

**WELCOME TO
SENIOR PLANNING
NIGHT
CLASS OF 2021!**

**AMITY COUNSELING
DEPARTMENT
SEPTEMBER 9TH, 2020**

WELCOME

- Goals of the meeting – understand the college process/everyone's role and responsibilities
- Finalize the college list – Students may be at different points in the process
- No list? Students should make an appointment with me to start a search. IT'S NOT TOO LATE!!
- Be aware of limitations regarding geography and finances.
- Scholarships

HOW WILL THE PANDEMIC IMPACT THIS PROCESS?

- Inability to visit some campuses prior to applying
 - This is okay – you can visit after you apply!
 - Virtual tours
 - Drive through local campuses
- Some colleges will not require test scores to be submitted
 - Be sure to seek out this information about each individual school you plan to apply to
 - Visit [Fairtest.org](https://www.fairtest.org) for a list of test optional schools
- Families may want to consider how each college is operating this year (online, hybrid, in person, on campus housing or students staying home). Decide as a family if you are willing to pay the sticker price for that type of learning, should the pandemic continue.

COMMON APPLICATION HAS ADDED A QUESTION SPECIFIC TO COVID-19

- The following question will follow the Personal Statement on the Common Application to allow students a chance to explain the impact of the pandemic on their education:
 - *Community disruptions such as COVID-19 and natural disasters can have deep and long-lasting impacts. If you need it, this space is yours to describe those impacts. Colleges care about the effects on your health and well-being, safety, family circumstances, future plans, and education, including access to reliable technology and quiet study spaces.*
- Students should avoid writing about anything related to the pandemic in their Personal Statement.

On our school profile, we will include information about grading during the spring of 2020

IMMEDIATE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Review your student's transcript
- Confirm that your student has completed their Senior Brag Sheet and complete the optional Parent Questionnaire: both are available through Google forms
- Students can develop a resume (list of activities) & attach to their Brag Sheet
- Students should be working on their list of colleges
- Students should be in process with their college essay
- Determine student's Fall testing needs (Deadlines)

SHOULD MY CHILD TAKE THE SAT/ACT IN SENIOR YEAR?

- ALL SENIORS will be registered to take the SAT in school on Wed 10/14.

<u>SAT Test Date</u>	<u>Reg. Deadline</u>	<u>Late Reg.</u>
Sept. 26	passed	
Sept. 15		
Oct. 3	passed	Sept.
22		
Nov. 7	Oct. 7	
Oct. 28		

SAT Subject tests are also available on these dates

<u>ACT Test Date</u>	<u>Reg. Deadline</u>	<u>Late Fees</u>
Oct. 10	Sept. 25	
No late fees		
Oct. 17	Sept. 25	
No late fees		
Oct. 24	Sept. 25	
No late fees		

WHO SENDS SAT, ACT, AND AP EXAM SCORES TO COLLEGES?

- Your student does.
- Scores may be sent to up to four colleges (no additional fee) through CollegeBoard when you register for SAT.
- Score Choice – both scores sent (based on test date) –writing optional
- Send extra score reports (for a fee) online at collegeboard.org or actstudent.org.

****Keep in mind - MANY colleges will be test optional this year****

Visit www.fairtest.org for more info

CAN COLLEGE APPLICATIONS BE SENT IN BEFORE AN SAT I OR ACT TEST IS TAKEN IN SENIOR YEAR?

- ABSOLUTELY! Don't hold up your application!
- The same thing goes for transcripts and letters of recommendation. Colleges match all materials; they do not need to arrive in synch.
- We kindly request 10 school days notice on transcript requests.

<u>App Deadline</u>	<u>Transcript Request Date</u>
▪ October 15	October 1 st
▪ November 1	October 19 th
▪ November 15	November 2 nd
▪ December 1	November 13 th
▪ December 15	December 1 st
▪ January 1	December 10 th
▪ January 15	January 4 th
▪ February 1	January 15 th

WHEN DOES YOUR STUDENT APPLY TO COLLEGE?

- Deadlines range from mid October - March
- Apply early: competitive state universities or schools with rolling admissions. Nov – Jan
- Early decision/action = early deadlines
- Know the admission policies and deadlines for the schools to which you are applying!

DECIDING TO APPLY “EARLY DECISION” OR “EARLY ACTION”?

- Visiting colleges early
- The commitment
- Sense of readiness
- Advantages & disadvantages

EARLY ADMISSION PROGRAMS

DECISION VS. ACTION

Early Decision

- Binding agreement
- Must be 100% sure
- Be able to pay the full cost set by the school
- May only apply to one ED program

Early Action

- Non-binding agreement
- Find out in Dec./Jan.
- Compare financial aid packages
- Apply to as many as you like!

HOW MANY COLLEGES SHOULD YOUR STUDENT APPLY TO?

- Average is 6 to 8
- Include:
 - “Reach” Schools
 - “Ballpark/Target” Schools
 - “Likely” Schools

HOW DO YOU KNOW A COLLEGE IS APPROPRIATE FOR YOUR CHILD?

From:

- What you read about the school
- What you know about your child
- Visiting the campus
- Your child's meeting with the admissions representative at Amity
- The cost
- An overnight stay in a dorm and attending a couple of classes

HOW DOES YOUR STUDENT OBTAIN COLLEGE APPLICATIONS?

- This is the student's responsibility.
- Online applications are available through:
 - commonapp.org
 - college websites
 - Coalition App (Maryland and Florida)
- Do a rough draft of the whole application

WHAT IS THE COMMON APPLICATION? WHAT ARE ITS ADVANTAGES?

- One application for several schools
 - ****Look for supplements****
- Over 800 colleges accept it
- Reading directions is critical to success!

WHERE CAN YOU FIND THE COMMON APPLICATION?

- Naviance – access through high school website
- www.commonapp.org
- Early Decision (ED) - must complete agreement
- No disadvantage to the Common Application
 - Be aware of supplements and deadlines.

HOW DO APPLICATION MATERIALS GET PROCESSED?

- READ ALL DIRECTIONS CAREFULLY!
- Student submits the application materials online
- Student submits “Transcript Request” via Naviance NO LATER THAN 10 school days before the application deadline!!!
- Be sure to send all standardized test scores as needed (directly through College Board and ACT websites)

HOW DO TRANSCRIPTS GET SENT TO COLLEGES?

- Electronically or by mail if required
- Complete the Transcript Permission form in the Forms section of PowerSchool. This gives permission to release records to the schools in a student's Naviance list (10 school days prior to 1st application only).

Transcript fees:

- One time flat fee of \$20.00, made payable via My Payments Plus (on school website)
 - **MUST BE PAID BEFORE TRANSCRIPTS ARE RELEASED**

Complete Form on PowerSchool first. 24 hours later, you will be able to pay the fee on My Payments Plus

HOW DOES MY CHILD CHECK IF COLLEGES HAVE RECEIVED APPLICATION MATERIALS?

- The student will receive an email from the college/university with access to their application status
- The postcard (returned for school materials filed by mail)
- Counselors receive confirmation of receipt of electronic school materials
- History is recorded in Naviance

DOES MY CHILD NEED TO SEND MID-YEAR GRADES?

- Mrs. Salemme, our records secretary, sends midyear grades to each school listed in Naviance. Therefore, midyear report forms are not needed
- For EA/ED, 1st Quarter Grades:
 - Students must request them to be sent. There will be a Google Form set up for this.

SHOULD MY CHILD SCHEDULE AN INTERVIEW IF IT IS RECOMMENDED BUT NOT REQUIRED?

- Yes. Getting acquainted with admissions representatives is important!
- Make a contact! Check Career Center for Amity-specific contact information.
- Mrs. Cocco, our College & Career Counselor, offers mock-admission interviews for seniors.

HOW CAN MY CHILD CHECK TO SEE IF A COLLEGE REP IS VISITING AMITY?

- In the 2020-21 school year, these visits will be virtual and will be held outside of class time.
- The college visits are posted in Naviance, on the College & Career Center's webpage, and in the Friday Happenings.
- Students receive an email notification through Naviance if the college is on their "Colleges I'm Thinking About" list.
- All are welcome!

HOW DOES MY CHILD REQUEST LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION FROM TEACHERS, COACHES & OTHERS?

- The student should speak to teachers directly about their willingness to write a letter.
- The student should provide the writer(s) a resume if requested.
- Your child will request teacher recommendations in Naviance.
- Your child should convey their thanks through a note.
- Outside letters- student should provide a stamped envelope

HOW MANY LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION SHOULD BE REQUESTED?

- Visit college website or Naviance
- Preferably two from academic teachers and one from your counselor.
- Recommendation overkill is not a good idea.

WHAT ARE SOME OTHER OPTIONS IF YOUR CHILD IS UNDECIDED ABOUT COLLEGE?

- Taking a year off
 - GAP Year Program
 - Service Programs
 - Work
- Apply to school and defer attendance
- Military
- Other resources are available to make a plan
 - Mrs. Cocco (Career Counselor)

WHAT DOES THE COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER PROVIDE?

- Life-after-high school planning, including:
 - Attending colleges/universities
 - Attending trade schools or other job-training programs
 - Military career options
 - GAP year programs
- Naviance assistance
- Listings of community service sites
- Listings of part-time job opportunities/working papers
- Scholarship opportunities
- and more!

Please visit our [webpage here!](#)

WHAT IF YOUR CHILD WANTS TO PLAY SPORTS IN COLLEGE?

- Student athletes should apply online at ncaa.org if they are considering athletics in college.
- Each division has different requirements for eligibility – equation of SAT and grades.
- YOUR CHILD MUST make sure that your classes meet the NCAA requirement for core courses.

REVIEWING RESPONSIBILITIES

‘WHO SENDS WHAT?!’

Student sends:

- Application
- Essay(s)
- Application fee
- Test scores
- Supplemental information (art portfolio, video, additional required forms)
- ED agreement (if applicable)

Amity HS sends:

- AHS transcript
- School profile
- QPA/GPA distribution chart
- 3 Recommendation letters (1 counselor and 2 teachers)
- Common App or AHS Secondary School Report

TOGETHER WE WILL MAKE THIS YEAR A SUCCESS!

- Contact your student's counselor with questions
We are here to help!
- FINANCIAL AID NIGHT – September 15th at 6:30 p.m.
- Have a great evening!