

Junior Handbook



EHS Counseling Department

900 Parkway Ave. Ewing, NJ 08618

609-538-9800 X2111 or X2112

Junior Year Checklist

✓	Graduation reminders
	Attend the junior meeting with your counselor
	Review your transcript for the required classes to graduate
	Take the NJGPA test in March of junior year

✓	College applications	
	<u>Create a common application account</u>	
	Create a college board account & Register for the the sat	
	Take the SAT again or consider taking the ACT	
	Create a list of activities, volunteer and work experience using the resume feature in naviance under the "About me" Tab	
	Complete the student brag sheet survey in naviance under the "about me" Tab	
	Create a list of 2-3 teachers you would like to request a letter of recommendation from	
	Start to create a college interest list of 10-15 schools	
	Get on campus! Junior year is a great time to visit colleges	

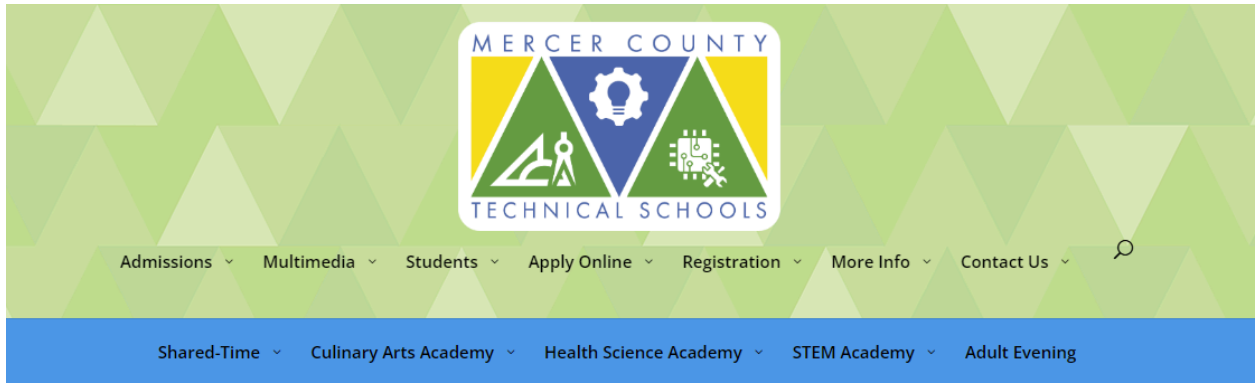
✓	Naviance: Self Discovery Tab
	Complete the AchieveWorks Personality Survey
	Complete the Career Cluster Finder Survey
	Complete the Career Interest Profiler Survey
✓	Naviance: Colleges tab
	Utilize the SuperMatch College Search to start your college list
	Create a "Colleges I'm Interested in" list

	Trade School
✓	Meet with your counselor to discuss trade interests
	Check the counseling google classroom for more info on trade school programs
	Attend trade school info sessions when they're happening at EHS!
	Military
✓	Review military branches & meet with your counselor to get connected to a recruiter
	Attend Military info sessions when they're happening at EHS lunches!

	Additional Reminders
✓	Explore course options for senior year in the course catalog
	Sign up for college tours
	Sign up for college visits to EHS in the Counseling Department

Post Graduation Options: Vocational School

To apply now visit www.mcts.edu/adult-evening-school



Fall 2023 Registration is Now Open! Click Here to Register

Adult Evening School

Mercer County Technical Schools' mission is to produce a community of inspired, compassionate learners who are knowledgeable, skilled, and possess the competencies that will prepare them for success in an ever-changing technological world. We provide our students with educational opportunities in preparing for careers in business and industry while emphasizing a culture of personal attention that focuses on the individual learner. Our goal is to foster a school climate that emphasizes the importance of the teaching-learning process and provides youth and adults the opportunities to maximize their potential, to reflect, and offer solutions to challenges posed by society.

Additional Technical School Options:

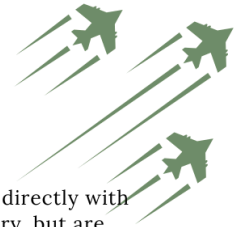
1. Universal Technical Institute <https://www.uti.edu/>
2. Lincoln Technical Institute <https://www.lincolntech.edu/>
3. Pennco Technical School <https://www.penncotech.edu/>
4. Empire Beauty School <https://www.empire.edu/>

Post Graduation Options: Military

Military Contacts

Interested in serving your country?

For students interested in joining the armed forces, it is recommended that you work directly with one of the military recruiters listed below. If you are interested in joining the military, but are unsure of what branch to join, be sure to shop around and explore your options!



N.J Army National Guard

Sergeant Natasha M. Arroyo
Recruiting Station 86 Flock Road
Mercerville, NJ 08619
Phone: (551) 689-7654
Email:
natasha.m.arroyo2.mil@army.mil

U.S. Coast Guard

Franklin Marketplace
183 Franklin Mills Blvd
Philadelphia, PA 19154
Office: (215) 632-0568
Email: HQS-SMB-CGRC-
ROPHILADELPHIA@uscg.mil

U.S Air Force

Sergeant Mason Johnson
314 Air Force Recruiting Squadron
127 High Street
Mount Holly, NJ 08060
Phone: (609) 914-5695
Email: mason.johnson.4@us.af.mil

U.S Marine Corps

Sergeant Randy Banks
1566 N Olden Avenue Ewing, NJ 08638
Phone: (856) 266-7482
Email: Randy.Banks@marines.usmc.mil

U.S Army

Sergeant Juan Correa
Princeton Recruiting Station
86 Flock Road
Mercerville, NJ 08619
Phone: (848) 240-2410
Email: juan.p.correa4.mil@army.mil



U.S. Navy

Navy Recruiter Jorge Medina
Levittown 7751 New Falls Rd.
Levittown, PA 19055
Phone: (267) 315-0209
Email: jorge.m.medina.mil@us.navy.mil

Where can I find out more information about the military?

Speak with the EHS Military Liaison: Mrs. Michelle Mattonelli
mmattonelli@ewingboe.org 609-538-9800 X2115

Post Graduation Options: 2 or 4 Year College

College vs. University

College:

- Provide education beyond the 12th grade.
- May provide associate, baccalaureate (bachelors) or graduate programs.

University:

- Provide education beyond the 12th grade.
- May provide associate, baccalaureate (bachelors) or graduate programs.
- Often made up of several colleges and professional schools, and some universities include hospitals and research facilities.

Public vs. Private Colleges/Universities

Public Colleges/Universities:

- Usually funded by the state, county or municipality.
- Often less expensive and tuition is typically lower for in-state students than for out-of-state students.

Private Colleges/Universities:

- Run by a Board of Trustees.
- May be independent non-profit schools, religiously affiliated, or owned by a for-profit company.
- Generally more expensive but may offer students greater amounts of financial aid.

Two-Year College vs. Four-Year College

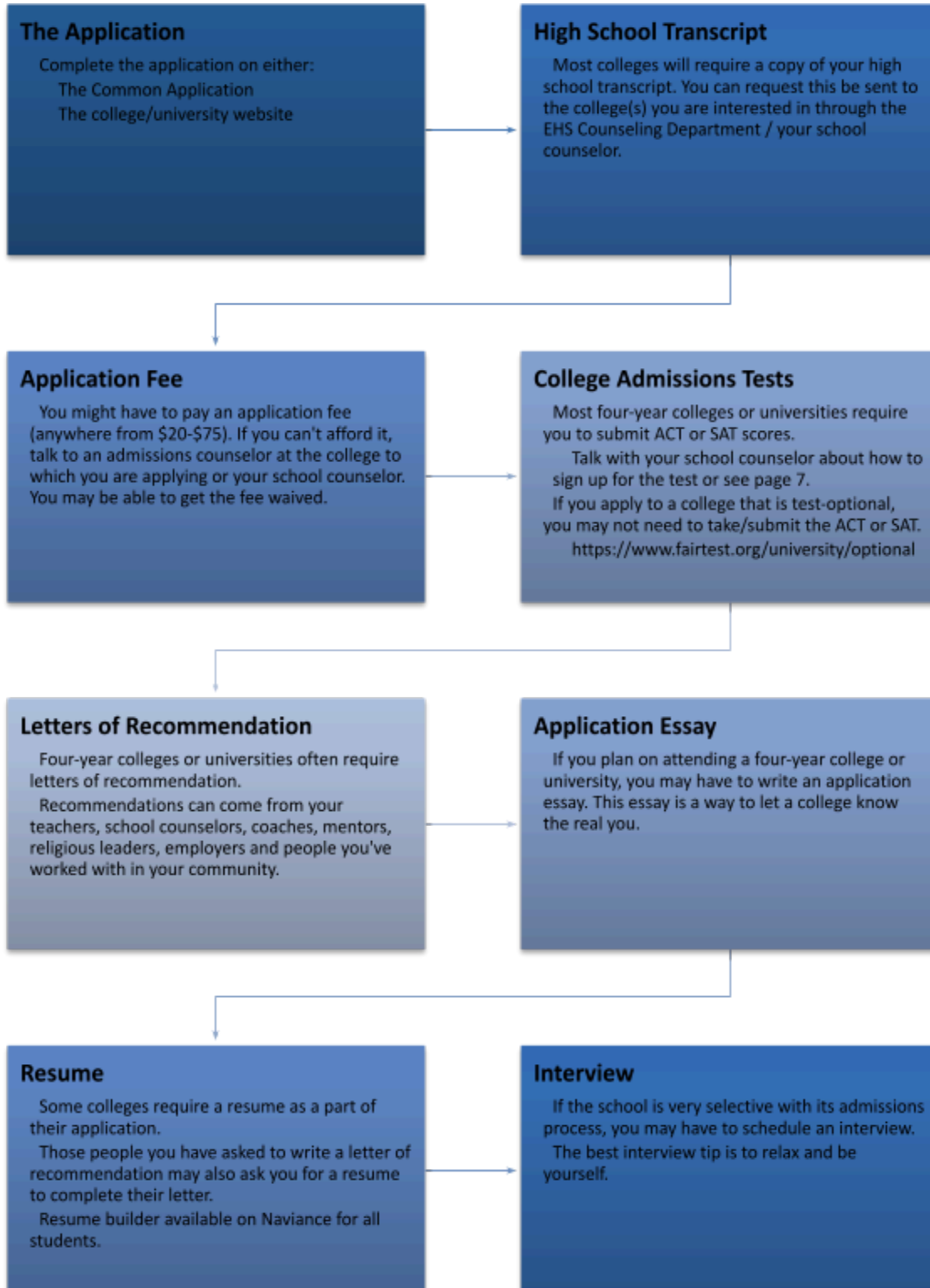
Two-Year College:

- Often called a community college.
- Students can earn an Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, or an Associate of Applied Science degree at these colleges, as well as other certifications programs.
- Admission at a two-year college is usually open, meaning that all high school graduates are accepted.

Four-Year College:

- Usually general Baccalaureate Institutions, Liberal Arts Colleges, and Specialized Schools.
- They offer Bachelor degrees and most offer graduate degrees as well.
- Admission at a four-year college is not open, meaning students need to submit an application and supporting documents, and acceptance is determined by an admissions committee.

What will I need to apply to College?



Application Process: Transcript

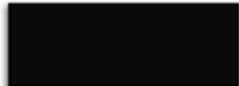
A transcript is a detailed record of all the classes you have taken and the grades earned for each class during your time here at EHS.

Your transcript is organized by school year. It includes a GPA for each school year as well as your cumulative GPA (grades from all school years). Your cumulative GPA and credits are located at the top right corner of your transcript.

When you apply to college, your school counselor will send a copy of your transcript to each school upon request.

Prior to that, if you would like to access a hard or digital copy of your unofficial transcript, you can request it from the counseling office.

Transcript Example:

				The Ewing Public Schools Ewing High School 900 Parkway Avenue, Ewing, NJ 08618 Phone 609.538.9800 Fax 609.771.9132 www.ewing.k12.nj.us Principal: Edward Chmiel (X 2102) Director of Counseling Services and Assessment: Dr. Jennifer Antoni (X 2121) School CEEB Code: 311480																																																																																																																							
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Mercer County Community College: Application Process

Navigate to: mccc.edu/admissions

1 APPLY TO MCCC

- Create an **application account** and submit the

▶ **ONLINE APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION**

2 PROVIDE OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS

- Request from your guidance counselor an official copy of your final high school transcript verifying high school graduation. (Transcript may be supplied to MCCC through Parchment or National Student Clearinghouse sending services or emailed to registrar@mccc.edu.)

MCCC: Application Process Cont'd

3 COMPLETE PLACEMENT TEST

ENGLISH PLACEMENT TEST:

Students are placed into English courses based on high school GPA, standardized test scores, or prior coursework. If none of the below exemptions are met, you will be required to take the English placement test.

Exemptions from the placement test include:

- **SAT Evidence-Based Reading & Writing (EBRW) score of 480 or higher**
▶ Submit via [CollegeBoard](#)
- **ACT Reading score of 22 or higher**
▶ Submit via [ACT.org](#)
- **Advanced Placement (AP)**
▶ Send official scores to: registrar@mccc.edu
- **Dual Enrollment** English course completed at another college
▶ Submit official transcripts to: registrar@mccc.edu

MATH PLACEMENT TEST (STEM MAJORS ONLY):

Students planning to pursue STEM majors (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) will be required to take the Math Placement Test unless one of the below exemptions are met.

Students pursuing non-STEM programs are not required to take the placement test and will work with an Enrollment Advisor to determine math course placement.

Exemptions from the placement test include:

- **SAT Math score of 530 or higher**
▶ Submit via [CollegeBoard](#)
- **AP Calculus AB, BC, or Statistics score of 3 or higher**
▶ Send official scores to: registrar@mccc.edu
- **Earned college-level math credits** at another college
▶ Submit official transcripts to: registrar@mccc.edu

MCCC: Application Process Cont'd

4 APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID

- Fill out the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#) (FAFSA).
 - Explore MCCC scholarship opportunities and other [financial aid options](#).
-

5 REGISTER FOR CLASSES

- **In Person:** Come to the [OneStop Center](#), located on the second level of the Student Center (SC) on the West Windsor Campus, or at the James Kerney Campus. ▶ [hours](#)
 - **Orientation:** [Register for an In Person or Virtual Orientation](#)
-

6 PAY TUITION

- [tuition and fees](#) / [payment information](#)
 - To reserve your seat in classes that you register for, acceptable forms of payment include:
 1. All tuition and fees paid in full by the payment deadline.
 2. Enrollment in a [payment plan](#).
 3. [Financial aid](#) -- If you have financial aid pending, access your award details at your [MyMercer student portal](#).
-

7 PROVIDE PROOF OF IMMUNIZATION

- Request completion of [this form](#) by your physician. It can be returned to MCCC in person or sent to immunization@mccc.edu.

NJ STARS Program

NJ STARS

New Jersey Student Tuition
Assistance Reward Scholarship



New Jersey's highest achieving students can attend their home county college with free tuition.

The NJ STARS program provides merit-based awards to New Jersey residents who graduate from high school and rank in the top 15.0% of their class at the end of either their junior or senior year of high school.

NJ STARS covers the cost of tuition **only** for up to 18 credits per semester for up to 5 semesters, after any State and/or federal grants and scholarships are applied. Students must maintain continuous full-time enrollment.

To be eligible, students in the top 15.0% of their class must also:

★
Be a U.S. citizen, eligible non-citizen, or eligible to file the NJ Alternative Financial Aid Application.

★
Take a minimum of 12 college level credits and maintain continuous full-time enrollment.

★
Be a New Jersey resident for at least 12 consecutive months prior to graduating high school and enrollment at the county college.

★
Maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher at the start of the third semester of enrollment at the county college to remain an NJ STARS recipient.

★
Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the NJ Alternative Financial Aid Application by established State deadlines.

DID YOU KNOW?

NJ STARS recipients who earn an associate degree from a county college and meet all other eligibility requirements may be eligible to receive additional financial aid through the NJ STARS II program to transfer to an aid-eligible four-year college or university.



Home county colleges will contact students directly if they are eligible for this program.

SCAN ME
TO VIEW THE
FACT SHEET
FOR HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATES



For more information about applying for financial aid in New Jersey, visit www.hesaa.org/Pages/financialaidhub.aspx

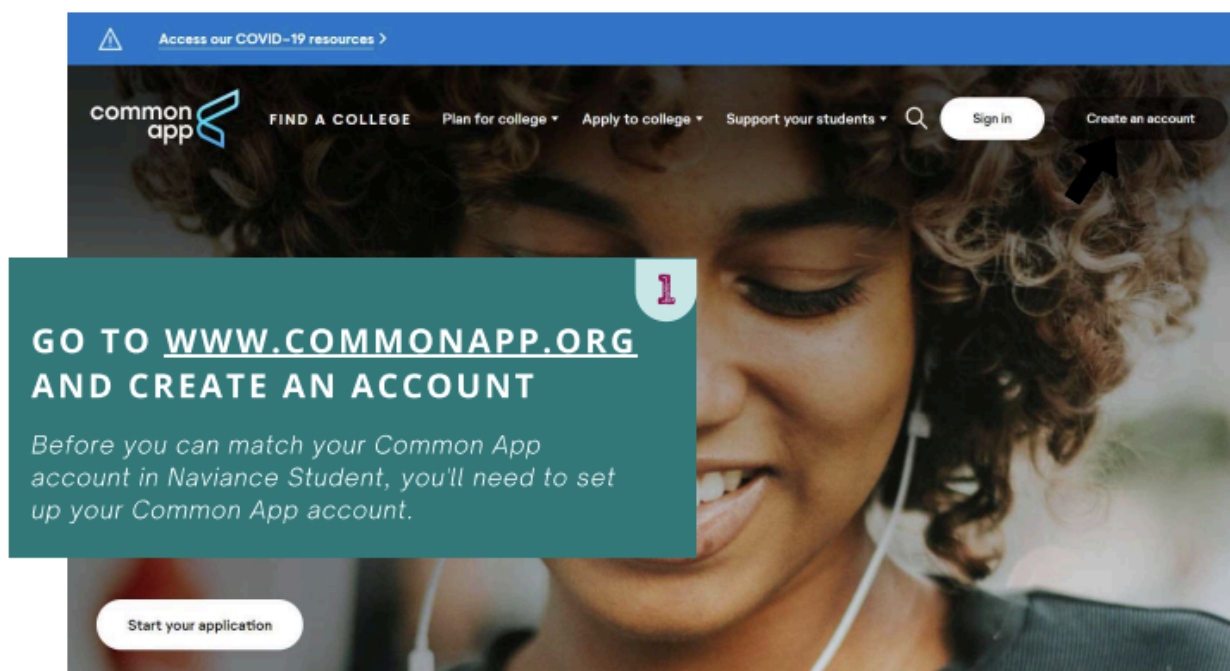


Common App: Completing/submitting college applications

You do not have to wait until senior year to **create** a Common App account! If you are thinking about applying to a **4 year college or university** as a senior, you may create an account as early as your junior year.

DO! Make an common app account and start familiarizing yourself with the platform

DON'T! Attempt to submit applications to colleges during junior year. Please wait until the start of your senior year to apply to colleges. Applications submitted earlier by juniors will not be considered.



The image shows the Common App website. At the top, there is a blue navigation bar with the Common App logo, a search bar, and links for "FIND A COLLEGE", "Plan for college", "Apply to college", and "Support your students". There are also "Sign in" and "Create an account" buttons. A black arrow points to the "Create an account" button. A teal callout box with a white number "1" in the top right corner contains the text: "GO TO WWW.COMMONAPP.ORG AND CREATE AN ACCOUNT. Before you can match your Common App account in Naviance Student, you'll need to set up your Common App account." Below the callout box, there is a white button that says "Start your application".

Let's get started!

Welcome to Common App! Please tell us how you will use the system so we can prepare your account. If you are unsure, we encourage you to explore each option before you continue.

Already have an account? [Go to the login page.](#)

- First year student** ?
- Transfer student** ?
- Education professional** ?
- Parent or other adult** ?

A black arrow points to the "First year student" button.

SELECT FIRST YEAR STUDENT FROM THE LIST OF OPTIONS

All students who are applying to college must create an account for a First year student, even if your parents/guardians have already created an account for Parent or other adult.

Naviance: College & Career Exploration Tool

What is Naviance?

Career & College Exploration

Self-discovery Surveys

Letters of Recommendation

Transcript requests

Why do I need Naviance?

Home base for the college application process

Helpful tools for career & college exploration



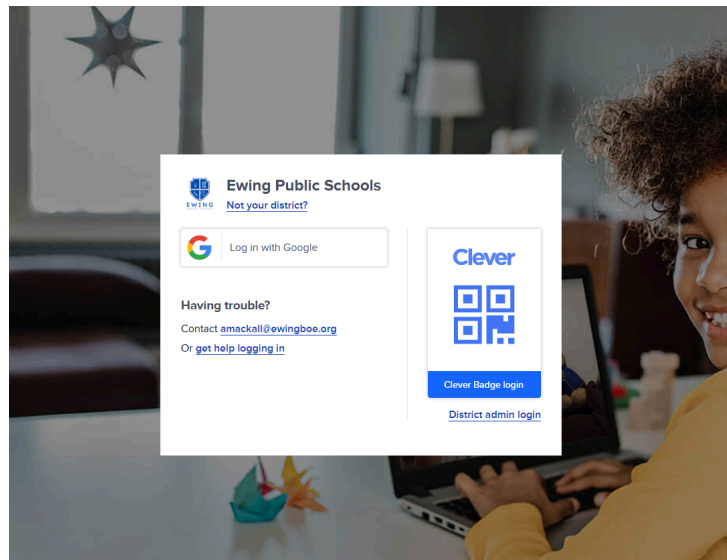
Naviance: Login Credentials

Step 1: Navigate to www.clever.com

Step 2: Select “log in as student” (top right corner)

Step 3: Lastly, you will sign in using your school account. When asked for your gmail, please use your Genesis login (Ewing email and password)

Step 4: Once you’re logged through Clever, scroll down to the bottom and then select the green square titled “Naviance”



Testing: SAT vs. ACT

Many colleges require students to provide scores on the SAT and/or ACT as part of the admissions process. These are entrance exams used by colleges and universities to make admissions decisions by measuring a high school student's readiness for college using a common data point that can be used to compare all applicants.

	SAT	ACT
Why Take It	Colleges use ACT scores for admissions and merit-based scholarships.	Colleges use ACT scores for admissions and merit-based scholarships.
Test Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Writing & Language • Math • Essay (optional) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English • Math • Reading • Science Reasoning • Essay (optional)
Length	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 hours (without essay) • 3 hours, 50 minutes (with essay) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 hours, 55 minutes (without essay) • 3 hours, 40 minutes (with essay)
Reading	5 reading passages	4 reading passages
Science	None	1 science section testing your critical thinking skills (not your specific science knowledge)
Math	Covers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arithmetic • Algebra I & II • Geometry, Trigonometry and Data Analysis 	Covers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arithmetic • Algebra I & II • Geometry, Trigonometry and Probability & Statistics
Calculator Policy	Some math questions don't allow you to use a calculator.	You can use a calculator on all math questions.
Essays	Optional. The essay will test your comprehension of a source text.	Optional. The essay will test how well you evaluate and analyze complex issues.
How It's Scored	Scored on a scale of 400-1600	Scored on a scale of 1-36

Upcoming SAT Test Dates

SAT Test Date	Registration Deadline
May 2, 2026	April 17, 2026
June 6, 2026	May 22, 2026
August 22, 2026	TBD
September 12, 2026	TBD
October 3, 2026	TBD
November 7, 2026	TBD
December 5, 2026	TBD

To register for the SATs, create or login to your [College Board](#) account.

If you forget your login, you must reset your password OR contact the College Board directly. If you qualify for free or reduced lunch you are eligible for an SAT fee waiver. Please see your counselor for more information.

Website: collegeboard.org/sat

ACT Test Dates

2026 National Test Dates Schedule

Test Date	Regular Registration Deadline Late Fee Applies After This Date	Late Registration Deadline
September 6, 2025	August 1	August 19
October 18, 2025	September 12	September 30
December 13, 2025	November 7	November 24
February 14, 2026	January 9	January 23
April 11, 2026	March 6	March 24
June 13, 2026	May 8	May 29
July 11, 2026*	June 5	June 24

*No test centers are scheduled in New York for the July test date.

September: Science Optional (online and paper testing)

To register for the ACT's, create an account or login onto [MyACT](#).

If you forget your login, you must reset your password OR contact ACT support directly. If you qualify for free or reduced lunch you are eligible for an ACT fee waiver. Please see your counselor for more information.

Scholarships

What is a scholarship?

A scholarship is a monetary award provided to a student to assist them in continuing their education. Scholarship money is not required to be repaid therefore students are encouraged to exhaust all scholarship avenues!

Where can I find scholarships?

Scholarships are posted in the class google classroom and to the Ewing High School Counseling website.

Additional Scholarships Search Engines

1. Career One Stop → www.careeronestop.org/
2. Fast WEB → www.fastweb.com
3. Peterson's → www.petersons.com
4. College Board → <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/scholarship-search>

College Admission Glossary: Learn the Lingo

Visit bigfuture.org for more information.

1. ACT

A standardized college admission test. It features four main sections: English, math, reading and science — and an optional essay section.

2. Admission Tests

Also known as college entrance exams, these are tests designed to measure students' skills and help colleges evaluate how ready students are for college-level work. The ACT and the College Board's SAT are two standardized admission tests used in the United States. The word "standardized" means that the test measures the same thing in the same way for everyone who takes it. Read more about [admission tests](#).

3. Class Rank

A measurement of how your academic achievement in high school compares with that of other students in your grade. Your class ranking is primarily based on your GPA. EHS calculates rank by decile. *For example: if you are Decile 2, you are in the top 20% of your senior class.*

4. College Application Essay

An essay that a college requires students to write and submit as part of their application. Some colleges offer applicants specific questions to answer, while others simply ask applicants to write about themselves. Colleges may refer to this as a “personal statement.” Learn more about [college application essays](#).

5. College Credit

What you get when you successfully complete a college-level course. You need a certain number of credits to graduate with a degree. Colleges may also grant credit for scores on exams, such as those offered by the College Board's AP Program® and CLEP. Learn more about [AP](#) and [CLEP](#).

6. Common Application

A standard application form accepted by all colleges that are members of the Common Application association. The definition of the Common Application is synonymous with college application. You can fill out the Common App once and submit it to any one or several of the nearly 700 colleges that accept it. Go to www.commonapp.org/apply/first-year-students.

7. Early Action (EA)

An option to submit an application to your first-choice college before the regular deadline. When you apply as early action, you get an admission decision earlier than usual. Early decision plans are **not** binding. Learn more about [applying early](#).

8. Early Decision (ED)

An option to submit an application to your first-choice college before the regular deadline. When you apply as early decision, you get an admission decision earlier than usual. Early decision plans are binding. You agree to enroll in the college immediately if admitted and offered a financial aid package that meets your needs. Some colleges have an early decision option called ED II, which has a later application deadline than their regular ED plan. Learn more about [applying early](#).

9. FAFSA

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Everyone planning to attend college should fill in and submit a [FAFSA](#) prior to their first year. It determines if you qualify for financial assistance with tuition so you can attend the school of your choice. Your college offer may be based on your FAFSA results.

10. Financial Aid

Money given or loaned to you to help pay for college. Financial aid can come from federal and state governments, colleges, and private organizations. It might also include work-study assistance. Learn more about [financial aid](#).

11. Financial Aid Offer

An offer of financial assistance to those who receive acceptance to a college. The offer includes all the monetary assistance available to you to pay for college. Also called an award letter, a financial aid award letter, or simply an offer, your letter will include the need-based assistance you qualify to receive based on your FAFSA® (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and any other required forms such as the CSS Profile or an institutional form.

12. Grade Point Average (GPA)

A number that shows overall academic performance. It's computed by assigning a point value to each grade you earn. It is also a key factor in determining your class rank. GPA is located at the top right of your transcript.

13. Historically Black College & University

Historically black colleges or universities (HBCUs) are schools that were founded on the belief that every individual deserves access to a college or higher education. More specifically, the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended defines an HBCU as: “any historically black college or university that was established prior to 1964, whose principal mission was, and is, the education of black Americans, and that is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association determined by the Secretary of Education.”

Link to HBCU Common Application portal: www.commonblackcollegeapp.com/

14. Naviance

A web-based college and career exploration tool designed for students. Students add the colleges they are applying to on this website, complete the Student Brag Sheet, and request letters of recommendation. Counselors use this to send transcripts to all colleges.

15. Open Admission

A policy of accepting any high school graduate, no matter what his or her grades are, until all spaces in the incoming class are filled. Almost all two-year community colleges have an open-admission policy. However, a college with a general open-admission policy may have admission requirements for certain programs.

16. Placement Tests

Tests that measure the academic skills needed for college-level work. They cover reading, writing, math, and sometimes other subjects. Placement test results help determine what courses you are ready for and whether you would benefit from remedial classes. They can also determine whether you need to take a basic course. Read more about [placement tests](#).

17. Priority Date or Deadline

The date by which your application—whether it's for college admission, student housing, or financial aid—must be received to be given the strongest consideration.

18. Rolling Admission

An admission policy of considering each application as soon as all required information (such as high school records and test scores) has been received, rather than setting an application deadline and reviewing applications in a batch. Colleges that use a rolling admission policy usually notify applicants of admission decisions quickly.

19. Student Brag Sheet

This form is to be completed to help teachers learn more about you in order to write a well rounded letter of recommendation. You should have this form completed before submitted requests for letters of recommendation. It is located under “Surveys” in Naviance.

20. Transcript

The official record of your coursework at a school or college. Your high school transcript is usually required for college admission, and for some financial aid packages or scholarship applications.

21. Waiting List

The list of applicants who may be admitted to a college if space becomes available. Colleges wait to hear if all the students they accepted decide to attend. If students don't enroll and there are empty spots, a college may fill them with students who are on the waiting list. Learn more about [waiting lists](#).

22. Weighted Grade Point Average (GPA)

A grade point average that's calculated using a system that assigns a higher point value to grades in certain classes, typically more difficult ones. For example, some high schools assign the value of 5.0 (instead of the standard 4.0) for an A earned in an AP class.