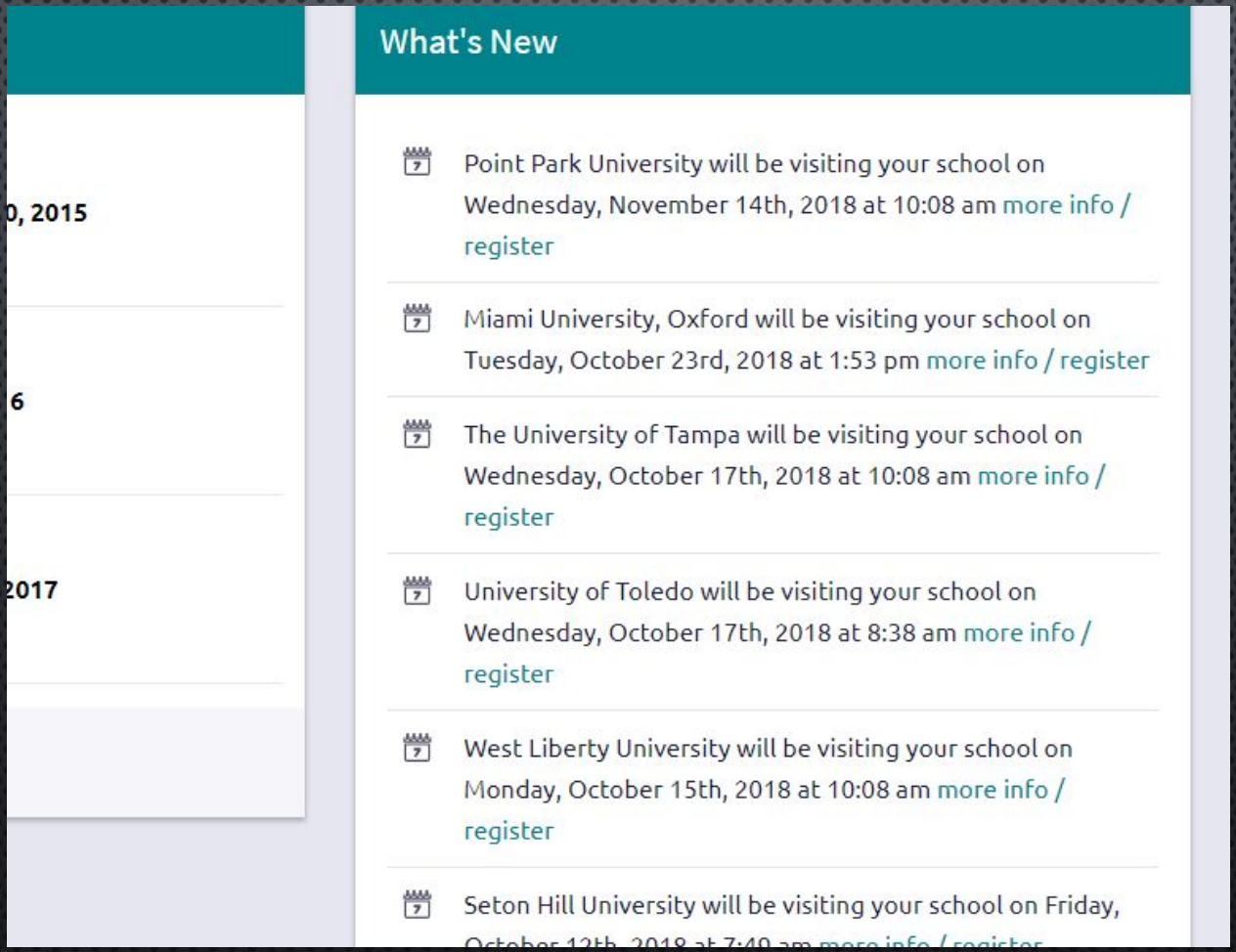
EVENTS FOR STUDENTS

Colleges visiting Chartiers Valley

Log into Naviance Student to view and register to meet colleges visiting CV in the fall. Print out your confirmation sheet and have your teacher sign it as a pass. College visits are held in Commons Conference Room

COLLEGE REP VISITS

View on Home Page under What's New!



Application Items – Who Sends What???

Student

- Application
- Application Fee
- Essay
- Test scores (IF required from the Testing Center)
- Portfolio and/or audition

School Counselor

- Official Transcript with test scores
- Application Fee waiver
- Teacher/counselor letters of recommendation

APPLICATION TYPES

- Rolling Admission
- Early Action (non-binding)
- Priority Deadlines
- Early Decision (binding)
- Regular Decision

ROLLING DECISION

NO application deadline
Decisions are made all throughout the year
May have a priority deadline (Nov. or Dec.) for major
Priority given to those who apply early

EARLY ACTION

Application deadline usually November 1st or November15th
Non-binding
Decisions released by mid-January
Students have till May 1st to commit

HIGHLY RECOMMEND APPLY EARLY ACTION

PRIORITY DEADLINES

Often linked to scholarship opportunities
Application fee may be waived
Either a November 1st, December 1st, or January 1

Example: Penn State, November 30th

EARLY DECISION

Can only apply early DECISION to ONE college
Application deadline is usually November 1st or Nov. 15th
You may apply to other colleges under Early Action
YOU MUST COMMIT TO COLLEGE ONCE ACCEPTED!!!
BINDING CONTRACT
Sometimes there is an advantage with admissions decisions & financial aid when applying early decision

REGULAR DECISION

Deadline – usually January 1st

Decisions released April 1st

Students have till May 1st to commit

It is the responsibility of the STUDENT to know:

1. What items are required by each college

2. Application deadlines

APPLICATION TIPS

Be consistent with your name

Use reliable contact information

Save your username/passwords/web id

The importance of "Waiving your Right"

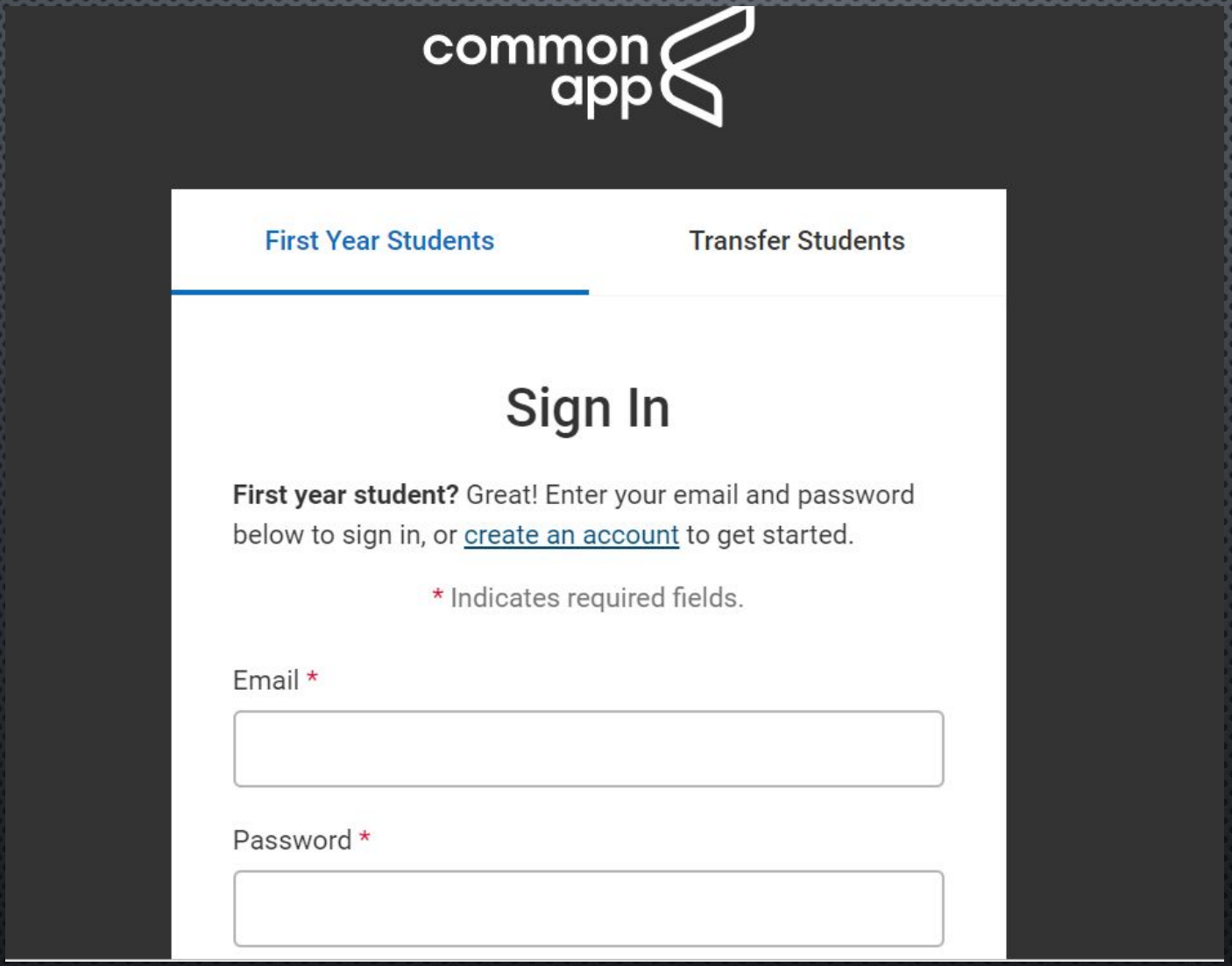
Example:

IMPORTANT PRIVACY NOTE: In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the original School Report submitted on your behalf reflects your choice to waive or not waive your right of access to all recommendations and supporting documents. That response applies to all subsequent reports, including this one. You chose the following:

Yes, I do waive my right to access, and I understand I will never see this form or an other recommendations submitted by me or on my behalf.

No, I do *not waive* my right to access, and I may someday choose to see this form or any other recommendations or supporting documents submitted by me or on my behalf to the institution at which I'm enrolling, if that institution saves them after I matriculate.

Commonapp.org



+ PROS

OVER 800 COLLEGES ARE MEMBERS

FILL OUT ONE APPLICATION FOR ALL COMMON APP SCHOOLS

EASY TRACKING OF APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

EASY TRACKING OF DEADLINES

- CONS

NOT A QUICK APPLICATION

MUST COMPLETE ESSAY (250-650 WORDS)

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION…SHORT ANSWERS & QUESTION

For non-CommonApp.org colleges use the *college's official website* to apply.

APPLY

Colleges will utilize your email address to communicate with you regarding your application.
Check your email and
save your username/password log-in

TRANSCRIPTS

Official transcripts are sent from CV

-official they come from CV electronically

-hard copies have a seal and signature

-99% of colleges require an official transcript

-99% of the transcripts are sent electronically

RECOMMENDATION LETTERS

Teacher Recommendation Letters

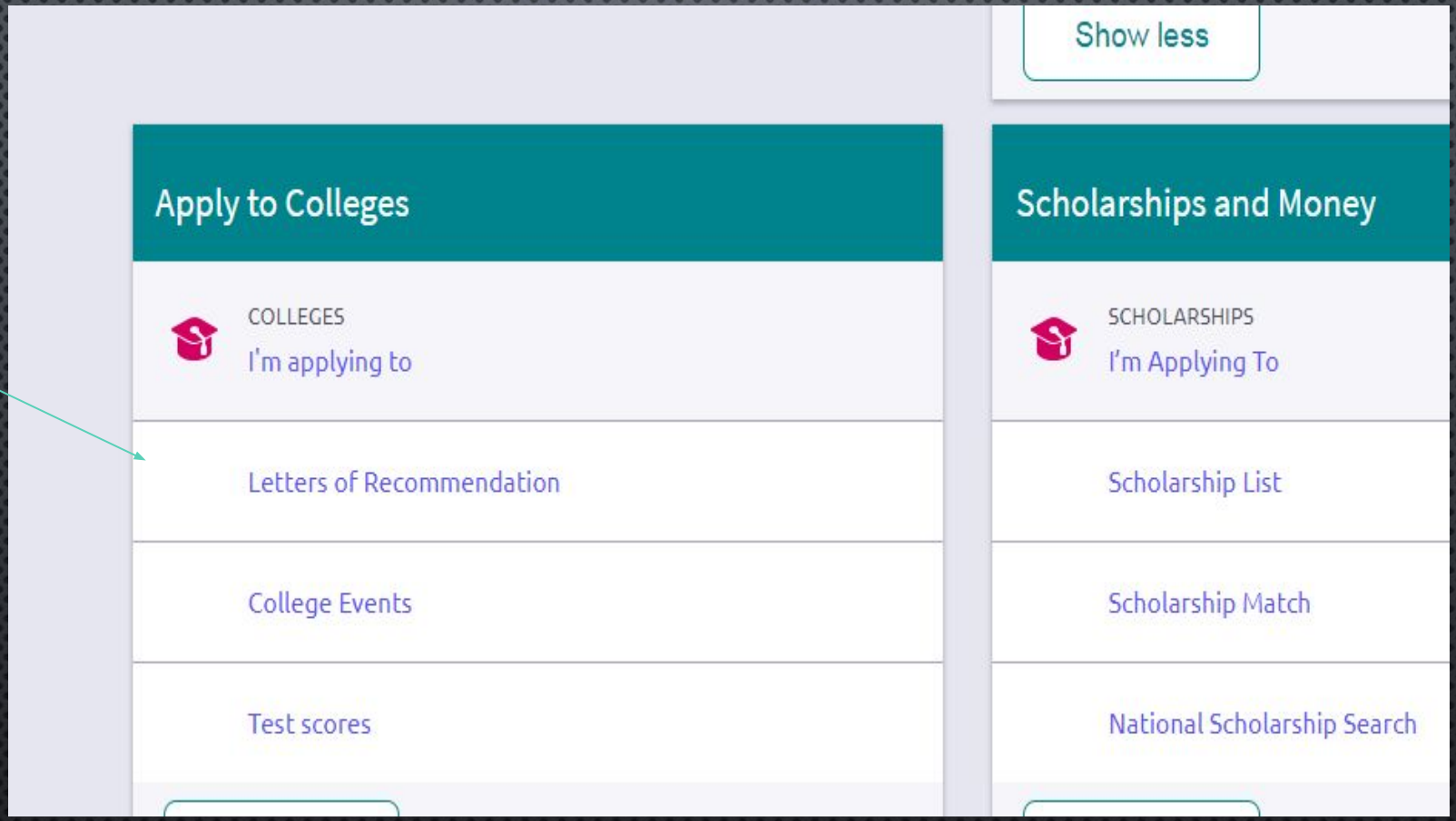
- Ask early. Teacher should have 3 weeks to write letter.
- Log into Student and go to the College tab/Home
- Add new request
- Complete Teacher Rec Letter Survey (in About Me tab under surveys)
- Write a thank-you note to your teachers

NO MORE THAN 2 TEACHER LETTERS

Counselor Recommendation Letters

- Same as above, but complete the “counselor letter of recommendation” (only if application requires should you request a counselor letter)

Requesting Teacher Letters of Recommendation
Click on Colleges - then first option College Home



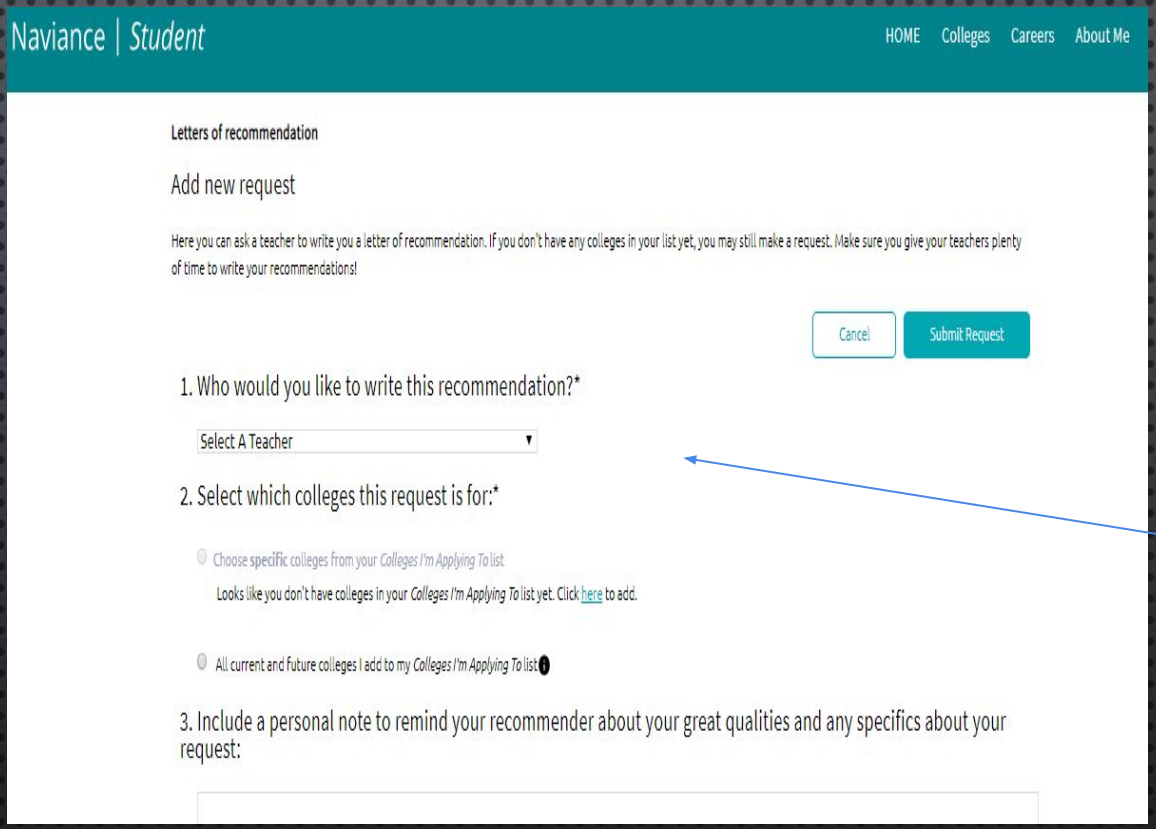
Teacher Letter of Recommendation Request

Request letter of recommendation from teacher in drop down list

Complete questions

NO PAPERS

Request is sent via email to teacher



SAT & ACT SCORES

All of your scores are reported on your transcript

You can request to have all of your scores removed if you are applying test optional

Some colleges require the test scores come directly from the testing center (example: Penn State, U of Pittsburgh, and Ohio State). It is the student's responsibility to determine the college's policy.

STEP 3: Complete Transcript Request Form (Blue Sheet)

- Transcript Request Form can be picked up in the HS /Student Services Office
- Print and complete one form for EACH college

YOU MUST ALLOW 2 WEEKS FOR TRANSCRIPT AND MATERIALS TO BE PROCESSED!!!! Example: Deadline is November 30 (PSU), I must have request by November 15th!!

STEP 1: APPLY

STEP 2: LOG INTO NAVIANCE STUDENT INDICATING WHERE YOU HAVE APPLIED TO IN THE "COLLEGES I'VE APPLIED TO"

STEP 3: COMPLETE THE TRANSCRIPT REQUEST FORM (BLUE SHEET) AND RETURN TO STUDENT SERVICES/COUNSELING OFFICE

SENIOR YEAR – TIMELINE
SPRING SEMESTER

1. Make sure FAFSA is complete
2. Respond to offers of admission and financial aid once you've received your financial aid packages
3. Continue to apply for scholarships (listed on Naviance Student)
4. Submit deposit, due by May 1st
5. June, request your final high school transcript and CIHS transcripts

After Acceptance…

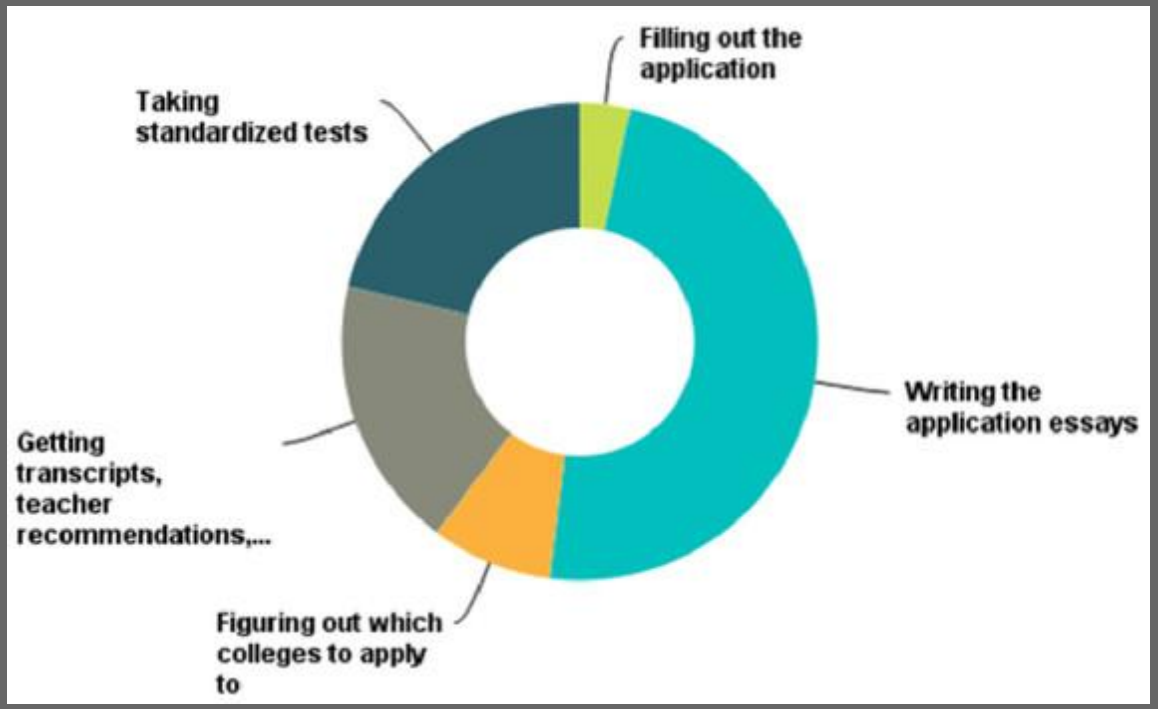
- Share your news with counselors to indicate the decision in Naviance student
- Wait for Financial Aid packages
- You have until MAY 1 to make decision and pay your deposit.
- No senioritis….colleges will rescind acceptance offer if your final grades are not sufficient and/or due to irresponsible social media postings on Twitter, Facebook, etc…

NEXT…ESSAYS!!!!

BROWN
COLUMBIA
CORNELL
DARTMOUTH
HARVARD
PENN
PRINCETON
YALE

WHAT IS THE HARDEST PART OF APPLYING TO COLLEGE?

48.6% OF HS SENIORS: WRITING THE COLLEGE ESSAY



THE IMPORTANCE OF THE COLLEGE ESSAY

- Only time YOU have control
- Only time YOU have a voice
- Only time YOU can share with the colleges something that is not already in the application
- Shows how well YOU can write
- After grades, curriculum, and test scores…the essay is the 4th most important part of an admissions decision

WHAT IS A PERSONAL STATEMENT?

- Your story
- Invitation for your reader to get to know you
- Indicates what is important to you

It is not a summary of the 18 years of your life or a summary of your academic record or a summary of all your extra-curricular activities.

THE DOs

- Be authentic and creative
- Be yourself
- Have an English teacher proofread
- Accept criticism
- Write, edit, revise, repeat
- Prove it with specific details
- Be personal (describe something you've experienced)

THE DON'Ts

- Don't use SAT vocabulary words
- Don't write about something general or broad topics (climate change, gun violence, etc…)
- Don't have misspellings or grammatical mistakes
- Don't be wordy
- Don't rely on spellcheck

TOPICS TO AVOID

- Death of grandparent
- Scoring the touchdown for the State Championship
- Sensitive Topics (ex: religion, politics, etc.)
-
- Your mission trip (unless it's one specific moment)

Choose one question. No more than 650 words.

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma - anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

COMMON APPLICATION ESSAY PROMPTS

KEEP THIS IN MIND….

If you are bored by your essay – the admissions office will be bored too!

Write what you want, not what you think will impress the admissions office.

If your friend found your essay without your name on it and read it, they should be able to know who the writer was because it was clearly using your voice!

RESOURCES

https://hs.cvsd.net/services/school-counselors

www.thecollegessayguy.com

www.nacacnet.org

https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org

QUESTIONS?

BROWN
COLUMBIA
CORNELL
DARTMOUTH
HARVARD
PENN
PRINCETON
YALE