



College Planning Night for 10th and 11th Graders

January 2024

Hosted by BHS Counseling Department



Counseling Staff

BHS Counselors:

Ms. Lindsey Wasiak A-De

Mrs. Kate Gehrke Df-K

Mr. Jeff Fonseca L-Pl; ESL

Ms. Kaleigh Wargo Pm-Z

Mrs. Lauren McAuley Student Assistance Coordinator

District Guidance Supervisor: Ms. Carolyn Johnson

Support Staff: Mrs. Jennifer Amato and Mrs. Catherine DeSilva



Mrs. McAuley

- **Student Assistance Coordinator (SAC)**

- *Support all students; focus on substance use and social/emotional support*
 - Meet with students 1:1 and small group settings
 - Support school counselors and staff with student referrals
 - Provide counseling referral services for students
 - Mentoring Program, Therapy Dog Program, Student Groups
 - Assemblies/Community Service Providers
 - Information resource for substance abuse prevention and related intervention services

Words of Wisdom

- This is an important decision.
- The more time and effort that goes into planning, the better the results.
- Don't get wrapped up in what other students are doing.
- This is your own path.

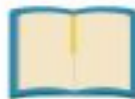




THE ROAD



to



College



Academic Factors in 4-Year College Admissions

- GPA
 - A snapshot of entire academic performance
 - Cumulative GPA vs. annual GPA
- Senior year grades
- Class Rank
 - End of Junior Year
 - End of MP2 Senior Year
 - End of MP3 Senior Year (recognized for scholarships/graduation)
- Rigor of Courses (Transcript)
- Test Scores (SAT/ACT)
 - Test optional schools

Other Factors in 4-Year Admissions

- Essay
- Recommendations
 - 2 teacher recommendations
 - Counselor recommendation
- Demonstrated interest
- Volunteer Service
- Activities, Athletics
 - Leadership positions
- Personal Accomplishments

Standardized Testing

- SAT

- Sign up through collegeboard.org
- PSAT - use as a means to prepare for SAT

- ACT

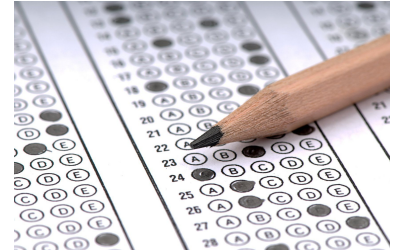
- Register at act.org

- Scores must be sent to college(s) **by student**

- Up to four free score reports can be ordered from time of exam registration.

- Fee Waivers are available for both tests

- *Speak to your counselor if you think you are eligible for a fee waiver. Any student on free or reduced lunch is eligible.*



To Test or Not to Test

- Individual decision that varies case-by-case
- Colleges state they do not penalize students who opt not to submit scores
- Colleges accept roughly the same percentage of students of test-optional vs. testing students
- Compare your score to the college's median range
- Be aware of test score requirements for certain majors/scholarships
- Talk with your counselor

Test Prep

- Free:
 - [Khan Academy](#)
 - College Board-endorsed SAT prep program
 - Link Khan Academy account with College Board PSAT scores
 - FREE, personally tailored test prep
- For cost:
 - Options available include:
 - Unigo, Kaplan, Huntington Learning Center, private tutors



Link College Board and Khan Academy

GET READY FOR THE SAT!

Link your College Board account to **Khan Academy** to get **FREE online SAT prep!**

1

Go to satpractice.org

Create an account on Khan Academy, or sign into your existing account.

2

Link Your Accounts

When prompted, agree to link your Khan Academy and College Board accounts.

3

Send Your Scores

Log in to your College Board account, and hit "Send" to get a personalized practice plan.



FINDING A GOOD FIT

The “right school” or “best school” is unique
to each individual, each family.

Know Yourself...

- Values
- Ambitions
- Academic Strengths
- Interests
- Personality
- Goals

...and What Matters To You

- Location
- Major
- Campus Appeal
- Academic Support Opportunities
- Total Cost – Including Aid
- Academics
- Size
- Social Life
- Internships Opportunities

Finding the Right Fit: OCC

- Close to home / live at home
- Cheaper tuition
- Recommendation letters / test scores not required
- “Clean slate”: Chance to develop a stronger transcript to transfer to 4-year
- Opportunity to participate in athletics
- OCC reputation among highest in NJ county colleges

Finding the Right Fit

- College Fairs
 - See [College Fairs & Open Houses](#) section of website
 - Continue to update with any upcoming opportunities
 - Ocean County School Counselors Association (OCSCA) Spring College and Career Expo:
 - **March 19th, 2024**
 - RWJBarnabas Health Arena, Toms River, NJ
 - [NACAC Spring College Fairs](#)
 - [In person](#): March 6, 2024, Edison
 - Two sessions: 9:00am-12pm; 5:30-8:30pm
 - [Virtual](#): February 18, March 24, April 21, 2024; all 1:00-6:00pm
 - Additional College Fairs occur in Fall

Finding the Right Fit

- Visit college campuses
 - If permitted, stay overnight; eat in cafeteria. Get full experience!
 - College visit resources on [BHS Counseling page](#)
- Virtual Visits
 - Virtual tours normally available on college websites
- Contact College Admissions reps
 - May be able to meet virtually or in person
 - Use contact info given during virtual tours/open houses or on college website
- College Admission reps visit BHS throughout the year
- Research and review college websites

Finding the Right Fit

- [Naviance](#) - College and Career researching tool

- “About Me” tab
 - Career and interest surveys
 - Resume building tool
- “Colleges” tab
 - SuperMatch
 - Colleges I’m Thinking About/Colleges I’m Applying To
- Naviance accessible through Counseling website



Naviance SuperMatch

Change your fit criteria	Fit Score ⓘ	Academic Match ⓘ	Admission Info ▾	Cost ▾	Pick what to show ▾									
<p>Stockton University Galloway, NJ, Town not near a City 4 year, Public</p> <p>★ PINNED</p> <p>♡ FAVORITE</p>	<p>100%</p> <p>Why?</p>	<p>Match</p> <p>Average You</p> <table><tr><td>GPA</td><td>3.4</td><td>3 ⓘ</td></tr><tr><td>SAT</td><td>1140</td><td>1100</td></tr><tr><td>ACT</td><td>23</td><td>N/A</td></tr></table>	GPA	3.4	3 ⓘ	SAT	1140	1100	ACT	23	N/A	<p>Acceptance Rate 86%</p> <p>Accepts Common App</p> <p>App Fee \$50</p>	<p>Tuition & Fees</p> <p>\$8,646 <i>In State (NJ)</i> \$15,599 <i>Out of State</i></p> <p>Room & Board \$12,120</p>	<p>Customize what you see here—Choose a category above</p>
GPA	3.4	3 ⓘ												
SAT	1140	1100												
ACT	23	N/A												
<p>Montclair State University Montclair, NJ, Town not near a City 4 year, Public</p> <p>★ PINNED</p> <p>♡ FAVORITE</p>	<p>83%</p> <p>Why?</p>	<p>Safety</p> <p>Average You</p> <table><tr><td>GPA</td><td>3.3</td><td>3 ⓘ</td></tr><tr><td>SAT</td><td>975</td><td>1100</td></tr><tr><td>ACT</td><td>N/A</td><td>N/A</td></tr></table> <p>Test Optional</p>	GPA	3.3	3 ⓘ	SAT	975	1100	ACT	N/A	N/A	<p>Acceptance Rate 86%</p> <p>App Fee \$65</p> <p>Test Optional</p>	<p>Tuition & Fees</p> <p>\$13,073 <i>In State (NJ)</i> \$21,055 <i>Out of State</i></p> <p>Room & Board \$13,342</p>	<p>Customize what you see here—Choose a category above</p>
GPA	3.3	3 ⓘ												
SAT	975	1100												
ACT	N/A	N/A												
<p>Rowan University Glassboro, NJ, Suburb near Large City 4 year, Public</p> <p>★ PINNED</p> <p>♡ FAVORITE</p>	<p>83%</p> <p>Why?</p>	<p>Reach</p> <p>Average You</p> <table><tr><td>GPA</td><td>3.6</td><td>3 ⓘ</td></tr><tr><td>SAT</td><td>1125</td><td>1100</td></tr><tr><td>ACT</td><td>23.5</td><td>N/A</td></tr></table>	GPA	3.6	3 ⓘ	SAT	1125	1100	ACT	23.5	N/A	<p>Acceptance Rate 73%</p> <p>Accepts Common App</p> <p>App Fee \$65</p>	<p>Tuition & Fees</p> <p>\$9,660 <i>In State (NJ)</i> \$18,128 <i>Out of State</i></p> <p>Room & Board \$12,236</p>	<p>Customize what you see here—Choose a category above</p>
GPA	3.6	3 ⓘ												
SAT	1125	1100												
ACT	23.5	N/A												

Finding the Right Fit

- Research current data on schools of interest to help determine likelihood of admission (e.g. reach, safety, match):
 - Average GPA accepted
 - Average SAT scores accepted
 - Acceptance Rate
 - Application Factors
- Where to find this information:
 - Naviance: Supermatch list, 'Academic Match' column gives snapshot
 - Naviance: 'Admissions' tab for any college page
 - College Board: 'Admissions' tab for any college page shows current application requirements, incoming GPAs, and SAT scores

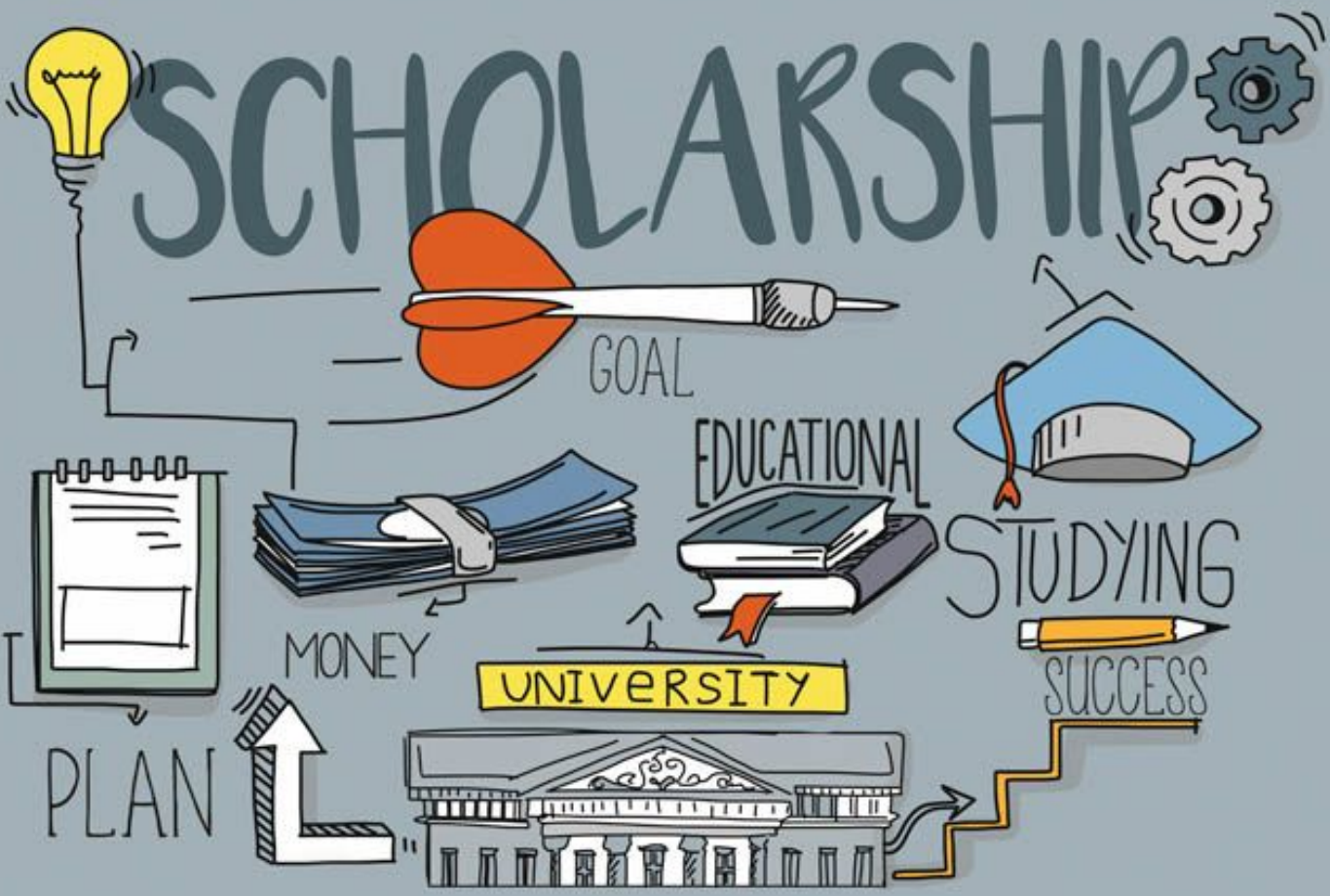
Other Post-Secondary Options

- Military
 - Recruiters contact info available in Counseling Office
 - Recruiter lunch visits occur throughout school year
- Ocean County Vocational Technical School (OCVTS)
 - Shared-time (in HS) or full-day adult (post-HS)
- Technical Schools
- Employment

Sports in College

- Students interested in playing sports in college must register with NCAA eligibility center by end of junior year.
 - Recommended to do so much earlier
 - [Create free profile to start](#)
- NCAA clearance is mandatory for all Division I and II sports.
 - 16 core classes
- DI and DII are able to offer athletic scholarships.
- Be sure to let your counselor know if you are interested in college athletics
- [NCAA Information on NCAA student-athlete eligibility](#)

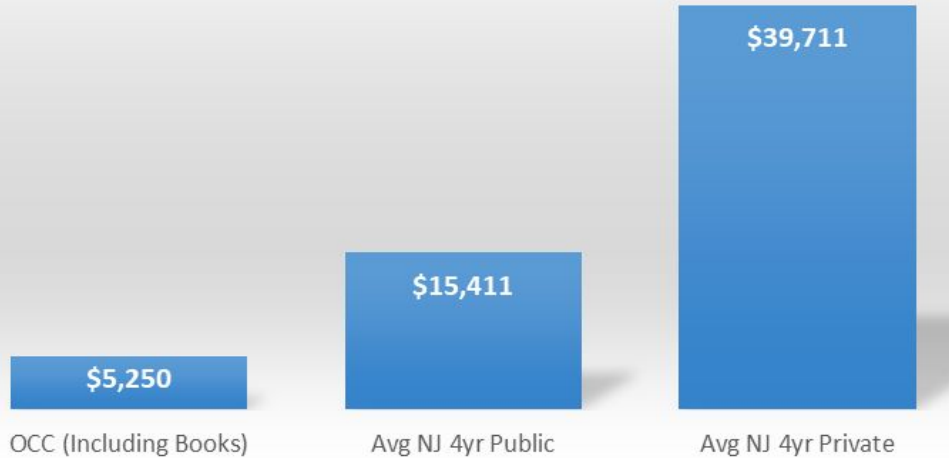




COSTS
&
SCHOLARSHIPS

NJ Higher Education Yearly Costs

2022 Tuition and Fees Per Year (Housing not included)



NJ 4-Year Publics

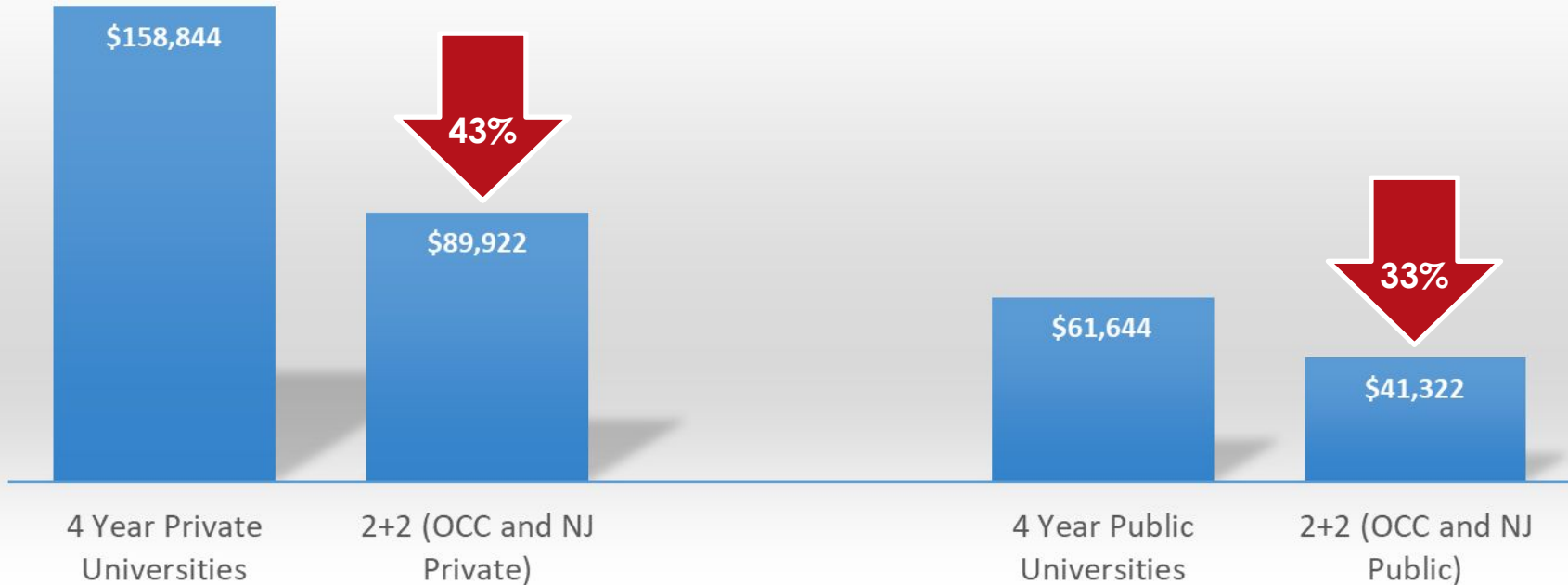
- Kean
- Montclair
- NJCU
- NJIT
- Ramapo
- Rowan
- Rutgers
- Stockton
- TCNJ
- WPU

NJ 4-Year Privates

- Bloomfield
- Caldwell
- Centenary
- St. Elizabeth
- Drew
- FDU
- Felician
- Georgian
- Monmouth
- Princeton
- Rider
- St. Peters
- Seton Hall
- Stevens

The Cost of a Degree (Total)

Avg. Total Tuition to Earn a Bachelor's Degree in NJ



Other Costs to Consider

- Fees
 - school-specific: technology, health, athletic, etc.
- Room and Board
 - around \$10,000-\$15,000
- Books
 - around \$1,000 per SEMESTER
- Transportation
 - gas, tolls, flights, trains
- Dorm Living Expenses
 - furniture, decorations, snacks, drinks, cable, etc.



FAFSA

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

- www.fafsa.gov
- **Required** for any college-bound student to be considered for any federal financial aid, and for some state financial aid programs.
- FAFSA completion is the first, and most important, step in the financial aid process.
- **Can be filed on or after October 1 of senior year***
- New Jersey students may be required to complete additional questions for state aid via NJFAMS.
- BHS, in association with OCC, hosts a FAFSA Night to assist seniors/parents with FAFSA completion.

Financial Aid 101

- Needs-based: driven by household income
 - *Determined by FAFSA*
 - Pending on ratio of family members : income
 - The bigger the family and/or the lower the income, the greater the funding
- Merit-based: driven by student's academic records
 - *Determined by transcript or scores submitted*
 - Incorporates one or more of the following:
 - GPA
 - SAT/ACT score
 - Athletics

Financial Aid 101

- GIFT MONEY (no payback)
 - Grants
 - Typically need-based (see previous slide)
 - Scholarship
 - Often merit-based (see previous slide)
- LOAN MONEY (payback necessary)
 - Federal loans
 - Fixed, lower rates
 - Deferred interest accrual
 - Private loans
 - Often higher interest
 - May accrue interest as soon as loan is initiated

Scholarship Resources

- BHS Local Scholarships
- Information regarding financial aid
 - Studentaid.gov - Federal government's website about paying for college
 - Hesaa.org - NJ financial aid resource
 - Finaid.org - Free student resource for learning about all types of financial aid
- National Scholarship Resources (some examples)
 - Fastweb.com - Private scholarships
 - Cappex.com - Scholarship matching
 - Meritaid.com - \$11 billion in merit scholarships
 - Raise.me - Micro-scholarships earned throughout high school

*Scholarship information available on [BHS Counseling website](#).

NJ STARS

- Students who finish in the top 15% of the class in **junior OR senior year** are eligible.
- Covers the cost of tuition only for up to 5 semesters at community college (Ocean County College)
- NJ STARS does NOT cover remedial courses & all remedial classes must be completed before NJ STARS tuition will be paid (1 year to complete remedial work).
- Must take 12-18 college credits a semester and maintain GPA

* Funding is dependent upon annual state appropriations



NEXT STEPS

Talk with your counselor



BHS Scheduling

- Be sure you are on track to graduate
 - Required courses
 - 4 years of: English, PE/Health
 - 3 years of: Math, History, Science
 - 1 year of: World Language, Career/Technical, Visual/Performing Art, & Financial Literacy
 - Testing requirements
- Challenge yourself with a rigorous schedule
 - Dual Enrollment agreements with OCC, Stockton:
 - AP courses, Genocide & Holocaust Studies, African-American Studies

Early College at OCC

- OCC courses for high school students
- Earn college credits at a reduced rate
 - About \$300/3-credit course
 - compared to \$3,000/3-credit course @ 4-year college
- Take courses at:
 - OCC at Manahawkin
 - Main OCC campus in Toms River
 - Online
- See your counselor or ocean.edu for more information

General College Timeline - Current Juniors

- **For Juniors, now:**

- Research colleges and form list
- Create a properly titled email account
- Clean up social media accounts
- Start scholarship searches (will not be able to apply yet on most sites)
- College visits
- Participate in Junior Meeting with your counselor
- Register and take the SAT and/or ACT
 - Prepare with Khan Academy!

- **Summer:**

- Research colleges and refine list
- Create a [Common Application](#) account
- Write college essay

- **Fall:**

- Senior Meeting with your counselor
- Speak with teachers about letters of recommendation
- FAFSA (opens October 1st)
- College research, applications
 - It is student's responsibility to pay attention to deadlines!



Questions?

Thank you for attending!