

BELLEVUE CHRISTIAN

WITH PURPOSE

**COLLEGE
HANDBOOK**

Compiled by: BCS Counseling Staff

Bellevue Christian's Mission:

To prepare young people to live faithfully for God in a rapidly changing world with the ability to understand, evaluate, and transform their world from the foundation of God's unchanging values.

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THE COLLEGE PROCESS: AN INTRODUCTION

Life after high school can seem overwhelming. Where do you begin? What are you supposed to do? We are here to help you! In the following pages, you will find a roadmap of what to do starting with your freshman year of high school all the way through to graduation day. Things to consider, people to chat with, and most of all...knowing who is there to support you throughout this entire process. Remember, you are unique and therefore this process is going to be specific to you. Many students will be going through this together but no one's journey will look the same.

Students – this journey is yours! You are the one who will be attending college. You will be the one walking the halls, taking the classes, finding your favorite hangout spots in town, participating in activities around campus, meeting new people, and setting yourself up for success after it all. So where do you start?

- Stay organized
- Research
- Contact colleges and universities – you are your own best advocate
- Know what you want – soul search, acknowledge what brings you alive, discover the climate you enjoy being in, look into academic programs (you don't need to know what you want to major in, but make sure you begin to explore options!)
- Make your deadlines
- Take care of yourself
 - Please sleep!!! Preferably more than 6 hours a night.
 - Move your body – exercise is great for your brain
 - Know what you need to take care of yourself and do it
 - This is hard work (it's like having two full time jobs) so manage your time wisely
 - Use your resources – you do not have to do this alone!

Parents – this is your child. It's a new part of the parenting journey for you. Where are they going to go? How far away from home will they want to explore? Likely applying to college has changed substantially from when you did, so perhaps you are feeling in the dark as to how to support them. These are all very real questions and feelings to maneuver through. You have a huge role to play in this process, but please remember – it's their journey, so support away but let them do the work. Some key ideas for you as they go through this process:

- Be aware and educated on the process, procedures, and deadlines
- Ask good guiding questions

- Know your own hopes and expectations
- Talk as a family and set a clear, understanding vision that frees students to be themselves
- Prepare them for the independence of the college life

A Four-Year Calendar

Freshman Year:

- Create four-year map of the classes you plan to take throughout high school (you will do this annually with the guidance of your counselor during course advising, starting in the spring of your 8th grade year)
 - Set yourself up to take the most challenging classes you can handle, while keeping your grades up
- Focus on learning
 - Your grades will be a permanent part of your transcripts
- International students – continue to prepare for TOEFL tests by working on English language skills
- Improve or continue good study habits and personal discipline
- Get involved in activities (both on and off campus)
- Family Connection (Naviance)
 - Take the Learning Style Inventory
 - Start your resume
 - Research career possibilities: check out videos, job descriptions and what sort of schooling it takes to get into each career you are exploring. All of this and more is conveniently available in Family Connection.
 - Research college possibilities: it's not too early to start to be curious about your future. Please don't feel pressure to commit to anything, you can always change your mind. Using the "SuperMatch™," found under the "colleges" tab, now is a great time to pin colleges you have heard of, maybe someone in your family attended, or a school you want to know more about.
- Start saving money for college
- Freshman Counseling Seminar: all freshman will participate in a two-session seminar in the first quarter of their 9th grade year. In this seminar, students will get introduced to Naviance and take two assessments to guide and inform conversations with their counselors regarding their learning styles, personalities and interests. Students will also complete mini lessons on time management and the impact their freshman year has on their trajectory for high school and beyond.

Sophomore Year:

- Create or review your high school plans
 - Continue taking challenging courses and establish effective study habits
- Discuss types of colleges with parents, teachers, and friends

- Research colleges on Family Connection, College Board, and with your School Counselor
- Take the PSAT & review your scores
- Start searching for possible scholarships
- Family Connection (Naviance)
 - Take the Do What You Are inventory
 - Evaluate results and look at career opportunities
 - Continue to build your resume with a variety of activities
 - School activities, community service, employment, clubs
- Explore different career options
 - Interview, shadow, research careers in your area of interest
- Sophomore Counseling Seminar: all sophomores will participate in a two-session seminar during the second quarter of their 10th grade year. In this seminar, students will discuss the importance of strong communication skills (both written and verbal) that are invaluable for their high school career, as well as for college and/or joining the workforce. As students learn more about themselves through assessments such as the “Do What You Are” and “Career Interest Profiler” assessments available in Family Connection, they will reflect on how to use this information to shape their choices academically and socially to become more whole versions of themselves.

Junior Year:

- September – November
 - Start to think/decide what you want out of your college experience
 - Choose 5-10 colleges that you think you will be interested in
 - Family Connection (Naviance)
 - Under “Colleges I am thinking about” tab, enter the ones you are considering
 - Continue to update your resume
 - Look at your transcript to see how your grades compare to the typical applicant at your college(s)
 - Take the PSAT (Bellevue Christian School administers it in October)
 - Attend college and financial aid fairs
 - Begin studying for the SAT and/or ACT
 - Visit with college representatives that come to BCS throughout the year
 - If you are interested in the military, register for the ASVAB test

- December – February
 - Sign-up to take the SAT and/or ACT
 - You will start to see information coming from colleges, make sure you read all the information from you preferred colleges
 - Check deadlines. Get familiar with the application and financial aid deadlines at your top choice colleges
 - Look for and apply for scholarships
- March – May
 - Sign-up for college campus visits and tours
 - Continue to update your resume
 - Register for your senior year courses, remember to continue to take challenging courses
 - Apply for summer jobs or internships, or look for volunteer opportunities
 - Choose some adults you would like to write your letter of recommendations (think teachers, church or community leaders, coaches, etc.)
 - Start thinking about if you would like to apply to college under Early Decision or Early Action programs. If so, find out what steps you need to take and be aware of deadlines.
 - Take or retake ACT and/or SAT as needed
 - Make an appointment to meet with your counselor to discuss your upcoming months
 - Ask teachers if they would be willing to write you a letter of recommendation.
 - If yes, provide them the information they would like to have to write your letter.
 - Note: You do not need letters of recommendation for public in-state schools
- June – August
 - Work on your personal essay
 - Visit colleges
 - If you intend to play NCAA sports, register for Initial Eligibility. You cannot play, practice, or be recruited until you are certified by the NCAA's Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse. www.ncaaclearinghouse.net

Senior Year:

- Prior to starting Senior year – August
 - Have a conversation with your parents regarding college cost and develop a realistic plan for college costs
 - Go on college visits
 - Begin preparing your personal essay and High School Resume
 - Ask teachers if they would be willing to write you a letter of recommendation.
 - If yes, provide them the information they would like to have to write your letter.

- Note: You do not need letters of recommendation for public in-state schools
 - Check to make sure you have an appropriate e-mail address to use on all college applications and correspondence (DO NOT use your Bellevue Christian School e-mail address as it will no longer be valid after graduation)
 - Prep for **final** SAT/ACT testing and register
 - Apply for scholarships
 - Mark your calendars and plan to attend
 - National College Fair (NACAC)
 - Christian College Fair
 - Seattle Performing & Visual Arts College Fair
 - *Prospective College Athletes:* Go to www.ncaaclearinghouse.net for information / registration on eligibility for Division 1, 2 or 3 schools. If you have not already done this in your Junior year, you must fill out an eligibility form from the NCAA.
- September
 - Create a final list of colleges to apply to
 - Meet with counselor
 - Identify all the application deadlines and create checklists for your schools
 - Finalize your resume
 - Ask teachers for letters of recommendation if your colleges want them
 - Continue working on your personal essay
 - Family Connection (Naviance)
 - Move colleges from “Colleges I am thinking about” to “Colleges I am applying to”
 - Mark your calendar with dates colleges will be visiting BCS so you can talk to the admissions representative
 - Begin applications on-line
 - Mark on your calendar Early Decision/Early Action deadlines – many happen in October. (Early decision can be binding so read carefully)
- October
 - Check the internet for scholarships and contact colleges to which you are applying for financial assistance.
 - Continue to work on applications and submit
 - Early Decision/Early Action deadlines – many happen mid-October and early November.
 - Continue working on your college essays

- Keep grades up!! (Many schools will request your senior grades in their decision process.)
- Did you obtain all letters of recommendations you need? Make sure you have given the writer adequate time to write you letter.
 - If you're an athlete, talk to coaches
- Submit transcript requests*
- November – December
 - Submit applications to WA state schools
 - Apply for scholarships
- January – February
 - Mail any admissions applications, make sure you keep copies of the forms you have mailed
 - Ask parents to complete tax returns early this year to prove financial aid eligibility
 - Apply for scholarships

*Continue to stay strong in your classes and keep your grades up. Schools will ask for mid-year transcripts and final transcripts.

- March – May
 - Financial aid letters will be arriving. Compare your schools' financial aid packages
 - Take AP examinations
 - Write thank you notes to the people who wrote you letters of recommendations
 - Think about possible summer employment
 - Many colleges notify students of admission and financial aid status by April 15th.
 - Respond to all letters from your college of choice by due date
 - Decide which school to attend and notify all colleges by May 1st. (Make sure to notify the colleges you have chosen not to attend.)
 - Apply for on or off campus housing
 - Finish strong
- June – August
 - Graduate!!
 - Finalize summer school or job plans
 - Check in on campus housing arrangements
 - Participate in freshmen orientation and tour programs
 - Take required placement tests

Standardized Testing

By the time students enter high school, most have heard mention of the SAT and ACT in some capacity. These are the two standardized tests used to determine college admission in the United States. While they vary in value regarding their role in the admissions process, it is still rare to find a college or university that does not require them. Community Colleges and other Technical or Two-Year Colleges may not require them, but it is always important to check. Students can talk with their Counselor to determine which standardized test they are best suited to take; many students opt to try both and then decide. Typically, students take these assessments in the spring of their Junior year, but more information on the timing of these assessments can be found in the “A Walk Through the Years” section of this handbook. For study resources provided by BCS, please see the “Naviance” section of this handbook.

*The primary differences between the ACT and SAT are how the concepts are being tested and the steps taken in order to reach the answer.

- ACT
 - 4 sections: English, Reading, Math, Science
 - Optional 40-minute writing test
 - Score between 1-36
 - No penalty for answering the question incorrectly
 - Nationally offered in September, October, December, February, April, and June

- SAT
 - 2 sections: Math, Evidence – Based Reading and Writing
 - Optional essay (reported separately)
 - Evidence – Based Reading and Writing
 - Reading test, Writing and Language test
 - Focus on multiple – meaning words
 - Reading passages
 - Math
 - Application – based, multi-step questions
 - Higher level math – including trigonometry
 - Core math competencies
 - Length of test: 3 hours (without essay), 3 hours 50 minutes (with essay)

- Score between 400 – 1600
- Nationally offered in October, November, December, January, March, May, and June
- SAT Subject Tests
 - Optional tests that can showcase an individual’s strength in a specific academic area (students should check individual institution requirements in case SAT subject test scores are encouraged to bolster their application)
 - Available in five subject areas: Math, Science, English, History & Science
 - Each subject area has multiple content-specific tests (i.e. physics, biology...)

Further information:

ACT – www.act.org

SAT – www.collegeboard.com

SAT Subject – <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat-subject-tests/about/at-a-glance>

Resources: Who Helps with What?

- School Counselors – Getting to know your school counselor will be time well spent. They are your advocates! Not only can they offer assistance with many different topics but in regards to the college process, the more they know you as an individual the more they will be able to help you along the journey of selecting colleges, scholarships, college essays, and the overall college process.
- Admission Counselors – Admissions counselors can be very helpful for a plethora of reasons. First, they are your evaluators. They will be the ones reading your application so having a personal connection with you could be very beneficial. They are also there to help you with any college specific questions, don’t be afraid to ask. As many of you will desire to know the status of your application, they will be the one to answer any questions you have re: your status.
- Private College Counselors – Can be helpful with the college process as they will walk alongside you on a one-on-one basis. They help with time management, accountability, application process, where to apply, and overall stress management. If students decide to work with a private college counselor, communication with their school counselor is still vital in completing the college process.
- Family & Friends – The best emotional support. They are there to help process the journey with you, answer any questions you might have, help you to unpack the things that make you unique, explore your possibilities

with you, and check in with you to see how you are doing. With friends going through the same process, it can be easy to compare to one another. Steer clear of this, everyone's journey is unique.

Officially Applying

What Colleges Are Looking For

- Academic Record – challenging course load, GPA, consistency, academic improvement over the years
- Testing – ACT or SAT (PSAT has an impact on scholarship possibilities)
- Extracurricular Activities – be involved in things outside of just the classroom. Colleges are looking for well-rounded students who not only take their academics seriously but have been involved in their community
- Letters of Recommendation – these are used to help admissions counselors assess student applicants beyond their test scores. Not all colleges will accept them so make sure to do your research. *In regard to academic letters of recommendations, teachers who have taught you during your junior and senior year are the best ones to recommend you.*
- Honors and Awards
- Essays – strong writing skills are one of the most important indicators of college readiness.
- Interviews – optional on some campuses
- Community service and volunteer activities
- Internships and jobs – while these are by no means required, admissions committees look for students who are driven and take steps to explore careers, build networks, and exhibit effective time management skills.
- Portfolio – this is especially pertinent for students applying to schools of art, music and design. Typically, admissions committees are looking for sample and exemplary work. It is advantageous for students to seek advice from their music and art teachers who specialize in these disciplines.
- Resume – students should begin building an activity resume their freshman year. This is not limited to employment, but, rather, can and should include volunteer and service engagements, participation in club activities, committees and extracurricular activities both in and out of school, and any leadership roles.

The College To-Do List

- Create a final list of colleges to apply to
- Meet with counselor
- Identify all the application deadlines and create checklists for your schools
- Finalize your resume
- Ask teachers for letters of recommendation if your colleges want them
- Write your essays
- Family Connection (Naviance)
 - Move colleges from “Colleges I am thinking about” to “Colleges I am applying to”
- Mark your calendar with dates colleges will be visiting BCS so you can talk to the admissions representative
- Mark on your calendar Early Decision/Early Action deadlines – many happen in October. (Early decision can be binding so read carefully)
- Complete and submit your application
- Send your ACT and/or SAT and TOFEL scores
- Submit transcript request
- Clearly communicate your deadlines to the school

College and University Institutional Deadlines

- Early Decision – Binding – If you are accepted then you must attend the institution. You can only apply to one college under the early decision option. Most often, you will sign a contract stating you understand the binding nature of the admission process. Failure to uphold your commitment can harm your acceptance to that college and other repercussions.
- Early Action – Not Binding – This is an opportunity to apply early (usually in the early fall) and be notified earlier of the admissions decision. With applying early; you can be accepted early, rejected, or deferred to the regular decision category. If accepted, you are not required to decide until May 1st. You can apply to many institutions early, although it is advised to do so only for the ones at the top of your list.

- Regular Decision – Standard admission process in which a student applies to an institution by the deadline. Students will be notified of admission status by March or April.
- Rolling Admission – Under this process, there are no specific deadlines. Applications are considered as they are received, and the student is notified of the decision as soon as it's made.

Important things to remember when looking at deadlines

- Communicate your college deadlines to your counselors and teachers through Naviance
- Some schools, like the University of Washington, only have one deadline
- Deadlines typically indicate the following are due:
 - Your application
 - Transcripts
 - ACT/SAT/TOEFL scores
 - Letters of Recommendations
 - Supplemental documents

Application Elements Provided by or Through BCS

Sending your application documents is of utmost importance to us, but it is crucial to note that they take time to prepare and submit. Please familiarize yourself with Bellevue Christian School's document process and adhere to our protocol in order to ensure that all your deadlines are met, and your admissions files are complete.

Transcripts – Official document with all your semester grades, credits, and GPA. All college/universities will require you submit your official transcript as part of your application. (Note: Some colleges won't want your official transcript until you have been accepted and choose to attend; example is University of Washington. Please check with each university to see when they would like official transcripts submitted.)

- How to request transcripts:
 - Request in Naviance
 - Communicate with your counselor
 - Fill out Transcript Request Form and hand it to your counselor

Please be aware of your deadlines and request documents in time for submissions to happen before the deadline.

Letters of Recommendation – With your application being composed of scores, GPA, essays, activity resumes, and some other information; many colleges ask for letters of recommendation as they seek to capture a whole picture of who you are as a student and individual. Common people to write letters of recommendations would include; teachers, coaches, counselors, mentors, pastors, employers, etc.

- How to obtain a letter of recommendation from someone at Bellevue Christian School:
 - Teacher Letters of Recommendations
 - Ask them in person if they would be willing to write you a letter
 - Provide for them what they will need from you (ask them what these materials might be)
 - Request them in Family Connection (Naviance)
 - Be specific of the due date
 - Ask with advanced notice (at least a month, if not more)
 - Inform your counselor of the requests you have made
 - Counselor Letter of Recommendation (many Common Application schools require a letter from your counselor, do your research to find out if you need one)
 - Ask them in person
 - Attend your senior one-on-one senior meeting in the fall
 - Inform them of the due date
 - Request a month in advance
 - Fill out the Questionnaire for Counselor Letter of Recommendation located under the “About Me” tab in Family Connection.

Family Connection (Naviance)

Bellevue Christian School uses a comprehensive college and career readiness platform to help students discover their strengths and how those translate to possible career and college opportunities. Family Connection allows students to:

- Get involved in the planning and advising process – build a resume, complete online surveys, and manage timelines and deadlines for making decisions about colleges and careers
- Research colleges – compare GPA, standardized test scores, and other statistics to actual historical data from Bellevue Christian School students who have applied and been admitted in the past
- Research careers – research hundreds of careers and career clusters, and take career assessments

- Create plans – create goals and to-do lists, and complete tasks assigned by BCS to better prepare students for future college and career goals
- Standardized Test Prep – preparation tools for ACT and SAT. Through game-based courses, students who use Naviance test prep program can do seemingly better on test day. It is personalized for each student, adjusting student activities each day and predicts scores for test day.

Family Connection also allows Bellevue Christian School to share information with parents and students about upcoming meetings and events, local scholarship opportunities, and other resources for college/career information.

In addition to the services above, Naviance is a critical component of the application process because it allows Bellevue Christian School to safely and efficiently send school documents (transcripts, letters of recommendation, school profile) to student’s prospective colleges and universities. Once sent, Naviance provides immediate confirmation of delivery. For students applying through the Common Application, Naviance “connects” the two services and allows for streamline sending of all Common Application forms that are to be prepared by teachers and counselors on the students’ behalf.

Common Application

Approximately 700 colleges use the Common Application. Filling out individual college applications can and will take a lot of time. However, some colleges and universities have come together to develop the Common Application. This means you can fill out one application and submit it to any of the colleges who have a membership with Common Application. You will still need to fill out supplemental documents, which are unique to each college/university, but a huge chunk of the application will be streamlined. To find out what colleges are a part of the Common Application, you can go to www.commonapp.org. One thing to note, some institutions will give you the option of applying to the institution directly using their application or the Common Application. If you are not planning to apply to multiple schools via the Common Application and this option is available, you might investigate simply applying directly to the institution. Should any questions arise, please contact your counselor for assistance.

- Important things to remember:
 - FERPA & Recommenders – Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act – at your own liberty, we would encourage you to familiarize yourself with this legislature, which can be found at: <https://ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html> . When filing out the Common Application, students will be asked to decide about waiving their rights to viewing their letters of recommendation, as well as authorizing the school to securely send their educational records. A brief summary of this act is provided within the Common Application. Students must complete this section in order to link their

Naviance and Common Application accounts, which is what enables the school to send student application documents. If students and families would like further clarification, they can speak directly with their School Counselor.

- Match your Naviance and Common Application profiles – this is a requirement for Bellevue Christian School to send any of the documents for the student (i.e.: letters of recommendations, transcripts, post-secondary report, school report)
- Supplemental Documents – it is wise to save your essays as a Word document and then paste it into the application, get specific, let them know why you are interested in applying, and make sure you answer the question(s) completely.

Application Process for Athletes

Athletes, your journey to college admissions is likely to look different from that of your peers. Depending on your skill levels and involvement in club sports, you may begin to be recruited by colleges and universities as early as your sophomore year of high school. As soon as this process begins, please be sure to connect with your School Counselor to notify them of what's going on. For starters, please visit the NCAA Clearinghouse for all the steps needed in order to be considered for eligibility. Starting this process at the beginning of your Junior year will benefit you from being caught in the backlog of all high school athletes hoping to get cleared by the end of their junior year. It is important for you to continue to follow the regular college preparation procedures alongside your peers; this way, should you decide that you do not want to pursue college athletics, you will not be behind in the process. In some cases, you may be asked to commit to a team or school during your junior year – this can feel overwhelming and/or intimidating. We strongly recommend that you consider the school, and not just the team. Do you like the campus? The location? Do they offer programs you are interested in? Is the general campus culture a good match? We ask you to consider this knowing that injury and burnout do happen. While we would never wish that upon your journey, we want you to be realistic, and make wise decisions so that you love your college/university apart from the team you are committing to. Once you have committed, you are still responsible for following Bellevue Christian School protocol for applying to said college/university. Please be mindful of what grades you are expected to maintain in order to hold your spot on the team and secure any athletic or academic scholarships. As always, communicate with the Counseling Department!

For detailed information and active links to start the process, visit: <http://www.athleticscholarships.net/>.

Financial Aid Resources and Scholarships

Applying for financial aid is a complex process that changes from year to year. In order to provide families with the most up-to-date information, we partner with Seattle Pacific University each fall to put on an evening seminar on applying for federal aid and scholarships. While our recommendation is for seniors and parents of seniors to attend this event, all families should plan to fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) at fafsa.gov, which is open in October of their senior year. In order to fill out this application, students and parents should be prepared with tax data from the previous tax year, as well as current employment details for any parents claiming the student as a dependent. While students might not feel as though they need to participate in filling out the FAFSA, we strongly recommend that they do in order to become familiar with the process as they will be responsible for filling it out each year that they are in college.

Scholarships: There are many types of scholarships available to your students. The first and most common scholarships are those funded directly through the universities to which they are applying. These are typically merit based, determined by GPA and test scores; criteria for these scholarships should be easily located on the webpages of individual colleges and universities under their financial aid section. Often, students do not need to apply for these, they are automatically considered simply by applying to the university. It is important for students to read the fine print to be sure, as to not miss an opportunity. A second type of scholarship is an independent scholarship – this might be available through your church or a local organization. We recommend students first focus on completing their college applications, and then work on searching for these types of scholarships. Google can be a great resource, as there are many scholarships out there each year that are “easy” money – they just take time to apply for; many people say applying for scholarships is like having a part-time job. Students are always welcome to check in with the counseling department to check the validity of a scholarship or seek advice as they apply. It is always important to note whether a scholarship is a one-time award, or annually renewable.

After the Admission Process

Now What?

You have finished the application process and are on to the next step of this journey. In the weeks and months following submission of your applications, there is still work to be done. You will want to continue to search for any scholarships that might be applicable, keep your grades up, and stay involved in activities. Soon the notifications will come in and you will be on the journey to decide where you will attend in the fall.

- May 1 Deadline – This is the last date by which you send your statement of intent to register to the institution of your choice. Failure to do so will jeopardize your guaranteed spot in the incoming freshman class and it is not advised to ignore this deadline.
- Housing Application – This piece is critical and often can be overlooked. Some institutions don't send a big housing application packet with your acceptance notification, so be on the lookout for it. In completing the application, you will want to be honest and upfront with answering the questions as this is used in assigning your room and roommate. Most likely you will be able to turn in your housing application prior to making a final decision.
- Acceptance – Congratulations! You've been reserved a spot in the incoming freshman class at this college/university! Please be mindful of the fact that the deal is not sealed until May 1st. Colleges reserve the right to revoke your acceptance should you have any major changes in your schedule or grades; this doesn't mean that you can't drop a class or get a "B" in a tough class, rather it means that an acceptance is not a pass to kick back and coast the rest of your senior year. Further, you might be accepted to multiple schools, and then it will be your decision which to attend. You do not need to make this decision until May 1st.
- Waitlisted – Don't lose hope! Being waitlisted means that you were a competitive candidate, and they are interested in you, but there was a tough applicant pool. Come May 1st, when students make final decisions, a spot might open for you. Say you are waitlisted to your top choice school – you would want to confirm acceptance at another school of your choice, and then, should you hear back from your top choice school, you can change your decision. While there is no guarantee that a spot will open for you, it is a process worth considering with caution. It is also possible to write an appeal to be reconsidered for admission, though there is no guarantee on how these documents will be assessed. Please talk to your School Counselor if this is the route you would like to take.
- Denied – First of all, we're sorry. Most adults have been there. No one likes to receive this news. If you applied to a combination of reach, match, and safety schools, it is likely that you will get one denial. Please know there is nothing to be ashamed of. The admissions counselors who reviewed your file had your best interest in mind, and if you were not accepted, it is likely that the school would not have been the best fit for you. Trust us, you want to end up somewhere that's a great fit! If you are feeling especially bummed out, come talk to your School Counselor about it – it's OK to be upset, and we are here to help you process all parts of the journey. While it is unlikely that the decision will be repealed, submitting an appeal to your denial is sometimes an option.

Getting Ready to Go

Once you are admitted and begin the process of enrollment at your chosen college, they will become your primary point of contact for the process of matriculation. Typically, this may include:

- Finalizing financial aid packages
- Academic advising and registering for courses
- Completing housing applications and the roommate process
- Placement testing
- Parent Transition programming

Increasingly, many of these programs are run during the late spring or summer months, either on campus or in centralized local locations.

Stay in touch with your admission officer of the general Admission Office to make sure all your questions are answered. If you are having trouble, feel out of the loop, or can't reach the correct person, your BCS School Counselor may be able to help.