



St. Anne's-Belfield School

The College Process

College Counseling Office

Getting Started

Please Complete the Following BEFORE the start of School

Demonstrated Interest

- What is Demonstrated Interest? Simply, it is connecting with colleges seriously.
- How do I do that?
 - Visit Campus in-person or virtually
 - Sign up for additional visit offerings including information sessions, open houses or interview with a member of the school's admission staff.
 - Read the emails you receive and pay close attention to academic departments and co-curricular options offered by the school.

This research will ultimately help you determine which colleges you will apply to.

Build a Balanced College List

Review and Research Schools in you SCOIR account, research all schools to start narrowing down to your final list of:

2-3 Likely schools

2-3 Possible Schools

4-6 Reach and Far Reach Schools

Free Test Prep Resources

Khan Academy

ACT Academy

SAT Test Dates

ACT Test Dates

Additional Considerations for International Students

TOEFL

Finances



The College Process (cont.)

Demonstrated Interest

Since demonstrated interest continues to play a significant role in the admissions process at many schools, we encourage you to take opportunities to connect with colleges seriously. Some colleges may choose to place you on their waitlist if you have not demonstrated any interest in them. While Colleges are beginning to welcome visitors back to campus, many continue to offer virtual visit options. You can sign up for a virtual tour, information session, or interview with a member of the school's admissions staff. In addition, read the emails you receive, and check out academic departments, and co-curricular options. Your research will help you determine which colleges you will ultimately apply to.

Building a Balanced College List

The college counseling team has reviewed the list of schools in your SCOIR account and has included the likelihood of your admission to each school on your list. We also added colleges for you to consider to your list. At this point, since you are still in the process of researching schools, your list in SCOIR should include a healthy number of schools. When we return to school, your college counselor will work with you to narrow your list down to include 8 to 12 colleges (the average number of applications students from St. Anne's-Belfield submit in a given year). It is important to research all of the schools on your list.

Ideally, your final list of colleges should include 2-3 *Likely*, 2-3 *Possible* schools and 4-6 *Reach* and *Far Reach* schools. Please research (online and in person where possible) each of these schools carefully. We encourage you to add colleges that spark your interest to your list.

- When reviewing the list in SCOIR, please remember the lexicon that we use to assess risk:
 - Likely* predicts a solid chance of admission; in our experience, approximately 85% of colleges designated as *Likely* result in admission. It is incredibly important to demonstrate interest in these schools.
 - Possible* predicts a reasonable chance of admission. Though approximately 60% of colleges designated as *Possible* result in admission, this is the broadest category, so *Possible* schools might trend towards the *Likely* or *Reach* categories.
 - Reach* predicts a reasonable but unfavorable chance of admission; in our experience, fewer than 20% of colleges designated as *Reach* result in admission.
 - While SCOIR does not have a *Far Reach* category, there are some schools that we may designate as far reach during our conversations with you. *Far Reach* predicts an exceptionally slim chance of admission; typically these schools are extremely selective and rarely, if ever, do they result in admission.
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Building a Balanced College List (cont.)

- Do keep in mind that these designations are based on data specific to St. Anne's-Belfield School and are a reflection of what we have learned about the college admissions landscape in the last 12 months. Rest assured that just because we designate a school on your list as a *Reach* or *Far Reach*, it does not mean we lack confidence in you or your ability to compete in a particular applicant pool. It is simply a reflection of competitive admissions processes.
- If you are having trouble rounding out your list, look back over schools you may have overlooked or rejected early on, before you knew as much as you know now. At this point, it can be inviting to start trying to convince oneself that there simply aren't *any Likely* and *Possible* schools that are appealing. Please remember it is simply an unwise strategy to apply to a lot of schools "for the heck of it." Even if you know chances of admission are not good, it still hurts to receive a denial. Year after year, we hear seniors advise juniors to pay close attention to each college on their list. Be sure you can see yourself at any school on your list—schools in each category—but especially your *Likely* schools. Even though you never know how things will turn out, you are in control of this part of the process. Invest your time, effort, and application fees wisely.
- Finally, update the colleges you are "Following" or "Applying" to on SCOIR to reflect your preferences and to keep us in the loop.

Free Test Prep Resources

If you are planning on taking a standardized test in the fall, take advantage of a number of free test prep resources.

- I. [Khan Academy](#), a free online SAT test prep resource. This organization boasts that 20 hours of practice can result in a 115-point increase in SAT scores. Consistency and diligence are essential to successful test prep.
- II. Students who are planning to take an ACT test can take advantage of free online test prep offered by [ACT Academy](#).

You can find the 2022 - 2023 calendar of SAT and ACT test dates here and register online at www.act.org

or www.collegeboard.org.



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Free Test Prep Resources (cont.)

1. Review the requirements of the colleges to which you might apply to make certain you have taken the right mix of standardized tests. Make sure you are aware of all of the testing requirements for each of your schools.
2. Scores from test dates in September and October for ACT, and August, October, and November for SAT, will be available for most early application purposes; scores from December will be available for regular decision applications.
3. St. Anne's-Belfield School Code: 470-435.
4. Local Test Centers: Albemarle High School, 47190; Charlottesville High School, 47195; Covenant High School, 47193.

Review your standardized testing as listed on SCOIR to make sure that we have a complete record of all your scores (SAT, ACT, TOEFL, AP). If we do not have your updated scores, please send us a copy of the missing score report so that we can update your records.

Additional considerations for international students

TOEFL: At this point in time, a significant number of US colleges and universities still require international students to demonstrate their English proficiency. Please plan to take and submit the [TOEFL](#). Please note that many colleges and universities do not accept the Home Edition version of the TOEFL. Please check testing requirements on each college's website.

Finances: Most institutions require international students to submit financial documents with the application for admission. You might be required to complete the FAFSA, the CSS Profile, institutional forms, an International Student Certification of Finances form, or a combination of these. The forms are college specific so be sure to pay attention to what is required by visiting individual college websites.

Financial aid and merit scholarships are not as readily available to international students. If this is an important part of your process, it is important that you work with your college counselor to ensure that your list includes colleges that offer financial aid and/or merit scholarships to international students.
