



Senior Year Overview

Outcomes

- Students & families will know appropriate times to complete tasks throughout their Senior year, and understand postsecondary terminology
- Families will know how to support their students through the postsecondary planning process.
- Students will know their responsibilities & expectations when applying for postsecondary options.

Senior Year Overview



Senior Week Recap

- Students participated in Senior Week Presentations on Aug. 24 & 25 (in their Comm Arts classes)
- Presentation including information on:
 - Adding colleges to their SchoolLinks account
 - Requesting letters of recommendation within SchoolLinks
 - Signing-up for NNHS College Visits
- Senior Week FlowDoc

Senior Year Overview

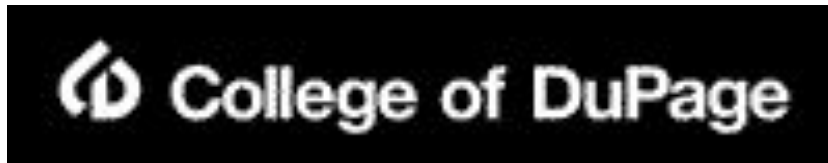




College Applications



EASTERN ILLINOIS™



Columbia
COLLEGE CHICAGO



Best School vs. Best Fit



Early Decision	Restrictive Early Action	Early Action / Priority	Regular Decision	Rolling Admission
BINDING	NON-BINDING	NON-BINDING	NON-BINDING	NON-BINDING
Students make a commitment to a first choice college. If admitted under Early Decision, the student must attend.	Students apply to a school of preference, and receive an earlier decision. Students may be restricted from applying ED or EA to other schools	Students apply early to a school or schools, and receive an earlier decision, ahead of the regular decision deadline	Last possible deadline a student can apply and still be considered for admission to a university.	Schools review applications as they are submitted, and issue admission decisions on a rolling basis.

Application Deadlines



Myth Busting

Univ. of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign is not a safety school for our students

Class of 2026 NNHS Admissions Data - Most Selective Majors

Business

- 59 students applied
- 41 students were denied
- 12 students were offered an alternative major
- 6 students were admitted (10% acceptance rate)

Engineering

- 53 students applied
- 34 students were denied
- 3 students were offered an alternative major
- 16 students were admitted (30% acceptance rate)

Psychology

- 11 students applied
- 6 students were denied
- 2 students were offered an alternative major
- 3 students were admitted (27% acceptance rate)

Fun Fact



Myth Busting

Univ. of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign is not a safety school for our students

Early Action vs Regular Decision Acceptance (2026)

Early Action

- 200 applied via EA
- 75 were offered admission (38% acceptance rate)

Regular Decision

- 41 applied via RD
- 11 were offered admission (27% acceptance rate)

Overall Admissions

- 241 applied to UIUC
- 86 were offered admission (35.7% acceptance rate)

Fun Fact



Transcripts will not be sent out to colleges until the week of **Sept. 14**

Requesting Transcripts





When will I know if I'm accepted?



- You have NOT been accepted, but you are “admissible” if there is room later.
- **Make other plans!**
- Questions? Call the college’s admissions office.

Waitlisted: What does this mean?!





Supporting Your Senior

Visiting Colleges



- There is great value in seeing a college in person!
- Check a school's Admissions Office website about upcoming visit opportunities.
- Make sure if you visit a campus, you make it "official"
 - Either take an official tour from Admissions, or visit the Admissions Office to let them know you are on campus (**Demonstrated Interest**)

Supporting Your Senior

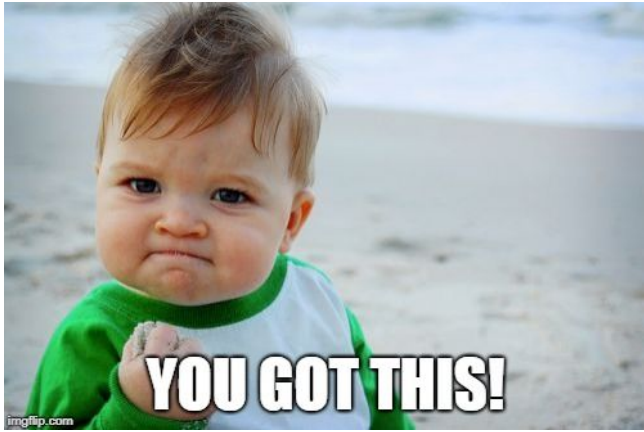


- **FYI:** State of Illinois Financial Aid Graduation Requirement
- **2027-28 FAFSA**
 - Will not be available until October 1, 2026
- Net Price Calculators
- SchoolLinks Matching & 3rd Party (National) Scholarships
- Watch Out for Scholarship Scams

Supporting Your Senior



Social / Emotional Support



- **Encourage** your student(s) during postsecondary planning and research
- **Be supportive and communicate openly** with your student(s)
- **Be patient** with your student(s) throughout this process - this takes time

Supporting Your Senior





Senior Responsibilities

- **Every college/university has their own set of requirements for admission**
- **Follow their directions *carefully***
 - Schools look to see how well you follow directions
 - Don't send more, unless a school asks for more
 - Reach out to the college directly if you need clarification
- **Check the Letter of Rec Requirements**
 - **DO NOT** ask for a letter of rec if your schools do not need a letter
 - **DO NOT** ask for more letters than a school requires

Senior Responsibilities



- **Make sure you submit your applications early**
 - On-time is too late
- **Make sure you submit all necessary documents**
 - Transcript
 - Test Scores (SAT, ACT, etc.) - *if required*
 - Letters of Recommendation (ONLY if needed)
- **Make sure to thank those who write you a letter of rec.**

Senior Responsibilities



Clean Up Social Media



Senior Responsibilities



- [NCompass](#)
Dist. 203 Postsecondary Planning Guide
- [In-School College Visits](#)
Instructions on how students can attend in-school college visits
 - [Upcoming College Visits](#) (Calendar for the next week)
 - [Upcoming College Visits](#) (Alpha list of ALL upcoming visits)
- [On-Campus College Visit Tips](#)
Tips for students planning to visit college campuses

Additional Resources





Upcoming Opportunities

- **Session 2 & 3 Tonight: Financial Aid Info (NPAC)**

For D203 families to receive updates regarding financial aid, including the 2027-28 FAFSA

- **Sept. 26: NACAC National College Fair @ Navy Pier (Chicago)**

A national college fair, featuring more than 200 colleges & universities from across the country.

- **Oct. 13: Illinois Regional College Fair @ Benedictine Univ. (Lisle)**

Another college fair opportunity, bringing in additional colleges & universities from across the country.

- **Nov 5: 3rd Annual Career Takeover (NNHS)**

An even more robust program to help students in exploring postsecondary career opportunities!