





COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS

**You
Matter.**

**Prepare to
chase YOUR
dreams!**

CHOOSING, APPLYING, & PAYING

WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

**We are here
to help.**

**College &
Future
Planning...**

SHS:Class of 2025

SPRING Junior Lesson



Have questions? We can help find the answers!

SHS Counseling Team

Ms. Williams



A-C

Ms. Williams-Pagaran



D-Jan

Mr. Martinez Escobar



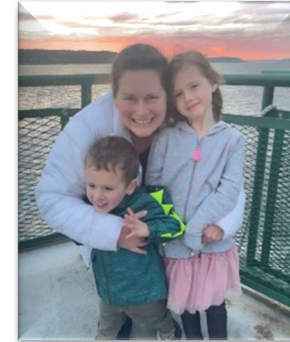
Jar-Mi

Ms. Anderson



Mo-Sal

Ms. Breeze



Sam-Z

Ms. Lopez-Kopp



**College & Career
Counselor**

How to reach us:
Email or Chat us any time! You can find our contact information on the
Sammamish High School Website.



Objectives for Today: Choosing, Applying and Paying

- ➔ **Think about an option after high school that is a good fit**
- ➔ **Learn about the 4-year college application process**
- ➔ **Naviance & other resources & ways to organize and refine your college list**
- ➔ **What is the FAFSA?**





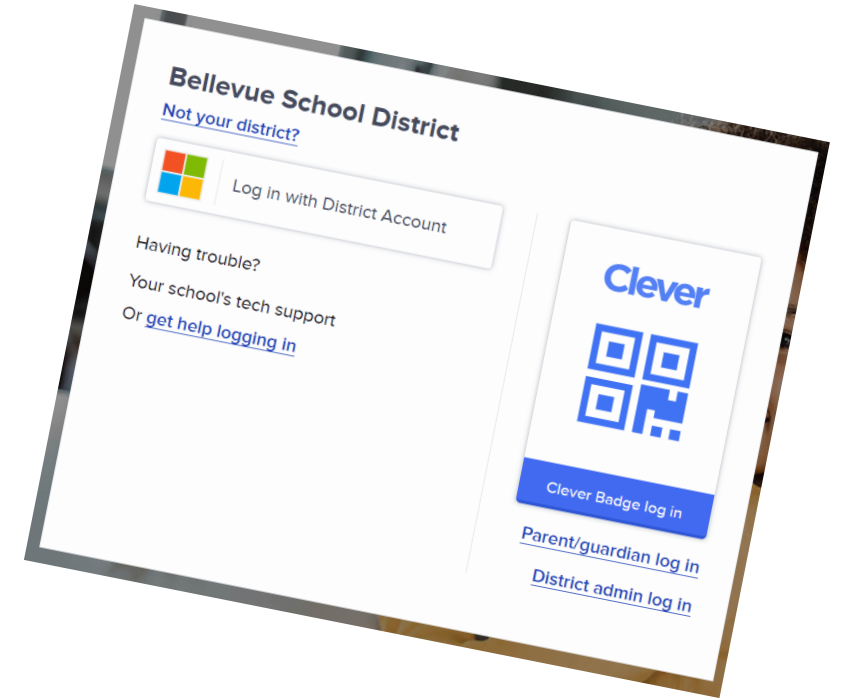
Log into Naviance through

Naviance

Clever

Desktop:

1. Click on Clever icon
2. Click “Log in with District Account”
3. Click Naviance icon



Web:

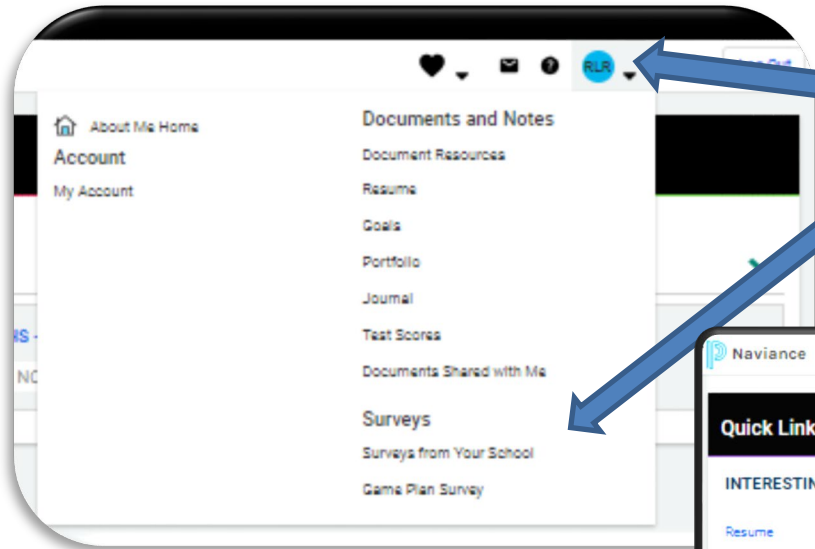
Go to <https://student.naviance.com/sammamish>

1. Click “Continue with Clever”
2. Click on “Student”
3. Click “Log in with District Account”

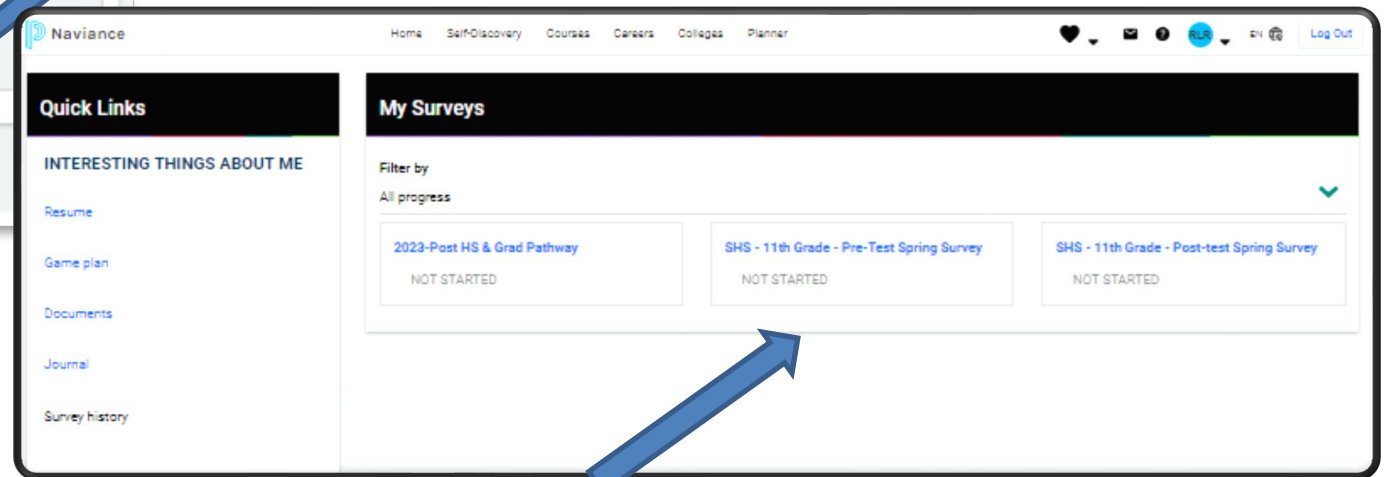


QUICK CHECK- WHAT DO WE ALREADY KNOW?

OPEN **Naviance** :



1st: Top right of page, locate “Surveys From My School” in Documents & Notes



2nd: Click on SHS 11th Grade Pre-Test Spring Survey

01:00



After SHS: There are many options!

See Ms. Lopez Kopp our
College & Career Advisor
for more info!

**4-year University
or College**
Bachelor's Degrees

**Community
College**
Associates Degrees,
Certifications, some
Bachelor's Degrees

**Technical
College** Associates
or Trade Degrees

**Specialty
Schools** Art,
Culinary,
Technology etc.

Military

**Trade
Apprenticeships**

**GAP Year
Program**

Job/Employment



College & Career Center- an amazing resource for you!



• **Ms. López-Kopp**

- Available Mon-Fri
- 7:30-3:30 PM
- Ways to reach her:
 - Via email:
lopezk@bsd405.org
 - [Book an Appointment](#)
 - Swing by Room 201

Get Help with:

- Answering College Questions
- College Lists
- Application Advice
- Essay Review
- Financial Aid
- HSBP
- Find Jobs
- Mock Interviews
- WANIC
- And so much more!



Two Year Colleges = Great Opportunities!

- There are 34 two-year colleges in Washington
- SAT/ACT tests not required; no essay; admission not based on GPA
- Potentially high paying careers with less time in school; pathways to a BA degree
- Several two-year colleges offer bachelor's degrees
 - *Bellevue College has 14 & Lake Wash Tech has 11 bachelor's degrees, including Computer Science, Cyber Security, Accounting, Dental Hygiene, Gaming & Interactive Media, Public Health, etc.*
- A fraction of the cost of most 4-year universities
- About 60% of students who earn an AA degree from a two-year college have zero student loan debt





Consider a Two Year Technical/Trade School Program

TRADE SCHOOL BENEFITS OVER COLLEGE



27%
of trade school
grads earn
more money



21%
more likely to work
in their field
of study



4%
higher
employment rate



\$65,000
average salary for
skilled trades

Source: <https://www.bigrentz.com/blog/trade-school-survey>

- Most programs are 9 – 24 months long
- Enter workforce sooner (earning at least two more years of income)
- Average cost or attendance is much lower
- Less debt = possibility of higher net earnings
- High paying: The average annual pay difference between trade school and bachelor's degree earners is just \$12,000, for entry level employment
- No essay and no SAT/ACT
- Apprenticeships available in many programs



Apprenticeship(s)

What is it?

- Combines on-the-job training with classroom instruction
- Earn while you learn (no student loans)
- Supervised by a journey-level professional
- Program completion gives a professional credential that is nationally recognized
- Often competitive



Explore apprenticeship prep programs in Washington

- Visit WA State Labor & Industries website:
<https://www.lni.wa.gov/licensing-permits/apprenticeship/apprenticeship-preparation>
 - Careers in Aerospace, Medical, Software & Tech, Construction, Other Trades like automotive, cosmetology, firefighter, manufacturing, culinary, etc.



What do I want to do when I grow up???

Daydream about a career where every day you get to do your very best, where you would jump out of bed every day to go to work.

Share your ideas!

- What training or education is needed for this career?
- Do you think this career will be in demand 5-6 years from now?
- Is this traditionally a career for men or women or either gender? Why?
- Can I take any classes in high school that will prepare me for the career?





The 15 Best Trade School Jobs and Their Salaries

Source:

<https://www.bestcolleges.com/trades/best-trade-school-jobs/>

High Paying Trade School Careers	Education Required	Median Salary 2023	Projected Job Growth Rate (2022-2032)
<u>Elevator Installer and Repairer</u>	Apprenticeship	\$102,420	1%
<u>Radiation Therapist</u>	2yr degree	\$98,300	2%
<u>Web Developer</u>	2yr degree	\$92,750	16%
<u>Dental Hygienist</u>	2yr degree	\$87,530	7%
<u>Diagnostic Medical Sonographer</u>	2yr degree	\$80,850	10%
Electrical Line Worker	Apprenticeship	\$85,820	3%
<u>Respiratory Therapist</u>	2yr degree	\$77,960	13%
<u>Electrician</u>	Apprenticeship	\$61,590	6%
<u>Plumber</u>	Apprenticeship	\$61,550	2%
Mortician	2yr degree	\$60,580	3%
<u>IT Technician</u>	2yr degree	\$60,810	5%
<u>Wind Turbine Technician</u>	2yr degree	\$61,770	45%
<u>Legal Assistant</u>	2-4yr degree	\$60,970	4%
<u>HVACR Technician</u>	Cert or 2yr deg	\$57,300	6%
<u>Licensed Practical Nurse</u>	1yr certificate	\$59,730	5%



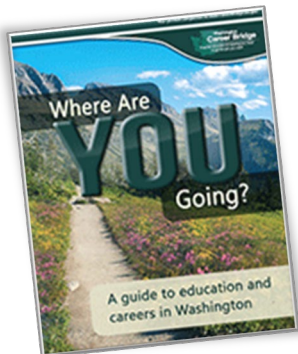
Important Consideration: Fastest Growing Occupations Between 2022-2032

Explore more here:

<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/fastest-growing.htm>



https://www.careerbridge.wa.gov/Search_Occupation.aspx?cmd=txt&adv=true&txt=



OCCUPATION	GROWTH RATE, 2022-32		2023 MEDIAN PAY
Wind turbine service technicians		45%	\$61,770 per year
Nurse practitioners		45%	\$126,260 per year
Data scientists		35%	\$108,020 per year
Statisticians		32%	\$104,110 per year
Information security analysts		32%	\$120,360 per year
Medical and health services managers		28%	\$110,680 per year
Epidemiologists		27%	\$81,390 per year
Physician assistants		27%	\$130,020 per year
Physical therapist assistants		26%	\$64,080 per year
Software developers		26%	\$132,270 per year
Occupational therapy assistants		24%	\$67,010 per year
Actuaries		23%	\$120,000 per year
Computer and information research scientists		23%	\$145,080 per year
Operations research analysts		23%	\$83,640 per year
Solar photovoltaic installers		22%	\$48,800 per year
Home health and personal care aides		22%	\$33,530 per year
Taxi drivers		21%	\$34,680 per year
Personal care and service workers, all other		21%	\$36,980 per year
Veterinary technologists and technicians		21%	\$43,740 per year
Veterinary assistants and laboratory animal caretakers		20%	\$36,440 per year



Choosing a college – finding your best fit school

Your best fit should have ...

Learning environment that supports how you learn: small, medium or large school

Level of rigor that meets your academic needs

Consider campus and living arrangements

Program/major to meet your academic needs and goals

Research retention and graduation rates: do students stay and graduate on time

Apply to 4-6 schools. Don't make it a contest!



Research - Campus Visits



Never too soon to visit local, regional or national colleges



Take an official campus **tour**



Speak with an **admission counselor**



Ask about **financial aid** opportunities



Sit in on a class of interest



Read the student **newspaper**



Talk to students and faculty

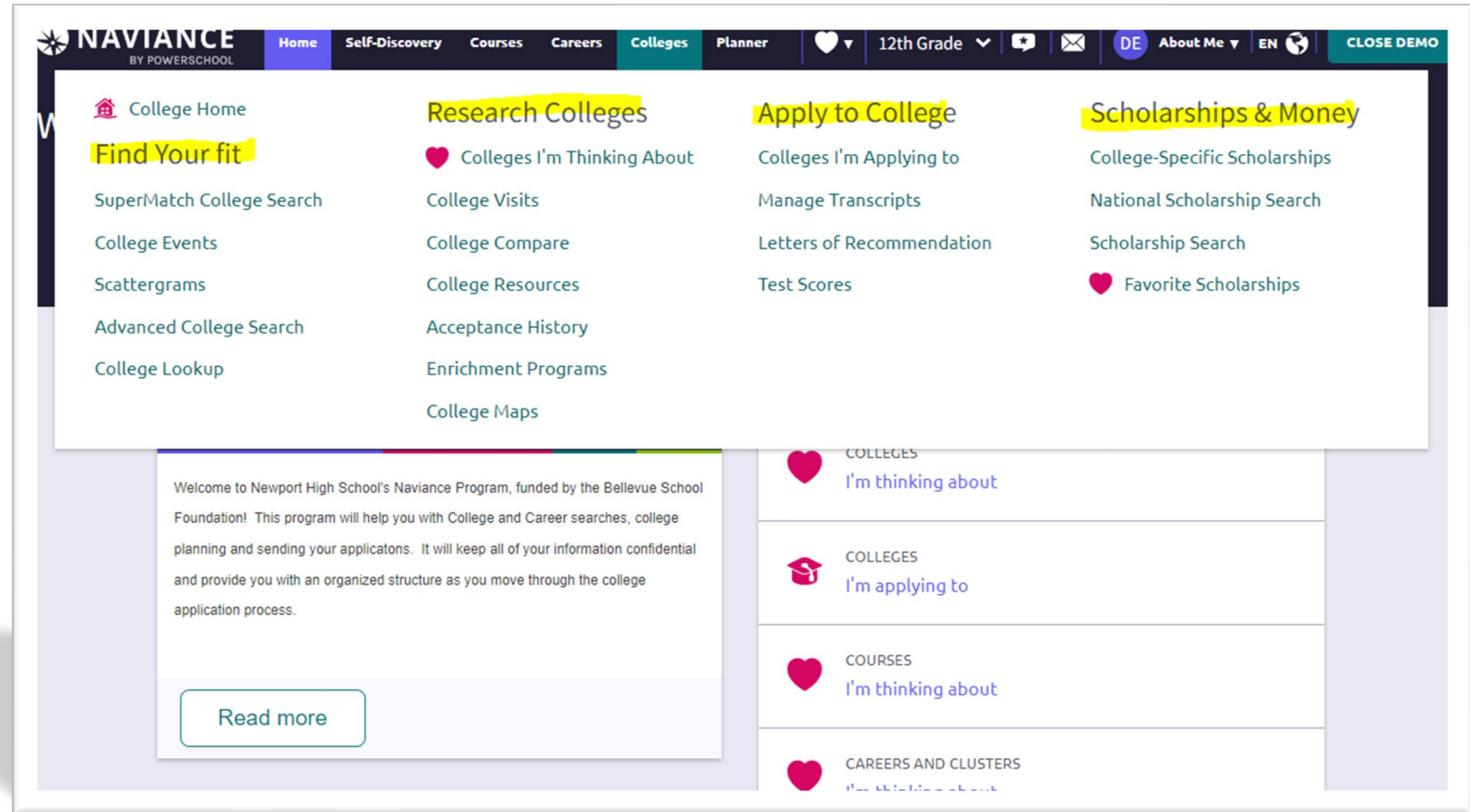


Participate in **overnight stays and attend college preview days**



Naviance is a Great Resource!

- Super Match College Search
- Scattergrams
- Search by Major
- Career Search
- Interest Tests - Know yourself!





Naviance

HomeSelf-DiscoveryCoursesCareersCollegesPlanner

Demo's Future Planning

Plan Your Future

Quickly access your path highlights, favorite careers, and more information from your school, and more.

Career Exploration

Favorite Career Clusters

Explore Clusters and Pathways

Military Exploration

Favorite Military Branches

Explore Military Branches

Experiential Exploration

Search Job Opportunities

Find Work-Based Learning

Explore Roadtrip Nation Videos

MyVoi

Welcome to Naviance

Bellevue College Discovery Days: Bring Your Story to Life! Discover the countless ways Bellevue College can be setting of your next chapter. Join us for Discovery Day from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 20, 2024. Our range of programs are designed to pave career pathways in thriving industries or to follow your interests. Dive an educational journey that cultivates both creative and critical thinking skills, preparing you for challenges ahead. <https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/events-calendar/discovery-day/>

Connect to Your Future at LWTech's Annual Open House!

Thursday, April 25, 2024, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., East Building, Commons Area, Kirkland Campus

Explore more than 40 professional/technical training programs. We offer more than 100 degrees and

Read More

Additional Information from Your School

Tasks from My School

Relax, you have no overdue or upcoming to-dos and tasks. However, you can get ahead by going to My Planner to see what's next or create a goal or to-do.

Go to My Planner

What's New

Emerson College will be visiting your school on Monday, April 22nd, 2024 at 3:00 pm [more info](#)

College Path Highlights

Search for a College

Enter name

Search

Colleges I'm Applying To

Build a list of college applications to track application materials and outcomes.

Colleges I'm Applying To

Colleges I'm Thinking About

Explore colleges to learn about student life, admissions, possible majors, and costs, then favorite the colleges that are a good fit.

Colleges I'm Thinking About

Favorite Scholarships

Explore and favorite scholarships to learn scholarship requirements, find those that are the best fit, and track applications.

Scholarships

Career Essentials

Important Skills

Explore and favorite careers to discover the skills you'll need to succeed.

Explore and Favorite Careers

Top Knowledge Sets

Explore and favorite careers to discover the knowledge areas you'll need to succeed.

Explore and Favorite Careers

Level of Education

Explore and favorite careers to discover the level of education you'll need to succeed.

About "Me" & Main Navigation Tabs

Tests Prep Resources located under "Planner" Tab

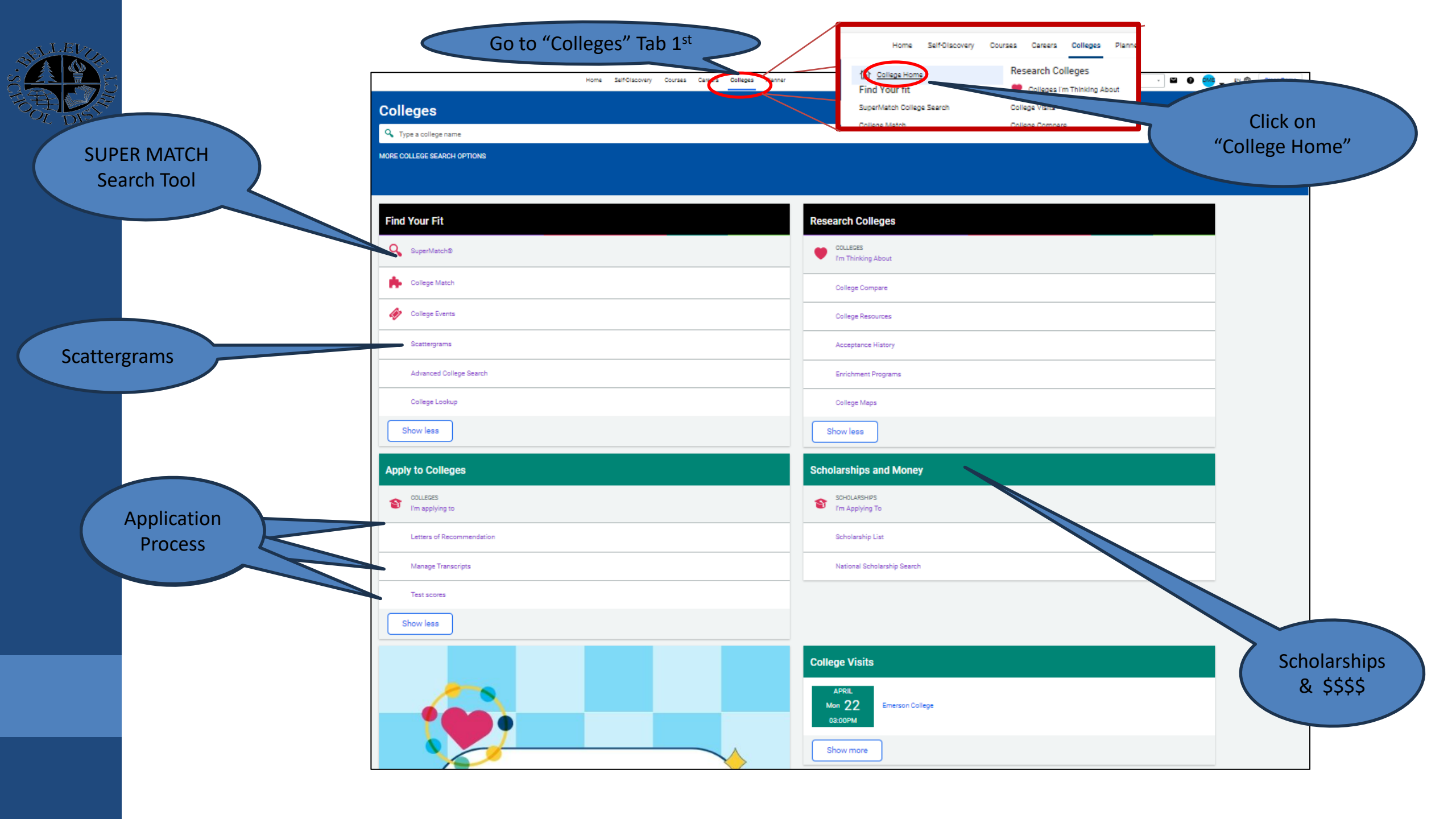
Links & Other Resources

HSBP Tasks found in "Planner"

Trying to decide which college is right for you?

Check out colleges looking for students like you!

VIEW MATCHES



Go to "Colleges" Tab 1st

SUPER MATCH
Search Tool

Scattergrams

Application
Process

Click on
"College Home"

Scholarships
& \$\$\$\$



Apply – Components of a College Application

Essay

Rigor of
coursework

Extracurricular
Activities

Grades in College
Prep

Grades in All
Courses

Admissions Test
Scores (SAT/ACT)

Teacher
Recommendation

Counselor
Recommendation

Student's
Demonstrated
Interest

AP/IB Test Scores

Interview

Class Rank (our
district does not
rank students)



COLLEGE/University APPS UNPACKED:

ACT/SAT?

Application

Résumé

Essay and
Short Answer



Letters of
Recommendation

Transcript



Build Your College List- We will go over your list in Senior Blitz in September



Confident/Safety

Almost sure to be admitted.
GPA & test scores significantly higher than their average student.
Tuition expense within means.



Likely/Match

Reasonably certain to be admitted. GPA & test scores in line with average admitted student.



Reach

Your academic profile at mid/lower end of admitted students.



"Lottery" Reach School

Highly selective schools cannot possibly admit all whose academic profile meets their criteria.

Consider having schools on your list from safety, likely and reach schools to have a balanced list!



WHICH COLLEGE ADMISSION PROCESS BEST SUITS YOU?

Nonrestrictive Application Plans			Restrictive Application Plans	
Regular Decision	Rolling Admission	Early Action I & II Nov. 1 st or 15 th	Early Decision I & II Nov. 1 st or 15 th	Restrictive Early Action (REA)
DEFINITION: Students submit an application by a specified date and receive a decision in a clearly stated period of time.	DEFINITION: Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render admission decisions throughout the admission cycle.	DEFINITION: Students apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular response date.	DEFINITION: Students make a commitment to a first-choice institution where, if admitted they definitely will enroll. The application deadline and decision deadline occur early.	DEFINITION: Students apply to an institution of preference and receive a decision early. They may be restricted from applying ED or EA or REA to other institutions. If offered enrollment, they have until May 1 to confirm.
COMMITMENT: NONBINDING	COMMITMENT: NONBINDING	COMMITMENT: NONBINDING	COMMITMENT: BINDING	COMMITMENT: NONBINDING

Students are not restricted from applying to other institutions and have until May 1 to consider their options and confirm enrollment.

Students are responsible for determining and following restrictions.



Application Options

- ☐ Direct to school or streamline the process:
 - ☐ WA State Community & Technical College portal
 - ☐ Common App
 - ☐ UC Apply
 - ☐ Cal State Apply (CSU)

*application fee waivers available if needed





Writing & Activities Section



SEATTLE

•Essay prompt [required]

•*Tell a story from your life, describing an experience that either demonstrates your character or helped to shape it.*

•**Maximum length:** 650 words

•Short response [required]

•Describe the world you come from and how you, as a product of it, might add to the diversity of the UW.

•**Maximum length:** 300 words

•Additional information about yourself or your circumstances [optional]

•**Maximum length:** 200 words

<https://admit.washington.edu/apply/freshman/how-to-apply/writing-section/>

BOTHELL

•Personal essay directions:

•**Choose one of the following 7 prompts (limit: 250-650 words).**

•*Click link below for list of writing prompts*

•Diversity question directions:

•Describe the world you come from and how you, as a product of it, might add to the diversity of the University of Washington Bothell.

•**Respond to the prompt (limit: 300 words).**

•Activities and experiences:

•**Identify and describe up to ten of the most significant activities you have participated in throughout high school. Your list should include activities, skills, achievements, or qualities from any of the following categories.**

•**Identify the category type for the activity (academic, art, athletics, etc.), provide details of the activity/experience and write a short description (limit: 150 characters).**

<https://www.uwb.edu/admissions/apply/first-year/how-to-apply#personal>

TACOMA

•Freshman applicants will choose one of the following prompts (400-600 words):

•1.) Tell us a story from your life, describing an experience that either demonstrates your character or helped to shape it.

•OR

•2.) Describe a time when you made a meaningful contribution to others in which the greater good was your focus. Discuss the challenges and rewards of making your contribution.

•OR

•3.) An essay topic of your choice. If you have written another admissions essay that captures what you want the UW Tacoma Admissions Committee to know about, feel free to share it with us. Be sure to include the topic or question you answered.

<https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/admissions/writing-your-personal-statement>





Match Common App Account to Naviance

1

Create
Common
App
account

2

Complete
the
Education
section

3

Add one
college

4

Click on
that
College

5

Go to
Recommen-
ders &
FERPA (see
next slide)

6

Go to
your
Naviance
account

7

Go to
Colleges
I'm
Applying
To

8

Click
"Match"
near the
top of the
page



FAQ: SAT or ACT Testing- lots of changes!



To test or not to test: As of 2024, 2000 colleges and universities are now test optional or test blind, according to the National Center for Fair & Open Testing. Most students are not required to submit a SAT or ACT score. Do your research!



If testing, students might take both the SAT and the ACT in the spring of 11th grade. Students can retest in the fall of 12th grade if needed. SHS will host an October SAT for Seniors who still want to test.



There are no colleges in WA state that require the SAT or ACT for admission.



UW Seattle- Test Optional or Test Blind? The UW is technically test-optional. However, test-optional can mean different things at different schools. At the UW, you will not be disadvantaged for sending low scores or for not sending scores. In fact, when reading your application, the reviewers will not see your test scores.



High School Transcripts- SENT via Naviance

- Please take a look at your StudentVue- and check your transcript there!
- Includes a list of all classes taken, grades and cumulative GPA
- All classes taken or attempted must show on the transcript
- Language credit can be earned through competency-based testing – however some colleges require that students have courses on transcript



Reminder!

High School Credit earned in Middle School

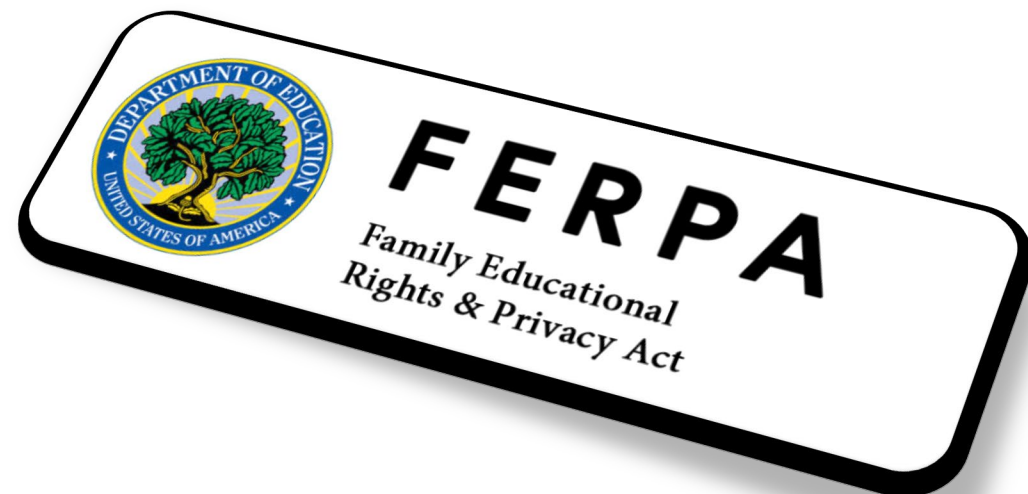
- For high school credited courses taken in middle school (Algebra 1 & higher, WL, etc.), meet with your counselor **before the end of 11th grade** to pick up the [form](#) (**Form 2410P Exhibit J**) needed to remove the credit, or credit and grade, from your transcript.
- No form needed if you want to keep those credits and grades on your transcript
- Parent/guardian signature needed on the form
- Turn form into the SHS Registrar, Ms. Bailon

Form 2410P Exhibit J can also be found here: <https://bsd405.org/wp-content/pdf/policy/2410p-exhibit-j.pdf>



FERPA Information

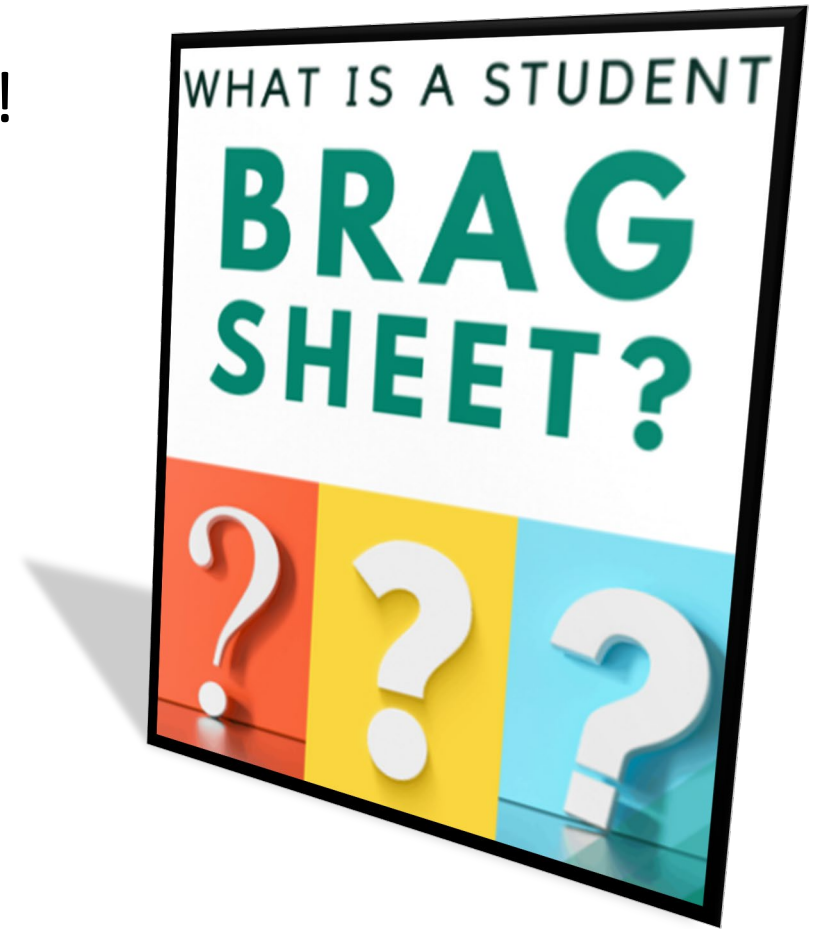
- Cannot send documents without FERPA waivers
- When you sign a FERPA waiver you are saying that you are OK that we send letters about you without you first seeing them (ensures colleges that you didn't influence our letter)
- TWO FERPA processes are required
 - Complete the Common App FERPA waiver
 - Fill out, sign, and email or hand in the BSD FERPA waiver emailed to you (& parents) in the fall.





BRAG SHEET: Due October 1st, 2025

- Naviance
 - login with Clever—no password needed!
- About Me
- My Surveys
- Surveys Not Started
- Letter of Rec Brag Sheet





Washington Guaranteed Admissions Program (WAGAP)

You have a
FUTURE
at a Washington
public, four-year
college or
university!



The Washington Guaranteed Admission Program (WAGAP) guarantees your admission to a Washington public, four-year college or university.

All you need to do by high school graduation is:

- Earn and maintain a 3.0 GPA
- Meet the college academic distribution requirement courses (CADRs)

There's a place for you at Washington's public, four-year universities and WAGAP is just one of many ways to gain admission. To learn more, visit <https://bit.ly/WaGap> today!

WASHINGTON
**Guaranteed
Admissions
Program**



Connect with @thewagap!

WAGAP
participating institutions

CENTRAL WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY

EASTERN WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY

THE EVERGREEN STATE
COLLEGE

UNIVERSITY OF
WASHINGTON TACOMA

WASHINGTON STATE
UNIVERSITY

WESTERN WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY



The College Board National Recognition Program



Students are selected for this opportunity based on their exceptional performance on the PSAT/NMSQT®, PSAT™ 10, or AP® Exams.

The 2025 National Recognition Program opened May 7th 2025, and offers three award designations to celebrate students of all backgrounds in high schools nationwide.

- School Recognition Award to recognize talented students, including those from lesser-known schools.
- First-Generation Recognition Award
- Rural and Small-Town Recognition Award





FINANCIAL AID



- **FAFSA or WASFA (do you have a SSN?)**
 - **Dept. Of Ed intends to move FAFSA opening back to October 1st , less questions (18 to 36 instead of 108)**

What does the FAFSA stand for?

Free application for Federal Student Aid

- **Scholarships! Use Naviance**
- **College Bound Scholarship**
- **WUE - Western Undergraduate exchange:
great opportunity to attend college
in a western state**





FAFSA or WASFA?

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid – FAFSA
- Washington Application for Student Financial Aid – WASFA
 - [WASFA Questionnaire](#)



ONLY FILE ONE APPLICATION

- Pathway for financial aid for most post-secondary programs
 - 4-year college or university
 - 2-year colleges
 - Technical Schools
 - Other programs

WASFA can only be used to Washington State schools



Types of Financial Aid

Merit Based Financial Aid – does not need to be paid back *

- Institutional awards based on high school performance
- The award is usually determined from the admissions application – a separate application is not typically required
- Maintaining merit aid requires ongoing academic success in college
- Award criteria can include
 - Grades
 - Community Service
 - Leadership experience
 - Talent
 - Extra-curricular activities in and out of school.

*There may be repayment required if you drop-out during a semester in which you were using the aid to pay for classes.



Types of Aid con't.



Need-Based Financial Aid: does not need to be paid back*

- ***Federal Pell Grant*** – up to \$6,345 per year
- ***Washington College Grant***– amount varies based on need.

Use Financial Aid grant calculator <https://portal.wsac.wa.gov/a/aid-calculator/> to estimate possible Pell and WA College Grant award based on need.

- ***Other Grants and Scholarships*** – awarded on a case-by-case basis
- ***College-Bound Scholarship*** – signed up for in middle school. Must complete a FAFSA or WASFA to receive the award as a graduating senior
- ***Work Study*** – on-campus job funded by Federal and/or State Work Study dollars. *Work study dollars must be earned and are paid directly to the student.*

*There may be repayment required if you drop-out during a semester in which you were using the aid to pay for classes.



Pay attention to Financial Aid deadlines

➤ **University of Washington**

Priority Deadline is **February 28**, 2026

➤ **Washington State University & Western Washington University,**

Priority Deadline is **January 31**, 2026

➤ **Seattle University**

Priority Deadline is **February 1**, 2026

➤ **Central Washington University,**

Priority Deadline is **April 1**, 2026

➤ **University of California & California State Universities**

Priority Deadline is **May 1**, 2026

➤ **Bellevue College**

Priority deadline is **June 1**, 2026





College Application Timeline



Spring/Summer of 11th Grade:

- ☐ Focus on a successful junior year
- ☐ Pick senior classes
- ☐ Junior Blitz with counselor- pick classes!
- ☐ Research colleges and careers
- ☐ Visit colleges (in person/virtual tours)
- ☐ Start college essays
- ☐ Attend Spring Junior College Application Presentation for info for senior year- in Social Studies classrooms
- ☐ Work on High School and Beyond Plan
- ☐ Complete Community Service hours (and enter them in x2Vol)

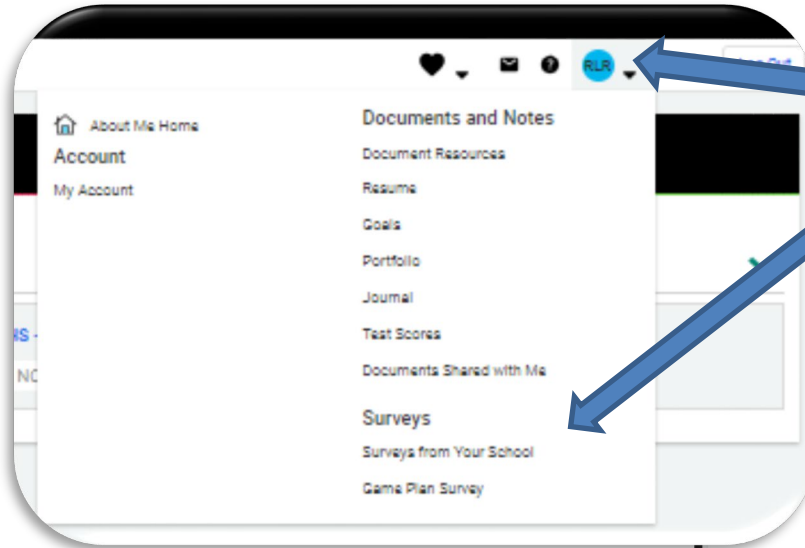
What Can I Do This Summer?

- Refine your college list (about 3-9 schools and ALL ones you'd be HAPPY attending)
- Visit colleges and programs
- Create your Common Application account (Aug 1)
- Start working on college applications & essay
- Continue working on community service projects
- Enjoy your summer vacation time with friends/family!
- Summer School Options

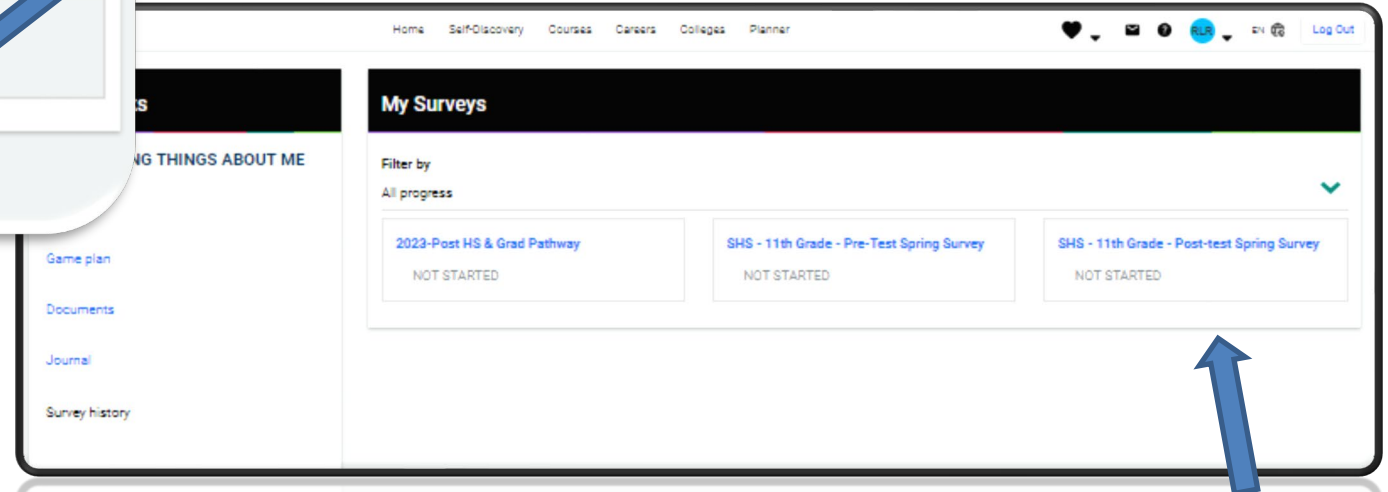




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2nd: Click on SHS 11th Grade Post-Test Spring Survey

01:00



Questions?
or
Work Time on your
HSBP tasks like:
Résumé, Graduation Pathway
Survey, &/or 4 Year Course
Plan (*Filter by “Graduation”*)

