



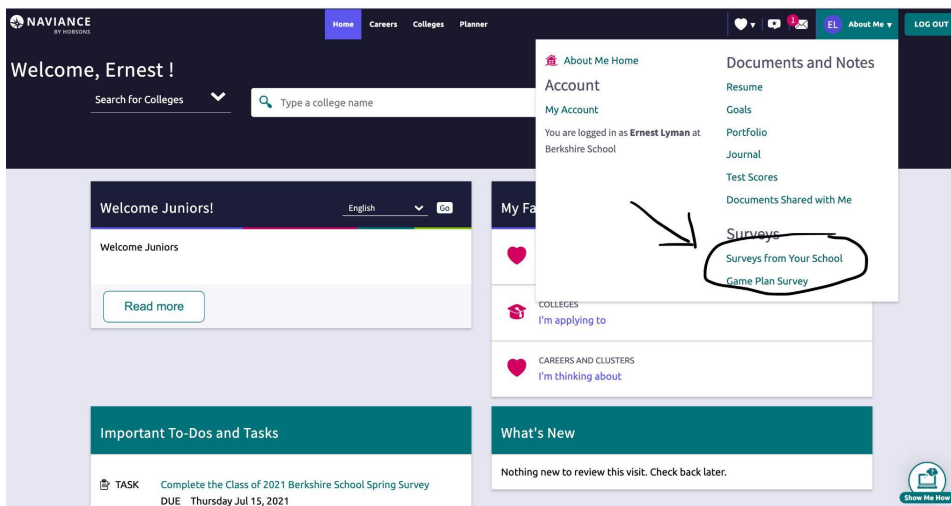
BERKSHIRE SCHOOL COLLEGE COUNSELING

Summer College Checklist for Class of 2024

Greetings from the College Office! Please review the list of tasks listed below and make sure they have been completed. Most of you will be applying to college in October for a November 1 deadline, and those dates arrive only a few weeks after your return to Berkshire. If you have any questions over the summer please reach out to astosiek@berkshireschool.org or me at abowler@berkshireschool.org.

Naviance Student Survey

Most of you completed this during the Bootcamp but if you haven't done so already, please finish the student survey (Class of 2024 Spring Survey). Only your college counselor will have access to this survey. Please be thorough and very specific with your answers.



College Essay/Personal Statement

After drafting a personal statement in English class this spring, please continue to revise your essay this summer. You are also encouraged to share a draft of your essay with your counselor prior to returning to campus. This will significantly streamline your process in the fall.

Campus Visits (In Person or Virtual)

We encourage you to schedule either in-person or virtual visits to colleges during the summer months. In addition to being a helpful tool in the decision process, visits are also an important way of expressing interest in a college. Students should be sure to visit schools across the full range of their list, not just their "reach" schools. If you drop by a campus without an appointment, be sure to complete an inquiry card in the admission office or scan a QR code so they know you were there. You may also want to take photos and jot notes down on the way home from the visit. Impressions can begin to blur together after visiting a few schools.

Sixth Form/Post Graduate Testing Plan

Standardized tests taken during the Sixth Form year will vary by individual. Please be aware that the August SAT, September ACT, and October SAT and ACT test dates below have very early registration deadlines. You should consider signing up online before arriving on campus at www.collegeboard.org (for SATs) or www.actstudent.org (for ACTs). A credit card is required. College Board registration opens the second week of June; ACT opens the first week of July. Students who have been approved by the College Board or ACT for accommodations can also register online. If you have questions about which test(s) to take, please be in touch with us over the summer.

- If students plan to take the ACT, they should register for the **September 9th and/or October 28th** test dates. Berkshire will once again be a closed test center and you will need the code **195110** to register.
- Students taking the **August 26th SAT** should **register at an off-campus testing center**. Those wanting to take the **October 11th SAT on campus** will register during a form meeting in September.

Financial Aid

If your family plans to apply for financial aid in college, it is essential that all financial aid forms be carefully completed. You should visit each college's website to see the specific financial aid formulas they use and to get a cost estimate using the school's Net Price Calculator. Please note that different institutions require different forms for financial aid evaluation. Below are the forms most often required.

- [FAFSA](#): The Free Application for Federal Student Aid is required by all colleges and universities.
- [CSS Profile](#): This is required by many private institutions and some state schools.
- Institutional Forms: These are individual institutional forms sent to you by a college or university or found on an institution's website. You will also need to submit copies of your family's and your child's tax forms.
- These forms take some time to complete. We highly recommend doing them as early as possible. *It is essential that you meet each school's filing deadline to receive full consideration for aid.*

International Students

- International students will, in many cases, need to submit original bank statements and an original Certification of Finances form with each college application even if they are not applying for Financial Aid. If possible, students should bring these forms with them to school in September.
- Students whose first language is not English *must* take the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) exam or DUOLINGO. Students should take one of these *over the summer if at all possible*.