

North Andover High School

College Bound Junior Night

2024



AGENDA

- SAT/ACT
- Naviance
- Creating a list of colleges
- Applying to college
- Financial Aid overview



RELAX! TAKE A DEEP BREATH

There are 5,300 colleges and universities in the United States, you will get in!



GETTING STARTED

01. START TALKING!

Car rides, friends, dinner table, parents, siblings, teachers, guidance counselors, etc.

02. MAKE A PLAN!

Make a 5-year and 10 year plan. Where do you see yourself?

03. YOUR PREFERENCES

Have conversations about colleges, jobs, where relatives attended, what they do for work, what do others like and dislike about college.

04. 1 STEP AT A TIME

Get organized and set one goal at a time. The recommended timeline will help direct tasks you can tackle to keep you on track.

SAT REGISTERING AND SENDING RESULTS

SAT Registration (www.collegeboard.org)

- Create an account
- Select a test date
- SAT Prep- Khan Academy

ACT Registration (www.actstudent.org)

- Create an account
- Select test date (differ from SAT)
- ACT Prep- Kaplan

NAHS Library website has Peterson Test Prep resources for the SATs, ACTs, & APs

Additional notes:

1. Keep your account & login info somewhere safe for easy sending
2. Be mindful of what each school and major requires
3. If student has testing accommodations in school they may receive for tests, speak to guidance counselor about applying

TEST OPTIONAL POLICY

*The number one question asked by the high school class of 2025 is,
"Should I take the SAT/ACT?"*

The answer is **YES**:

Test optional admissions may be here to stay. However, some majors will require SATs, some schools will offer merit based on test scores, and some schools will still require standardized tests for admissions.

*NAHS Guidance recommends that you take the SAT or ACTs at least once.

*Keep in mind that you may choose to send your scores to some schools and not the others.

2024 SAT AND ACT TEST DATES

SAT Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
March 9, 2024	February 23, 2024	February 27, 2024
May 4, 2024	April 19, 2024	April 23, 2024
June 1, 2024	May 16, 2024	May 21, 2024
** August 24, 2024		
** October 5, 2024		
** December 7, 2024		
ACT DATE	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE
February 10, 2024	January 5, 2024	January 19, 2024
April 13, 2024	March 8, 2024	March 22, 2024
June 8, 2024	May 3, 2024	May 17, 2024
July 13, 2024	June 7, 2024	June 21, 2024

RESOURCES



CollegeBoard.org



North Andover Guidance



Common App



FairTest.org



Naviance

NAVIANCE



<https://student.naviance.com/nahs>



DEMONSTRATED INTEREST

COLLEGE REP VISITS

Each fall, college admission representatives are invited to connect with NAHS students to give presentations about their schools. Registration is done through Naviance.

COLLEGE FAIRS

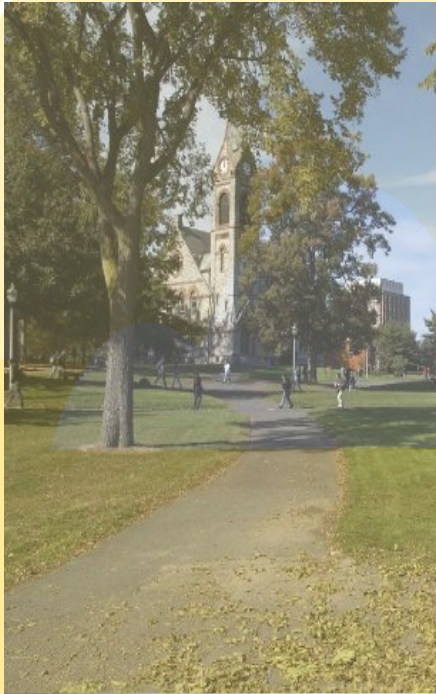
- NEACAC College Fairs:
<https://www.neacac.org/fall-college-fairs-2022>
- Phillips Academy Andover
(spring 2024)
- Peabody Veterans Memorial High School (fall 2024)

CAMPUS VISITS

College visit forms must be returned to Guidance 2 days prior to college visit for absence to be considered documented

- Juniors have 3 documented college visit days.
- Seniors have 5 documented college visit days.

COLLEGE VISITS





QUESTIONS TO ASK ON COLLEGE VISITS

- What is it like to live here?
- How do you get involved in the school community?
- What do you do on the weekends? Do most kids stay or go home?
- Do you have a car on campus? If not, is it easy to get around the city/town?
- Why did you choose this school?
- What do you like most about college classes?
- How do you balance your school work with your job/extracurricular activities/internship?
- Is there help with job placement after graduation?



COLLEGE LIST

1-2

REACH SCHOOLS

These schools are usually the top choices and dream schools. It is okay to include long shots.

3-5

REALISTIC OR POSSIBLE SCHOOLS


Schools that possess the significant features a student desires and at which the probability of admission is slightly better than even.

1-3

SAFETY OR LIKELY SCHOOLS

Schools that have most of the features a student desires and at which the probability of admission is highly to certain.

*** One of these schools should also be financially safe



THE APPLICATION



- Application - You will need to list extracurricular activities, work experience
- Supplements
- Recommendations
- Essay
- Payment
- <https://www.commonapp.org/>

***EVERY SCHOOL IS DIFFERENT &
MAY HAVE DIFFERENT REQUIREMENTS***



Welcome, Katie!

Practice Applicant [Practice account FAQs](#)

CAID 34917497

hebertk@northandoverpublicschools.com

Sign Out

Dashboard

My Colleges

Common App

College Search

Financial Aid

Common App

Profile

Family

✓ Education

✓ Testing

Activities

Writing

Courses & Grades
0 college(s) require

Profile

Preview

✓ Personal Information

Address

Permanent home address*

430 Osgood St

North Andover, MA 01845-1999

United States of America

Change

Remove

Alternate mailing address (e.g. if you attend a boarding school or use a different mailing address)*

☒ No alternate address

☐ Send mail to a temporary or alternate address

Clear answer

Continue

Need help?



Need Help?

Please use the link below to look for an answer to your question. Answers to most questions can be found in [Read more](#)

REQUESTING TRANSCRIPTS

North Andover High School - Transcript Release Authorization Form - 2022 - 2023

Name (please print) _____

Date _____

Signature _____

Guidance Counselor _____

Requests for transcript packages must be made at least ONE MONTH prior to the application deadline. I hereby authorize and request North Andover High School to forward transcript packages (which include transcripts and recommendations) to the colleges I have indicated below. **Seniors must pay a one-time flat fee of \$25.00 or \$12.00** for students receiving Qualified Free or Reduced Lunch, which covers the cost of sending ALL of your transcripts and recommendations to colleges. **Please pay on-line at our [payment portal located on the Guidance website homepage](#).** **Please print neatly and complete ALL requested information for each school or the form will be returned to you.**

ONE-TIME FLAT FEE PAYMENT DATE: _____

Application Deadline	Circle Type	College/School - Which Campus (Address if not on Common App)	List teacher names who will be writing your Teacher Recommendations	How are you applying? (Circle one)	Prior to submitting this form – YOU MUST (1) Complete the FERPA Waiver under the "My Colleges" tab on the Common App (2) If you are applying through the Common App YOU MUST add those schools to your Common App account (3) YOU MUST enter your Common App email address and date of birth under the "My Colleges" tab in Naviance	Guidance Use ONLY:
	Regular Dec. ED EDII Early Action Restrictive EA Rolling Priority		1. _____	Common App Coalition App School Specific App Other: _____		M: _____
			2. _____			E: _____
	Regular Dec. ED EDII Early Action Restrictive EA Rolling Priority		1. _____	Common App Coalition App School Specific App Other: _____		NAV: _____
			2. _____			M: _____
	Regular Dec. ED EDII Early Action Restrictive EA Rolling Priority		1. _____	Common App Coalition App School Specific App Other: _____		E: _____
			2. _____		NAV: _____	
	Regular Dec. ED EDII Early Action Restrictive EA Rolling Priority		1. _____	Common App Coalition App School Specific App Other: _____	M: _____	
			2. _____		E: _____	
	Regular Dec. ED EDII Early Action Restrictive EA Rolling Priority		1. _____	Common App Coalition App School Specific App Other: _____	NAV: _____	
			2. _____		M: _____	
	Regular Dec. ED EDII Early Action Restrictive EA Rolling Priority		1. _____	Common App Coalition App School Specific App Other: _____	E: _____	
			2. _____		NAV: _____	

NAHS GUIDANCE USE ONLY:

Form Received in Guidance on: _____

Counselor's Initials: _____ Secretary's Initials: _____

Fee Paid: _____

Colleges Matched & Entered on Naviance: _____

FERPA signed: _____ Teacher Recs: _____

\$ Amount _____

APPLICATION TYPES & DEADLINES



EARLY ACTION

Non-binding



EARLY DECISION

Binding



REGULAR DECISION



ROLLING ADMISSIONS

REQUESTING RECOMMENDATIONS

TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Speak with the teacher personally in the spring of junior year to request a letter of recommendation. Follow up with the teacher in the fall to verify the student's first application deadline. Teachers cannot upload recommendations until transcript release form is turned in.

COUNSELOR RECOMMENDATIONS


Counselors will write on behalf of all of their students. Students must complete student recommendation form in Naviance when (before) they hand in the Transcript Release Form. Parents are encouraged to complete Parent recommendation form on Naviance.

The background is a light blue sky with white clouds and green rolling hills. Three graduation caps are shown: one large one on the left, one small one in the upper right, and one small one on the lower right. A hand in a blue sleeve is visible in the bottom right corner, making a peace sign. A large yellow rectangle is centered in the image, containing the text "FINANCIAL AID".

FINANCIAL AID



COMPONENTS OF THE FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE

- **Grants** – students do not have to repay grants. They are typically given for athletics, academics, special talent, need-based, etc.
 - **Scholarships** – Students also do not have to repay scholarships. Scholarships can be awarded for athletics, academic excellence or special talent.
 - **Loans** – These must be repaid. There are two types of loans: federal student loans and private loans.
 - **College Work Study** – Work study allows colleges to hire students for employment to pay their own way as they attend college. You do not repay the money earned.
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Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- FAFSA application will open on January 1st
- <http://www.fafsa.gov>



College Scholarship Service (CSS) Profile

- Each school has its own CSS Profile deadline, but many schools request applications by the students earliest deadline.
- <http://cssprofile.collegeboard.org>

The major difference between the FAFSA and the CSS Profile is that the FAFSA provides federal grants, loans, and other types of government assistance, and the CSS Profile is an application that universities use to gauge how much non-federal financial aid you need.



Financial Aid cont...

Massachusetts Educational Financial Authority (MEFA)



- <http://www.mefa.org>

Upcoming Webinars:

- College Admissions
- Applying for scholarships
- FAFSA festival: Assistance with completing the FAFSA
- Understanding Financial Aid
- Athletics in College Admissions

uAspire

- <http://www.uaspire.org>

Financial Aid Events

- FAFSA walkthrough: January 9, 18 and 31st
- Scholarship and Basic Events: February 15



Financial Aid and additional resources:

- NAHS hosts a Financial aid night in early December

North Andover Guidance Website offers links to local and national financial websites:

- [Financial Aid - North Andover High School](#)

Scholarship Opportunities:

- [Scholarships - North Andover High School](#)
 - Outside Scholarships offered through local and national organizations.
 - NAHS Guidance Scholarship Program are scholarships offered by organizations in the surrounding community.

ACTION ITEMS

- Have a successful Junior year: academics, extracurriculars, etc.
- Search and build list of colleges in Naviance
- Register for standardized test(s) - SAT in March @ NAHS
- Keep a file of usernames and passwords of all of your accounts (Naviance, College Board, Common App, FAFSA)
- Visit colleges in person or virtually
- Solidify recommendations (teacher & guidance counselor)
- Fill out Student/Parent Recommendation Form in Naviance
- Start Common Application
- Submit Transcript Release Form - 30 days before deadline
- Send official standardized test scores
- Complete FAFSA (CSS Profile)
- Submit application and supporting documents!



A presentation slide with a light blue background featuring stylized white clouds. A large yellow rounded rectangle is centered on the slide, containing the text "Q&A" in a bold, dark blue font. The slide is framed by a white border.

Q&A

Don't spend more than you can afford for your child's education.

"If your child did everything you asked and excelled in high school, saying no to her dream school seems like a betrayal."

"The nature of a student's college experience — the work that he or she puts into it, the skills that he or she picks up, the self-examination that's undertaken, the resourcefulness that's honed — matters more than the name of the institution attended. . . . Education is indeed everything, but it happens across a spectrum of settings and in infinite ways."



RECENT BOSTON GLOBE ARTICLE



COMMON APPLICATION ESSAY PROMPTS

- Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
 - The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
 - Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
 - Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
 - Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
 - Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
 - Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.
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