

Senior College Information Night

September 26, 2023



**MOUNT ST. DOMINIC
ACADEMY**

**SCHOOL & COLLEGE
COUNSELING
DEPARTMENT**

Welcome



- Welcome to our Financial Aid Evening.
- We have enclosed information that will be useful during the College Process Journey as well.

Contact Information



- Please feel free to reach us with any questions or concerns at:

Mrs. Linda Grancagnolo

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Miss Kayla Campanile

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Senior Check List



- ☐ Signed up on Naviance for college admissions visits and attended visits during CAP
- ☐ Created a complete college list to “Colleges I’m Applying to” on Naviance
- ☐ Added all colleges I’m applying to using the CommonApp to my CommonApp college list
- ☐ Corrected on my Naviance college list the category “Applying via Common App?” so that any colleges marked “unknown” now say “yes” or “no”
- ☐ Notified my teachers of my complete list of colleges and deadlines with at least 3 weeks notice
- ☐ Added teachers to the “Colleges I’m Applying To” page on Naviance and requested a letter be sent to each college individually
- ☐ Gave Mrs. Marra the parent permission slip (pink form) and a ONE TIME \$20 fee in cash or check made out to MSDA to defray the cost of Naviance
- ☐ Gave Mrs. Marra a transcript request form (found on the Portal and in her office) for each college with at least two weeks notice of college deadline
- ☐ Filled out the application (CommonApp or individual school application) for each college and proofread it thoroughly before submitting
- ☐ Completed self-reported grade section for all universities requiring it
- ☐ Uploaded and submitted the final draft of essays and supplements to applications
- ☐ Sent SAT scores through www.collegeboard.org or ACT scores through www.actstudent.org if required.
- ☐ Submitted the CSS Profile for colleges that require it (available on October 1st and the list of schools are found on www.collegeboard.org)
- ☐ Submitted the FAFSA (available October 1st on www.studentaid@edu.gov)
- ☐ Had a conversation with my counselor if I am applying Early Decision to a school
- ☐ Signed up for Seton Hall Instant Decision Day if I meet the requirements and am interested in participating
- ☐ Meet with your counselor to discuss any questions or concerns
- ☐ Read emails and newsletters from my counselor about reminders and scholarship opportunities
- ☐ Created account on NCAA Clearinghouse for student athletes applying to DI and DII schools
- ☐ Checked scholarships on Naviance for available local scholarships on a weekly basis throughout the year

Pieces of College Application



Submitted by Counselor

- High School Transcript
- School Profile
- Counselor Letter of Recommendation
- Sent by Teacher:
Teacher Letters of Recommendation (2)

Submitted by Student

- Application (Common App or online app)
- Essay (and sometimes other supplementary essays)
- Fee
- SAT/ACT Scores

Naviance



- Parents can go into Naviance and create their own account. Go to the website, scroll down to parent registration and follow directions
- Investigate scattergrams
- Supermatch/college search based on career interest survey
- Résumé
- Students match Common App account with Naviance
- Naviance edocs is how MSDA sends documents to colleges electronically

SAT/ACT Scores



- All students must send their SAT or ACT scores directly from the testing services.
- SAT at www.collegeboard.org
- ACT at www.actstudent.org.

Your College List



- **Reach School**
 - Your academic credentials fall below the school's standards.
 - The school has a lower acceptance rate.
- **Target School**
 - Your academic credentials fall within or above the school's range.
 - The school has an average acceptance rate.
- **Safety School**
 - Your academic credentials fall above the school's range making you feel reasonably certain you will be admitted.
 - The school has a higher acceptance rate.
- You will work with your counselor to finalize your "List". This is a very personalized and individual process, and not an exact science. If your "List" is well thought out and researched, you will certainly see a high rate of success in the decisions you receive from the colleges you have applied to.

Demonstrated Interest



- Demonstrated interest can be shown through participation in:
 - Campus visits
 - Interviews
 - Information sessions & webinars
 - Open houses
 - College fairs
 - Admissions Counselor visits at the Mount

A list of visiting colleges are posted on Naviance for students to sign-up and meet with.

Applications



- Students complete Common App or other application required by each individual college.
- Some may require additional supplemental questions.
- Students must proofread the application and essay before submitting.

Types of Application Deadlines



- Early Decision

- Can only apply to one school this way and requires a binding contract signed by student, parents, and counselor
- *If you are in need of financial aid, please consider carefully because you will not be able to compare other financial aid packages.*

- Early Action

- Can apply to multiple schools this way and has an early pool of applicants. Deadlines are specific to college and may vary.

- Regular

- Final deadline to receive application materials

Important Forms in Our Department



- Teacher recommendations
 - Students asked **2 teachers** for a recommendation before summer break and give them the necessary form.
 - List of college deadlines must be given to teachers. Please give teachers as much time as possible ranging from 2 weeks to 1 month.
 - Students will also send request/reminder via Naviance in the fall to their recommenders.

Important Forms in Our Department



- Release of records (pink)
 - Permission for the Mount to release school documents to colleges
 - Students must include a one time fee of \$20 cash or check to help with the cost of Naviance
- Transcript release (yellow)
 - Where to send transcripts: must fill out one for **each** college applying to
 - Must be submitted at least **2 weeks** before application due date.
 - Counselor Letter and School Profile are automatically sent with transcript.

Release of Records



RELEASE OF RECORDS

I authorize Mount Saint Dominic Academy to release my high school transcript:

_____, Class of 2024.
(Student's Name)

It is the student's responsibility to release all SAT, AP and ACT scores directly from the testing company to each college.

A one time fee of \$20.00 must accompany this form to defray the cost of the electronic program. The fee can be paid either by cash or check made out to Mount Saint Dominic Academy.

Signature of Parent/Guardian or
Signature of student if age 18

Transcript Request Form



TRANSCRIPT REQUEST FORM

NAME OF STUDENT _____

COLLEGE _____ COLLEGE APPLICATION DEADLINE: _____

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- ☐ EARLY DECISION (BINDING)*
- ☐ EARLY ACTION (NON-BINDING)*
- ☐ REGULAR DECISION

*PLEASE BE SURE TO INDICATE YOUR CHOICE ON YOUR APPLICATION AS WELL AS THIS FORM
SINCE THIS FORM WILL REMAIN IN YOUR FILE AT MSDA AND NOT BE SENT TO THE COLLEGE.

I UNDERSTAND I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION ELECTRONICALLY ALONG
WITH THE STANDARDIZED TEST SCORES, APPLICATION FEE AND ESSAY (IF REQUIRED) TO
THE COLLEGE. INITIALS _____

HOW DID YOU APPLY?

- ☐ COMMON APPLICATION
- ☐ COLLEGE ONLINE APPLICATION
- ☐ SCHOOL THAT REQUIRES APPLICATIONS TO BE MAILED

DATE ELECTRONICALLY AND/OR MAILED BY SCHOOL COUNSELING OFFICE _____

Important Forms in Our Department



- Must notify our department via these forms to submit transcripts and letters of recommendation.
- Before submitting forms to Mrs. Marra, the student must do the steps online prior to connect Naviance with online applications. (Discussed in class.)
- Forms are found on the Portal in the School Counseling Folder.

MSDA Counseling Office Deadlines



College Deadline

October 15

November 1

November 15

December 1

Due in Guidance

September 29

October 13

November 1

November 15

For any colleges that have application deadlines between DECEMBER 15 and JANUARY 15, all requests must be handed into the counseling office to Mrs. Marra NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 1ST.

Please keep the school calendar in mind due to the holiday season as well as the potential for inclement weather

Need to Know



- Our department automatically sends **first marking period** and **mid-year grades** to each college to which the student has applied.
- **Final transcripts** will be sent automatically to the college that your daughter will be attending.
- Students must give us a copy of all **acceptance letters** and **scholarship/grant award letters**.

Statement on Missing Materials



Colleges and universities will close during the week of December 18th through January 1st...Sometimes longer! Colleges will receive thousands of applications and will spend months going through things.

Therefore, it is quite possible that you will not be able to immediately receive confirmation from the colleges regarding the receipt of your application materials. Naviance does have an electronic time stamp however, which clarifies the status of information submitted through the Naviance system.

Each college manages the process of notifying applicants of the status of their application files very differently. Many colleges will send an email or letter to students to verify that their application is complete or to let you know that something is missing. Other colleges will give applicants an account online where they can check to see what application materials have been received.

If you receive an email or letter stating that an application is incomplete because it is missing a transcript or a recommendation letter, **DON'T PANIC. What this likely means is that they may have not officially entered your application materials in their database.**

As long as materials have been submitted on time, the counseling department can always work with the colleges and universities to clarify any possible issues.

College Athletics



- Any student planning to play college athletics at the DI or DII level must:
 - Register with the NCAA Clearinghouse
 - Give Mrs. Marra your student account number, so she can submit final transcripts at the end of senior year.

Financial Aid



- FAFSA form can be filled out on December 1, 2023 at **[www.studentaid@ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov)**
- Some colleges require you to complete the CSS profile on www.collegeboard.org, which you can begin on October 1, 2023. A list of colleges can be found on the College Board website.
- College websites each have a Net Price Calculator.

Scholarships



- Local, institutional, and national
- Many website search engines and most applications require an essay.
- Network and use multiple resources to search.
- Student's largest scholarships come from the college itself.
- Merit scholarships are usually based on grades and test scores.

Scholarships



- *Naviance Scholarship List*
 - *Check Naviance weekly to see scholarship list updates. Students can download directly from Naviance.*
- *Check Week Ahead and Counseling Newsletters for list of local scholarships.*

Some final thoughts...taking our counselor hat off and putting the parent one on...



TO YOUR DAUGHTER...ALWAYS REMEMBER

- YOU ARE LOVED
- WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER
- WE SUPPORT YOU
- YOU WILL FIND THE PERFECT COLLEGE
- LET'S ALWAYS TALK ABOUT ANYTHING ON YOUR MIND!!
- WE'RE HERE TO LISTEN
- NOTHING IS "SILLY" IF IT'S A CONCERN FOR YOU
- WE'RE PROUD OF YOU
- MANY HAVE GONE THROUGH THIS PROCESS AND 'HAPPILY SURVIVED'...WE WILL, TOO!
- THIS IS YOUR COLLEGE DECISION
- FORGIVE US IF WE SEEM TOO INVOLVED; WE JUST LOVE YOU SO MUCH!!!
- WE'RE ONLY A PHONE CALL AWAY
- WE CAN'T WAIT FOR PARENT'S WEEKEND!!!