



College of the Atlantic

A SNEAK PEEK
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August Advice

Applications Are Open!

August is here, bringing humidity, a trip “down the shore”, and shelves of school supplies. August also brings an updated [Common Application](#)! Now is a great time to start checking some items off the college to-do list. By spending just a little time each week, you’ll return to Solebury that much more prepared! Here is a list of the top 5 things you can do now to save yourself time this fall.

1) Visit colleges. Yes, the campus will be quieter, but the admission office is open and excited to take you on tour and share what makes their school special. Setting foot on a campus will really help you start to narrow down your list. Unable to visit? Sign up for a virtual session with an admission counselor!

2) Start filling out applications. The updated Common Application (www.commonapp.org) is ready for you! Feel free to set up a meeting with one of us for support. An email with commonly asked Common App questions will be sent to you soon.

3) Write your essays. Whether you are working on your personal statement or a supplemental essay, writing and crafting an essay takes time. Starting early allows you that time to brainstorm and really think about what you want to say to colleges.

4) Meet with us. Since our college guidance classes concluded in March, we met individually at least once with each of you. Some of you have kept in touch with us this summer, whether through a virtual or in-person meeting. We will schedule a follow-up meeting at the start of the school year to talk about your summer, where you are in the college search, senior classes, Scoir, and your applications.

5) Request letters of recommendation and follow up with an invitation on Scoir. If you have not done so, we suggest that you request letters sooner rather than later. The beginning of the school year is crazy for teachers, too, so it’s best to ask them before they have a hundred things on their mind! See more on Page 3.

Face-to-Face

College Visits

Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Syracuse University, Elon University, University of Vermont. These are just a handful of the 30 colleges already on our calendar! Each fall, over 100 colleges visit Solebury to speak with our juniors and seniors. Most college visits will happen on campus in the carriage house, while some colleges prefer an online format due to distance or schedule limitations. **Future issues of Solebury.edu will include upcoming fall college visits, and they will also be posted in Scoir and shared in weekly emails.**

Step 1: How to Sign Up for Meetings with Colleges

1. Check on the College Visits page of SCOIR. Click on any of the Upcoming Visits on the right side of the page to view the complete list. We will update this list frequently and send weekly college visit reminders.
2. Sign up for college visits on SCOIR a minimum of three days before the scheduled visit. To do so, go to the College Visits Page, then click "Count Me In" for any college visits you wish to attend.
3. Some of the visits may overlap multiple classes. You will need to get permission from the teachers of every class that you miss part of. You will never need to miss a full class for a college visit.
4. You may not miss a test or a quiz to attend a college visit. It is up to the discretion of the teacher to permit you to miss class. If you do not obtain permission, we will support the decision of the teacher.
5. If we feel that you are taking advantage of the opportunity to meet with college representatives in an effort to miss class, we will ask you to return to class.
6. For online visits, we will send the link for the meeting to all registered students the morning of the visit, so be sure to check your e-mail to be able to meet with the admissions representative.

College visits are informational only. If you cannot meet with a visiting college, it will not jeopardize your chances of gaining admission to that school.

Step 2: What To Do At College Meetings

College visits allow a representative to gain a feel for the type of student a high school produces. They also allow you to make an impression on the representative. The person you meet in the visit may be the first person reading your application! Help them leave with a favorable impression of you and Solebury School! Please remember to:

- Arrive promptly.
- Silence your phone and put it away for the duration of the meeting.
- Introduce yourself.
- Give the representative your full attention. It can help to take notes.
- Ask thoughtful questions.
- Thank the representative.

After the visit, return promptly to your next class. Failure to do so may result in the revoking of the privilege to meet with college representatives visiting Solebury.

We look forward to a successful season of visits with college representatives!

APB!

The Questionnaire

If you still haven't submitted your student questionnaire, please do. These forms (found [here](#)) are so important. They help us as we craft your counselor letter and support you in making your college list. And they will help prepare you to fill out your application and write your essay!

Upcoming Test Dates*

ACT | September 6

We will provide transportation to the September 6th ACT, held at Council Rock South. Later test dates include October 18 and December 13.

Register [here](#).

SAT | August 23

Registration closes August 8 for the August 23 SAT. Future SAT test dates include September 13 and October 4.

While we do not provide transportation to the August 23 SAT, we will provide transportation for boarders to Central Bucks High School East in Doylestown, PA for the September 13 and October 4 test dates. Boarders must sign up for transportation through Scoir.

Register [here](#).

*Solebury does not register students for these tests.

Test Optional?

Over 2000 colleges have committed to remain test optional for the class of 2026. And they have assured us that test optional truly means that you will not be at a disadvantage if you do not test or do not submit your scores.

You can see the full list of test optional colleges at <https://fairtest.org/test-optional-list/>.



Important Dates

August 8 - Registration deadline for August 23rd SAT

August 29 - Registration deadline for September 13th SAT

October 1 - The 2026-2027 FAFSA is expected to be available

October 22nd, 7pm - Webinar with [The College Funding Coach](#)

November (date TBD) - Financial Aid Night, hosted by Salve Regina University's Financial Aid Office*

Recommendation Letters

Who Knows You Best?

While many of you have already asked 1-2 teachers to write you a **letter of recommendation**, summer is a great time to make sure you've reached out and provided your teachers with as much information as you can. Here are a few reminders:

1. Request recommendations as soon as possible. Follow up with an official request through the "[My Colleges](#)" page of SCOIR. If you are using the Common App, you will need to put in the teachers' names and subjects they teach under College "Recommenders and FERPA". Please DO NOT put in their e-mail addresses, as it causes complications with submission and matching of documents.
2. Ask teachers whom you think know you best as a student. You may also want to consider what major you are interested in when asking for a recommendation. For example, if you are planning on pursuing medicine, a math or science teacher's perspective could strengthen your application. Your recommendation letters should come from high school teachers, preferably those who have taught you in 10th grade and beyond. *If you'd like to ask someone outside of Solebury, this teacher can simply email their letter to us and we will upload it into Scoir.*
3. Provide all teachers with all relevant information regarding your experience in class/extracurricular activities, as requested. Click [here](#) for a brag sheet, which can be filled out and shared with your teachers!

All recommendations will be sent by the college counseling office directly to the college/university to which you are applying. Most will be sent electronically through Scoir, but those that must be mailed will still be printed and sent through the college guidance office in one packet along with any forms, profiles and transcripts.

We will be writing a **counselor recommendation** for you as well and have gathered notes, put together preliminary outlines, and started the process of crafting individualized letters for each of you. Please do not put down our e-mail addresses when you include your counselor information, as we send all materials through Scoir.

Teachers may or may not choose to show you their recommendation, but they are under no obligation to do so. We do not show counselor recommendations to any students or parents as there is an expectation of confidentiality between the counseling office and the admissions office.

Final Thoughts

You're Seniors!

Senior year can often bring more stress than you have ever experienced. In addition to more challenging courses and higher expectations with your activities, you will be thinking about graduation, senior projects and college. For some of you, college means being away from home for the first time. For all of you, college means independence, growth and change.

Change can be really hard, but it can also be really exciting. We are here to support you and help you to channel all of this energy into productivity and excitement. You've done amazing things to get to this point, so try to soak up every little moment!

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[Scheduling link!](#)

[Solebury College Counseling Web Page](#)

CEEB/ACT Code: 392955

Our [handbook!](#)

