

Boys' Latin of Philadelphia Charter School

Introduction to the College Selection and
Application Process

January 22, 2020

Tonight's Agenda

- Post-Graduation Options
- Finding the Right College
- The Application Process
- Paying for College

After graduation, what next?

- Four-year colleges
- Two-year colleges
- Trade/technical schools
- Military
- Employment

Finding the Right College

● Characteristics to Consider:

- Size
- Location
- Fit
- Activities offered
- Graduation rate
- Majors offered**
- Cost**

Applying to College

● How do colleges decide whom to admit?

- Transcript
- SAT/ACT scores
- Counselor/teacher recommendations
- Essay
- Special talents
- Commitment to activities outside school
- Interview
- Interest

Application Timetable

● Junior Year

- Think about what you want
- Begin researching colleges
- Ask colleges for more information
- Take the SAT/ACT/SAT II Subject Tests
- Complete the first draft of your admission essay
- Ask teachers to write recommendations for you



● This Summer

- Be productive
- Narrow down your college list
- Visit colleges if possible

● Senior Year

- Finalize your college list and begin applications as early as possible
- Plan to complete all applications before winter break
- Take the SAT/ACT again if necessary
- Apply for financial aid and scholarships

Standardized Tests for College

● SAT

- ❑ Offered in Aug., Oct., Nov., Dec., March, May and June
- ❑ 2 required sections: evidence-based reading and writing and math – 3 hours
- ❑ Optional essay section – 50 minutes
- ❑ Total testing time = about 5 hours
- ❑ 200-800 points per section; 1600 = perfect score
- ❑ Essay scored on a 2-8 scale
- ❑ Costs \$49.50 unless you qualify for a waiver; \$64.50 with essay
- ❑ www.collegeboard.org

SAT Dates and Deadlines

Test Date	Deadline to Register
March 14 (offered at BL)	February 14
May 2 (offered at BL)	April 3
June 6	May 8

SAT Prep

- Khan Academy
- Albert.io
- Free group classes – Let's Get Ready, Free Library
- Private prep companies – Kaplan, Princeton Review
- Books

● ACT

- Administered by ACT
- Offered in Sept., Oct., Nov., Feb., April, June
- 4 separate sections: English, math, reading, science
- Writing is optional
- Each section receives a score between 11 and 36
- Composite score between 11 and 36
- Total test time is about 4 hours, 15 min. w/o writing, 5 hours with writing
- Cost is \$52.00; \$68.00 with writing; fee waivers are available
- www.actstudent.org

ACT Test Dates and Deadlines

Test Date	Deadline to Register
April 4	February 28
June 13	May 8

● SAT II Subject Tests

- ❑ Administered by College Board/ETS
- ❑ Hour-long tests in individual subjects such as math (2 levels), literature, US history, biology, languages, et al.
- ❑ Required by only a small number of colleges
- ❑ May take one, two or three on one test date; may not take the SAT and SAT II on the same day
- ❑ Costs \$26.00, plus \$22.00 per test; waivers are available

Fee Waivers

- Both College Board and ACT offer fee waivers to those who qualify.
- Students who qualify may have up to 2 for each test.
- You must complete the household income form on the table and return it to me if you want to see whether you qualify.
- If you qualify for test fee waivers, you will also qualify for application fee waivers.

SAT Fee Waiver Guidelines

Members in the Household	Total Annual Income
1	\$23,107
2	\$31,284
3	\$39,461
4	\$47,638
5	\$55,815
6	\$63,992

Paying for College

- Sticker price vs. actual cost to you
- Types of aid: Federal, State, institutional
- Need-based aid vs. merit-based aid
- Need-based aid: grants, loans, work study jobs
- Merit-based aid: athletic scholarships, academic scholarships and more
- Saving for college – 529 plans
- FAFSA and CSS Profile
- Outside scholarships

Information on Student Aid

- www.studentaid.gov
- <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/financial-aid>

Scoir

- Online college and career resource
- Research careers
- Search for colleges
- Request transcripts and letters of recommendation

app.scoir.com/signin

Naviance Student

- <https://student.naviance.com/blpcs>

Next Steps for Juniors

- Complete the college advising questionnaire in seminar next week.
- As soon as it's complete, stop by the college office to schedule a one-on-one meeting with me or Ms. Tedesco.
- Register for your Scoir account and start using it if you haven't already
- Complete Household Income Form if you think you might qualify for fee waivers
- Register for the SAT (and ACT)

Contact us whenever you have questions...

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