College Applications 101 & Post HS Planning Resources

FALL 2024

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(located on 2nd floor above main office)

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Overview

Topics covered in this presentation:

Welcome to your senior year at Issaquah High! In this presentation we are going to discuss the specifics of the college application process to help guide you through your senior year.

Congratulations on your hard work and we look forward to helping you in the next few months!

- IHS Counselors



Transcripts: Parchment



Application Types, Timelines, & Components



College & Career Center + Other Resources



LOTS of options for your personal post-high plan. This presentation focuses on 2 & 4 year colleges but don't forget about: military, apprenticeship, gap year, volunteering, meaningful employment!

EVERY STUDENT WILL NEED TO ACCESS A TRANSCRIPT AT SOME POINT

Transcripts = Parchment

Issaquah High School uses a transcript service called Parchment for ALL transcript requests.

Make an account through Parchment.com (instructions on Counseling website)--See Ms. Lipsen to receive your account code if you have not set up Parchment already.

Order an UNOFFICIAL self-view of your current transcript. Ms. Lipsen releases every transcript request so please note this does not happen instantly.



This is your final chance to **review** your transcript to ensure it is correct. Check for middle school grades, summer courses, grade bumps, etc. If there are any errors or questions, work with your counselor to address.

Order your transcript! In most cases you will order directly to Common Application (it will go to all colleges on your Common App)

*First 5 **official** transcripts are free. $5.25 per additional.*



Application Types

Four Year Schools: Schools may use one or more of the following:

- Common Application
- Scoir/Coalition Application
- Slate
- School specific application – e.g. MIT, Georgetown, CWU
- "System" specific application – e.g. University of California
- QuestBridge

Two Year Schools: Online admission application

- Individual school application (go to each school's website)
- One application for Community & Technical Colleges – WA State Board (example)

Admission Terms



- 1

Rolling Admissions: Colleges evaluate applications as they are received versus waiting to evaluate at a set deadline

Early Action: Students receive an early response to their application but do not have to commit to the college early

Early Decision 1 & 2: Students receive an early response to their application and are in a binding agreement (must attend that college) - notify your counselor if you are applying ED, we have to sign off on this as well

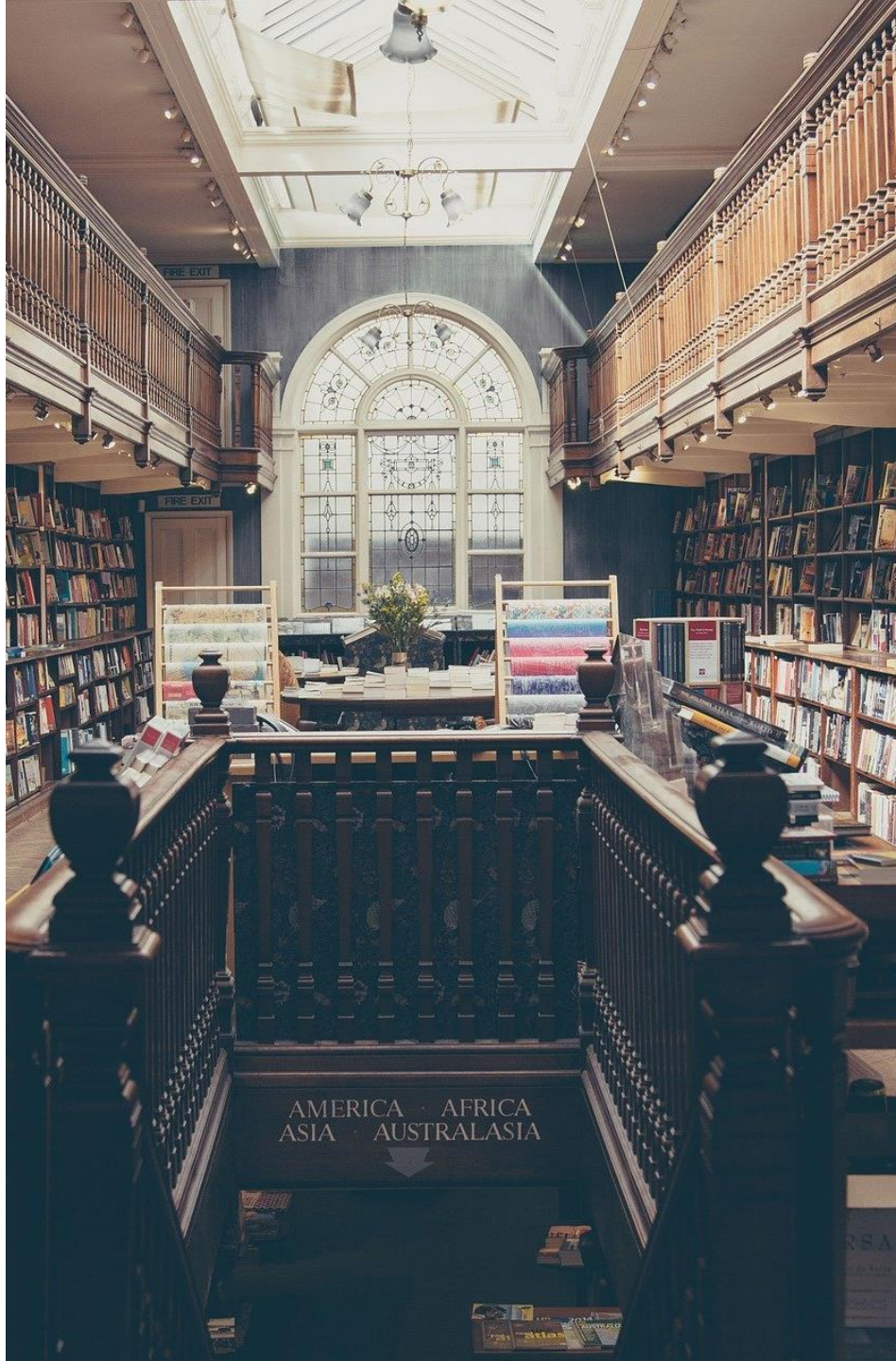
Pooling Admissions: Colleges evaluate applications in a "pool". No applications are reviewed until the deadline. Example: UW

Deferred Admissions: A second chance at admissions, rather than rejecting students being deferred means you will be reviewed again at a different time

Application Process & Components: 4-Year Colleges

Really 'know' the schools you are applying to - from deadlines to areas of study, housing, and culture. Do your research!

- **Data entry:** basic information, extracurriculars, activities, work experience, and in some cases, self-reporting your academics
- **Transcripts:** Order your transcript(s) on Parchment - one for EACH school if NOT on Common App *(or send to Common Application to cover multiple schools on that portal).*
- **Test Scores (AP, ACT, SAT):** Many schools accept self-reports during the application process, but some want official copies. Follow your college's application steps and if necessary, order scores directly from College Board or ACT.
- **Personal Statement/Essays:** Do your homework on school specific essays in particular!
- **School Profile/School Report:** Your counselor will upload this
- **Letters of Recommendation:** Not required at most public 4-year colleges. If required (ONLY), submit the Letter of Rec form for your counselor online – min. 2 week notice required
- **Financial:** FAFSA/WASFA and possibly CSS Profile



https://issaquahhigh.isd411.org/student-life/counseling/college-career

College and Post-High School Planning

Post-High School Planning

College Application Info | College & Career Center

Students can work with their School Counselor and/or the College & Career Center team prior to Senior year to begin planning for college. During your Senior year, you will work closely with your Counselor for many components of the application process. Here are resources for the most commonly asked questions.

+ Application Components

+ Additional Resources

Announcements
Academics
Contact Us
College and Post-High School Planning
Course Guide
Course Request Process
Forms
Resource Directory
Running Start
Seniors & Graduation Info
Transcript Requests

Essay Writing Strategies

Resume demonstrates your activities, essay demonstrates your **VALUES**

For school specific statements, **research the school** - what are their values and priorities and how do you fit within them?

Although it's uncomfortable, talk about yourself – this is not a time to talk about your observations of a family member, etc.

Use your authentic voice - it's good to have someone proofread, but it should sound like YOU (not a professional essay writer or chatGPT).

Make sure you are answering the question

Focus on small moments and outcomes, outcomes, outcomes

Favorite source of examples – Johns Hopkins "Essays that Work"



Next Steps & Who Does What

Student

- Set up Parchment & review your unofficial transcript
- Common Application (or other application)
  - Create your account
  - Waive FERPA rights (this allows Counselor to send info on your behalf)
  - Invite your school counselor as 'Counselor' (not as 'Advisor')
  - Communicate your earliest deadline (it's great to see/talk with your counselor!)
  - If a Counselor Letter is required – fill out the Letter of Rec form online (2 weeks notice!)
  - Order your transcript to Common Application or directly to any schools NOT on Common App
  - Tell your counselor if you are applying Early Decision or need a Fee waiver
- Apply for FAFSA, WASFA and possibly CSS Profile
- End of Year - STUDENT is responsible for ordering a final transcript to your school of choice (planting that seed now!)

School Counselor

- Available to meet with students to help with college or application questions, understand deadlines, review transcripts, etc.
- Submits School Report & School Profile for every student on Common Application
- Will sign Early Decision agreements or Fee Waivers after meeting with student
- Write and send letters of recommendation if required by college (2 week notice and information needed from student)
- Sends mid-year reports by February 14th – no action required by student

Paying for College

FAFSA (Free Application for Student Aid)

WASFA (Washington Application for Financial Aid)

- Opens early December
- Get started on this EARLY!
- This applies for federal access to grants, scholarships, loans, work-study
- You will need parent/guardian assistance if you are a dependent student
- Website: www.FAFSA.gov
- More information on WASFA: https://wsac.wa.gov/wasfa

Scholarships

- Deadlines occur all year long
- Scholarships available for IHS students
- Scholarships that are school-specific
- Popular Search Engines:
  - TheWashBoard.org
  - FinAid.org
  - FastWeb.com
  - Wsac.wa.gov
  - Bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search
- Check out the College & Career website for more information/if you need help knowing where to begin

EVERY STUDENT SHOULD FILL OUT FAFSA/WASFA - it is used for more than just need based opportunities

Accessing your Counselor

IHS Counselors

- Hilde Tzemos ; Last Names: A – Che
  - **Student Appointments**
  - **Email**
- Susan Sutherin (Aug-Dec); Last Names Chf-F
- Emily Combellick (returning Jan 2025)
  - **Email (Sutherin) / Email (Combellick)**
- Rachel Auffant; Last Names: G-Jo
  - **Student Appointments**
  - **Email**
- Maegan Pedersen; Last Names: Jp – Mark
  - **Student Appointments**
  - **Email**
- Charene Gray; Last Names: Marl – Pi
  - **Student Appointments**
  - **Email**
- Stacy Clawson; Last Names: Pj – Stal
  - **Student Appointments**
  - **Email**
- Julianna Jenkins; Last Names: Stam-Z
  - **Student Appointments**
  - **Email**

Students can make appointments using student appointment links above.
Parents & Caregivers: please email your students' counselor to make an appointment.

Tools for Finding Your Way

XELLO, BIG FUTURE, COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER

Tools for Exploring Your Options

Lots of great resources to help narrow down the options if you are unsure where to begin!

Xello

Skills Assessment, Career Matchmaker

Formerly Career Cruising

ASVAB

Free, timed, multi-aptitude test that provides insight into current and future academic skills and strengths

Offered by IHS at least once during the year.

Big Future: College Board

Lots of tools for comparing colleges, majors, careers, etc.

College & Career Center

There is a wealth of information, quick links, calendars, and more!

College & Career Center (CCC)

LOCATED IN THE LIBRARY!

How can they assist?

- Post High School Planning
  - College Process: helping to narrow down lists, review essays, help with application questions
  - College Rep & Military Visits: huge calendar of rep visits are already set up!
  - Exploration of other pathways after high school
  - Career Exploration
- Dual Credit Programs
  - WANIC Program
  - CTE Dual Credit
- Hosts Database of:
  - Job Opportunities
  - Internship Opportunities
  - Volunteer Opportunities
  - Apprenticeships
  - Local Scholarships
- High School & Beyond Plan
  - Assignments by grade level
  - Senior Exit Interview

RESOURCES!

- Study Abroad
- Summer Programs
- WANIC
- Tech Prep

WORKSITE LEARNING

Are you 16 or older? Do you have a job? Do you want to earn high school credit while you're working? Sign up for Worksite Learning! Students are able to earn 1/2 credit for every 180 hours reported (after the initial paperwork is completed / received) and up to 1 credit per year.

Interested? Visit the ISD STEM & CTE website to access the information or email the Worksite Learning Coordinator, Janel LeMieux.

Calendars

UPCOMING EVENTS

This calendar includes events hosted by Issaquah HS College & Career Center, outside educational organizations, and our local community partners.

Today | Wednesday, September 14 | Week | Mo

Saturday, September 17	
3:00pm	Military Service Academy Info Day
Tuesday, September 27	
6:00pm	FASFA/WASFA - For Students and Suppo
Thursday, September 29	
6:00pm	University of Utah-Bellevue discover the I
Monday, October 3	
6:00pm	FASFA/WASFA - For Students and Suppo
Friday, November 4	
9:00am	National College Fair - NACAC
Saturday, November 5	
12:00pm	National College Fair-NACAC

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES

Visit the scholarship page for more information on scholarships including the steps to take to be considered for scholarships that require a student to be nominated.

Today | Wednesday, September 14 | Week | Mo

Friday, September 23	
	Rayfield Educational Scholarship for RTC
Friday, September 30	
	Dave Henderson Scholarship

Showing events until 11/15. Look for more

COLLEGE REP VISITS

Students may attend a College Rep visit per the policy below. Check back after 9/15/2022 for an update on college rep visits for the 2022-23 AY.

Today | Thursday, September 15 | Week | Mont

Showing events after 7/15. Look for earlier events

Thursday, September 15	
10:40am	University of California, Riverside
11:35am	Bellevue College
Tuesday, September 20	

Google Calendar

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Employment Opportunities : Employment

Timest amp	Position	*Employer*	Status	Description
9/9/22	**Front Counter**	*Frankie's Pizza*	Part-Time	help customers, answer the phones, p around $5 per hour in tips.
9/9/22	**Delivery Driver**	*Frankie's Pizza*	Part-Time	Deliver pizzas, fold boxes, dishes and reimbursement for mileage.
9/6/22	**Assistant Teacher**	*Issaquah Montessori School*	Part-Time	Issaquah Montessori School is seekin Montessori School is an inclusive and Montessori Society and licensed by th Responsibilities include but are not lim



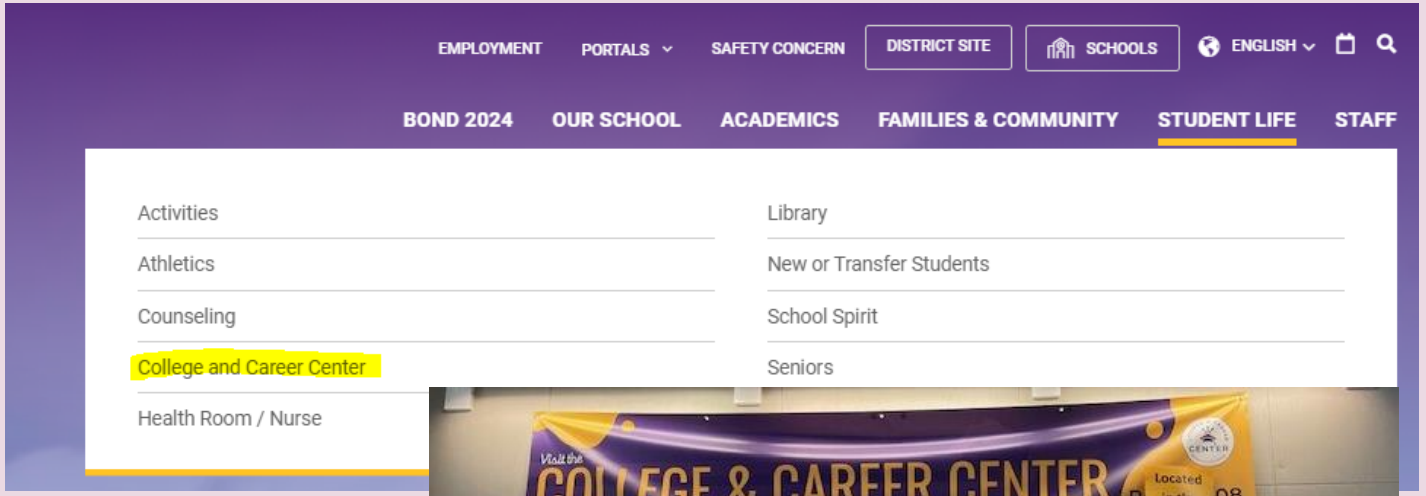
Accessing the College & Career Center

Lindsay Eberhardt & Jenny Wang



The College & Career Center is in the back of the Library!

Website (linked)



Bulletin board – upcoming events



Email: ihscollegeandcareer@issaquah.wednet.edu

Make an appointment: https://calendly.com/ihscollegeandcareer/30min-st?month=2024-09

Coming Up – Oct 1



We are here to help!

We would love to meet with you to help you with the application process, research options, etc.

Drop in before school, during lunch, or after school with quick questions! Or use our Calendly links to schedule an appointment.

Website: https://issaquahhigh.isd411.org/student-life/counseling