



# College Counseling Crier

November 2021

Volume 5, Issue 3

## Upcoming Standardized Test Dates

### [ACT Test Dates\\*](#)

**December 11, 2021**  
Registration deadline:  
November 5

### [SAT Test Dates\\*](#)

**November 6, 2021**  
Registration deadline  
has passed

**December 4, 2021**  
Registration deadline:  
November 4

*\*If you will be taking these tests  
with accommodations, please  
contact [Ms. From](#)*

## Writer's Block?

By now, most of the Class of 2022 has submitted their first round of applications. With some colleges and universities asking students to answer multiple supplemental questions, we understand there might be feelings of burnout. This [list of schools](#) shows those Common App member schools that *don't* require additional essays. Seniors are encouraged to consult with their counselors if they want to add additional colleges and universities to their lists.

## Upcoming HBCU Fair

This Saturday, November 6, from noon – 3:00 p.m., the Prince George's County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, inc. is hosting its [HBCU \(Historically Black College and University\) Virtual Experience](#). Attendees will learn about admissions, scholarships, and academic programs from over 20 HBCUs from Maryland, D.C., Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Tennessee, and more! The event is free, but pre-registration is required.

## Celebrating our Student Athletes



On Wednesday, November 10 at 3:30 p.m., the College Counseling and Athletic Offices are partnering for our first Signing Day Event of the academic year. The Signing Day ceremony, hosted in the Blair Lobby, honors those students who are signing a National Letter of Intent, which outlines their agreement as a student-athlete to attend a university and accept an athletic scholarship.

We will have two additional Signing Day that coincide with the official National Letter of Intent Signing Days. In addition, we will host a final celebration, including all students who intend to participate in Division I, II, and III intercollegiate athletics. Watch for future announcements for dates, times, and locations.

## Save the Dates

### *December Drop-In Days*

Tues., December 7

Wed., December 8

Thurs., December 9

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

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## November by the Numbers

Our seniors have been working in and out of the College Counseling Office to finalize their applications. With many schools having Early Decision, Early Action, and Priority deadlines of November 1, students and counselors have been processing applications, essays, supplemental writing pieces, portfolios, and Bullis School-specific materials.

To date, our students have submitted 577 applications. Many of our students who have applied through Rolling Admission plans have already received some decisions! 17 acceptances have been offered. Our next big deadlines are November 15 and December 1.

As a reminder to our seniors, please let us know of *all* admissions decisions.

**We want to celebrate with you and provide good advice and counsel.**

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## Details for December Drop-In Dates

...are forthcoming! Beginning on Tuesday, December 7, we will spend three days (beginning at 9:00 am and ending at 2:00 pm) meeting with underclassmen families in our fourth year of December Drop-In Days. To limit the number of visitors to campus, we've decided to host 30-minute individualized Zoom sessions. More details and registration links are on their way. Be on the lookout!

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## Financial Aid Follow-Up

Last month, we shared helpful information for families applying for need-based financial aid. As we noted, the “universal” financial aid application form is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (the FAFSA). Before completing the FAFSA, students and *one* parent need to create unique FSA IDs. The ID grants access to federally-funded loans and serves as a signature for the FAFSA itself.

Below are two articles that can be helpful in preventing mistakes as students and parents navigate the form:



[“10 Common FAFSA Mistakes to Avoid”](#) – From StudentAid.Gov

[“10 Common Mistakes Made on the FAFSA”](#) – From *U.S. News & World Report*

Many private colleges and universities require families to complete another form called the CSS Profile. Unlike the FAFSA, which captures mostly income-

based tax information, the CSS dives deeper and aims to form a clearer financial picture by taking into account asset valuation. *U.S. News & World Report* writers Emma Kerr and Sarah Wood outline the Profile in their article, [“How to Complete the CSS Profile.”](#)

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## Closing out our College Counseling Visitors

This fall, we have already hosted over 150 college representatives. We have just a few more visitors scheduled, listed below.

### Already visited

University of Colorado,  
Boulder  
University of Denver  
University of Mississippi  
Bryant University  
University of California –  
Berkeley  
Maryland Institute College of  
Art

### Scheduled to visit

Xavier University  
Michigan State University



Seniors had the opportunity to learn about our respective visitors' institutions and ask questions about campus, the admissions process and standardized testing, and how they've adapted to the pandemic. Our representatives enjoyed meeting with our students and learning more about our curriculum and school culture.