

BHS Senior Parent Night

Guiding your child in planning for their future!

**BHS Counseling Department
2025 - 2026**

Our Purpose & Promise

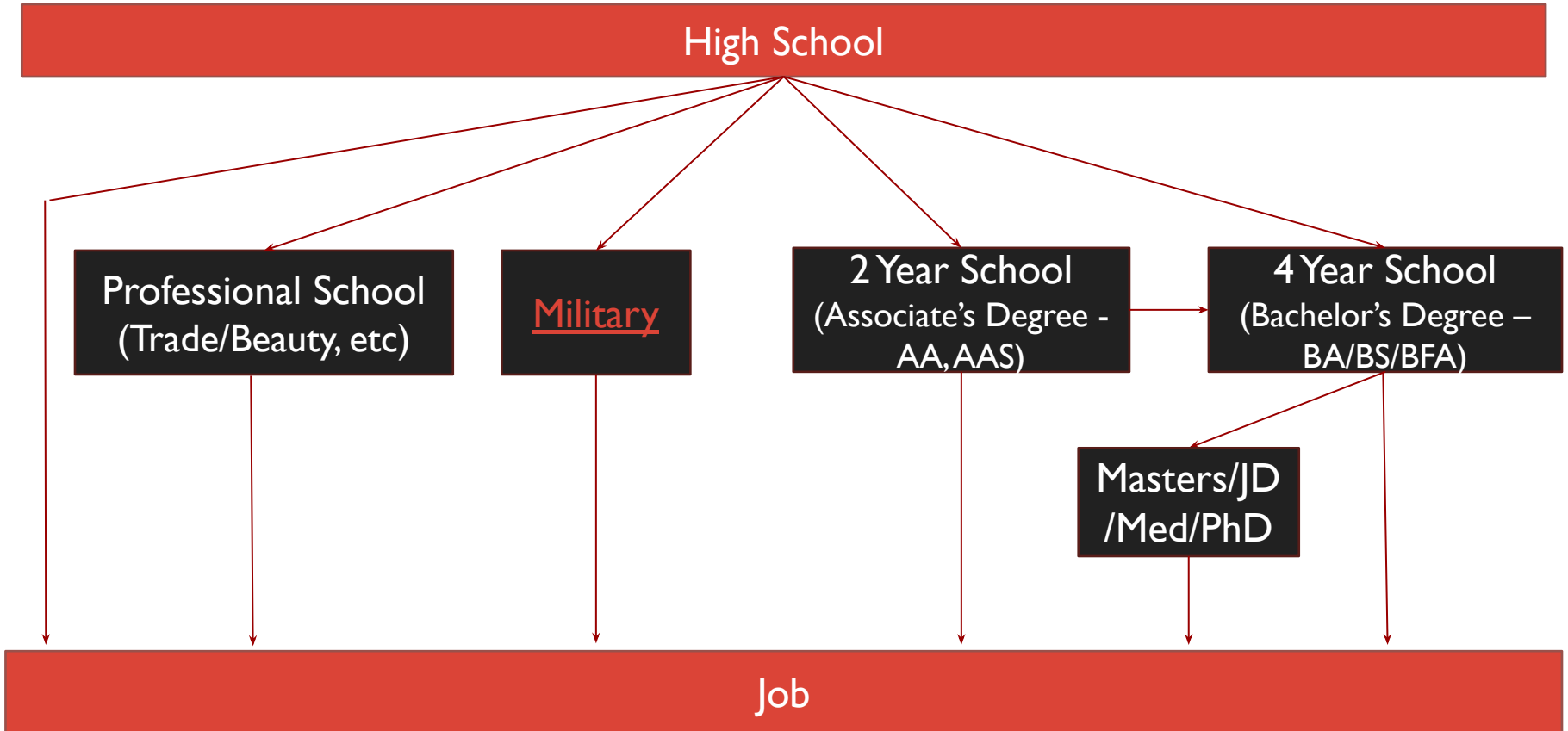
We understand what an exciting and challenging time this is for you and your child as you navigate the senior application process.

The seniors have done a great job thus far in planning for their future. Whether it be applying to college, trade school, the military, planning for the workforce, etc. - there are so many options!

Tonight we will review some of the process of applying to college, but also answer some of your lingering questions, so you can best help your child with the process of planning for after high school!

We can do this, together! - Your BHS Counselors

What Post-Secondary Path is Right for your student?



Counselor Support & Role

Your child should be in communication with their counselor with ideas for their post secondary plans. If they have not already done so, please encourage them to reach out to their counselor to set up a meeting!

Your child's school counselor will be sending EACH college they are applying to a copy of the:

- Counselor & teacher letters of recommendation (2 teachers)
- Transcript
- School Report Form
- Bergenfield High School Profile

Student Responsibilities

What Should Be Completed ...

- ❖ Scoir
 - List of colleges under “Applying” column
 - Teacher recommendation requests and Brag Sheets
 - Resume including Personal Statement

- ❖ Common App
 - All fields on common app tab completed with the exception of Writing
 - List of all colleges applying to on Scoir must match colleges on Common app
 - Recommenders and FERPA section completed for each school

What is Being Worked on Currently...

- ❖ College Essay (in English class)
- ❖ Updating resume (on Scoir)
- ❖ Completing College Specific questions and supplemental essays as required in the Common App website
- ❖ Ask teachers for recommendations ASAP and make request on Scoir
- ❖ Complete Teacher and Counselor Brag Sheet
- ❖ Creating profiles on National Scholarship websites as desired
- ❖ Meeting with counselors

What's NEXT...

Once applications are submitted:

- Indicate on Scoir under APPLIED column
- An email from each individual College or University will be sent to the students personal email.
- Please create student portal to keep track of the application status and any financial aid information or scholarships

What Is Test Optional?

When a school says that they are test optional, it is YOUR choice whether or not to send your standardized test score to a college.

If you are applying for a specific career program such as STEM, medical, honors; deciding to send or withhold your scores is a strategic process.

If your child is unsure whether to submit their test scores, contact the admissions department of the school.

****Please keep in mind that some scholarships or merit-based awards may still require standardized test scores.**

Federal Student Aid

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

Federal Aid

- Available beginning October 1
- Please log into the following website for application studentaid.gov
- Student must have Social Security to qualify for Federal Aid
- Parents do not have to have a Social Security, but an ITIN number will help

Upcoming FAFSA nights

Tuesday, October 7th	7:00 pm	In Person FAFSA Completion Night (English and Spanish)
Thursday October 9th	7:00 pm	Virtual FAFSA Completion Night (English and Spanish)

NJ Higher Education Student Assistance Authority

HESAA –Higher Education Student Assistance Authority

- State of New Jersey Financial Aid
 - Please log into the following website for application hesaa.org
 - Undocumented students can apply if they have been in NJ for more than 3 years and will graduate with a NJ Diploma

***REMEMBER:**

- Colleges may have their own separate financial aid application
- Financial aid deadlines may be different than application deadlines

Scholarship Options

Many colleges offer **merit and need-based scholarships**:

- **Merit** scholarships are awarded based upon being a solid academic student by the college.
- **Need-Based** scholarship is based upon financial need from the college in addition to what a student may receive from the state.
- **LOCAL scholarships are offered by Bergenfield businesses, organizations, and individuals. Donors have their own process which will be explained in more detail beginning in March.**

National Scholarships:

- Fastweb.com
- www.goingmerry.com
- Bigfuture.collegeboard.org
- www.cappex.com
- www.scholarships.com
- www.scholarshipmonkey.com
- www.careeronestop.org



Visiting Colleges

- ❖ In person - Register on individual College/University Websites
- ❖ School trips - 5 remaining trips planned for the fall/Sign up required/space is limited
- ❖ Lunch Rep Visits - Register via Visits/Deadlines on Scoir
- ❖ Open Houses - Most Colleges Offer, see College Website

Same Day Admissions

A select number of schools will be participating on site at BHS for same day admissions. Students have been given detailed instructions on how to view admissions requirements and sign up if they qualify.

The following schools are scheduled:

William Paterson University	Tuesday, December 22, 2025
Ramapo College	Thursday, December 11, 2025
New Jersey City University	TBD
Kean University	TBD

Counselor Contact Information

Your school counselors are here for you!

Ms. LaPorta:	<u>llaporta@bergenfield.org</u>	(Acero-Eusebio)
Mrs. Massey:	<u>dmmassey@bergenfield.org</u>	(Gonzalez, G-Ona)
Mrs. Yoskowitz:	<u>myoskowitz@bergenfield.org</u>	(Marte-Torres, A)
Ms. Farmer:	<u>rfarmer@bergenfield.org</u>	(Various Condis-Yousaf)

