Senior College Night 2026

MLHS Counseling Department

TONIGHT'S AGENDA

- State of College Admissions
- Where Should Seniors Be in the Process?
- Laker RepVisits
- Application Deadline Types
- Standardized Tests
- Financial Aid & Scholarships
- Student & Counselor Responsibilities
- After You Apply
- Q&A

STATE OF COLLEGE ADMISSIONS . . .

Application volume continues to increase

Selective admissions increasingly unpredictable

Standardized testing reemerging

Early decision major strategic advantage

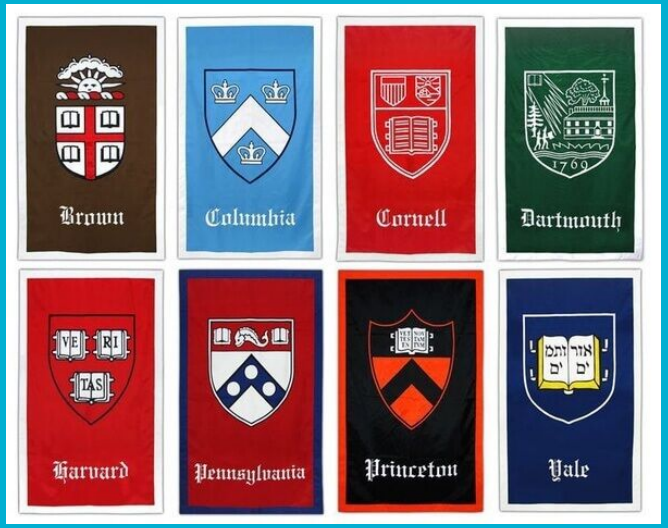
Public flagships increasingly competitive

AI is reshaping the application process

Value over prestige

. . . AT MOUNTAIN LAKES HIGH SCHOOL

- Boston College
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Cornell University
- Duke University
- Emory University
- Georgetown University
- New York University
- Northwestern University
- Princeton University
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of Florida
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Virginia
- Villanova University

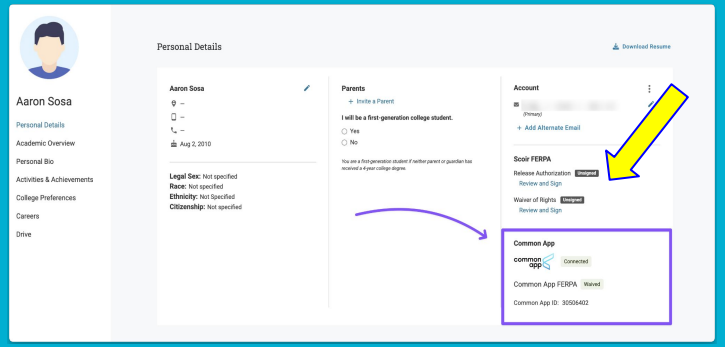


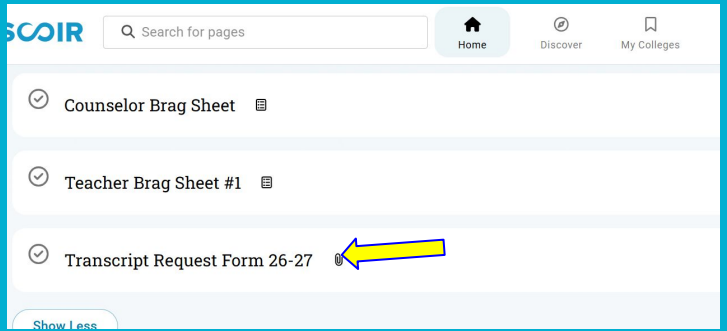
WHERE SHOULD SENIORS BE IN THE PROCESS?

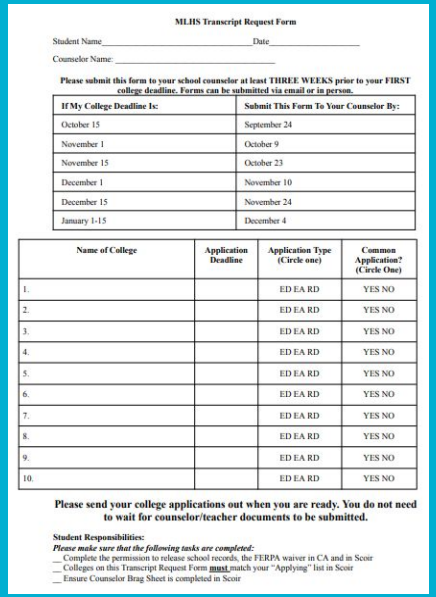
- Create a Common App account
- Speak with teachers & request letters of recommendation on Scoir
- Work on Applications, College Essays & Supplements
- Complete Counselor Brag Sheet and Teacher Brag Sheet(s). There is also a Parent Brag Sheet (Parent Scoir Account)
- Complete your Release of Records Form (FERPA) in Scoir (emailed instructions are forthcoming) and sign FERPA waiver on Common App
- Submit Transcript Request Form (due 3 weeks before first deadline)
- Update Scoir Account (make sure deadlines match)

REQUIRED FORMS

- ***Scoir FERPA- "Student Authorization and Waiver of Rights"***
  - Allows us to send Transcripts, Courses in Progress/Quarterly & Mid-Year Grades, and your Counselor Letter of Recommendation
- ***Transcript Request Form***
  - Alerts your counselor of your deadlines and ensures that they submit your documents in a timely manner.
  - This form needs to be printed and filled out by you
  - Must be submitted to your counselor at least **3 weeks prior** to your first deadline.







MLHS Transcript Request Form

Student Name_____Date_____

Counselor Name: _____

Please submit this form to your school counselor at least THREE WEEKS prior to your FIRST college deadline. Forms can be submitted via email or in person.

If My College Deadline Is:	Submit This Form To Your Counselor By:
October 15	September 24
November 1	October 9
November 15	October 23
December 1	November 10
December 15	November 24
January 1-15	December 4

Name of College	Application Deadline	Application Type (Circle one)	Common Application? (Circle One)
1.		ED EA RD	YES NO
2.		ED EA RD	YES NO
3.		ED EA RD	YES NO
4.		ED EA RD	YES NO
5.		ED EA RD	YES NO
6.		ED EA RD	YES NO
7.		ED EA RD	YES NO
8.		ED EA RD	YES NO
9.		ED EA RD	YES NO
10.		ED EA RD	YES NO

Please send your college applications out when you are ready. You do not need to wait for counselor/teacher documents to be submitted.

Student Responsibilities:

Please make sure that the following tasks are completed:

__ Complete the permission to release school records, the FERPA waiver in CA and in Scoir

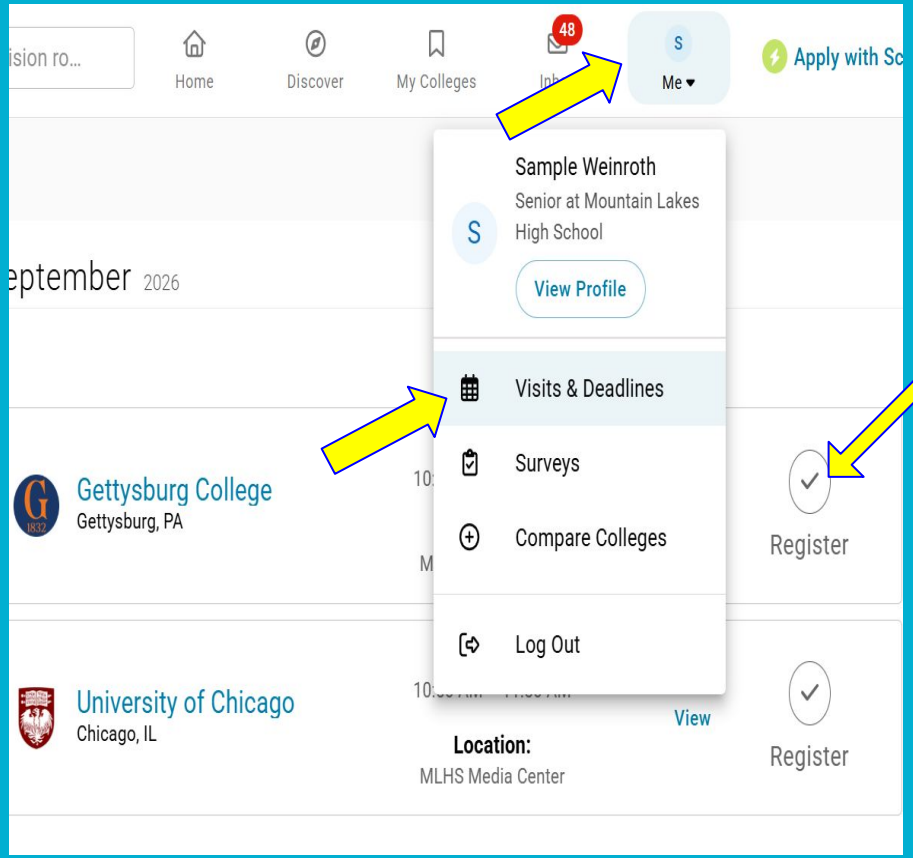
__ Colleges on this Transcript Request Form **must** match your "Applying" list in Scoir

__ Ensure Counselor Brag Sheet is completed in Scoir

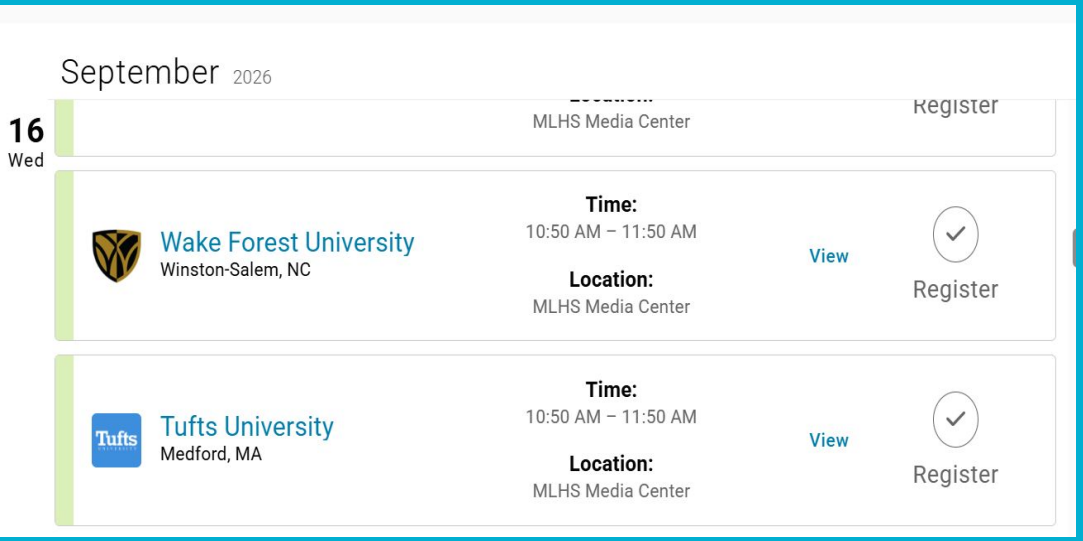
LAKER REPVISITS

- Laker RepVisits
  - September 8-November 4 during the lunch block in the Media Center

- How to Sign Up in Scoir: Click Me > Visits & Deadlines > Register



SCOIR COLLEGE REP VISITS



- We have 200+ college representatives visit MLHS. Take advantage of these opportunities
- Check Scoir regularly
- Listen to announcements for info on Reps visiting
- Check school TV screens
- Lunch block - Media Center
- Come with questions
- Be open-minded to schools that may not be on your “list”

STANDARDIZED TESTS

- Test-Optional: Neither ACT or SAT are required, but scores will be considered if submitted (Fairtest.org)
  - If you're debating whether or not scores should be submitted, reference the "Common Data Set" on individual college websites for score reference ranges.
  - Are your test scores reflective of your academic abilities? Are they in line with your academic performance?

- SAT School Day (October 2) & ACT School Day (October 16) at MLHS

FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS

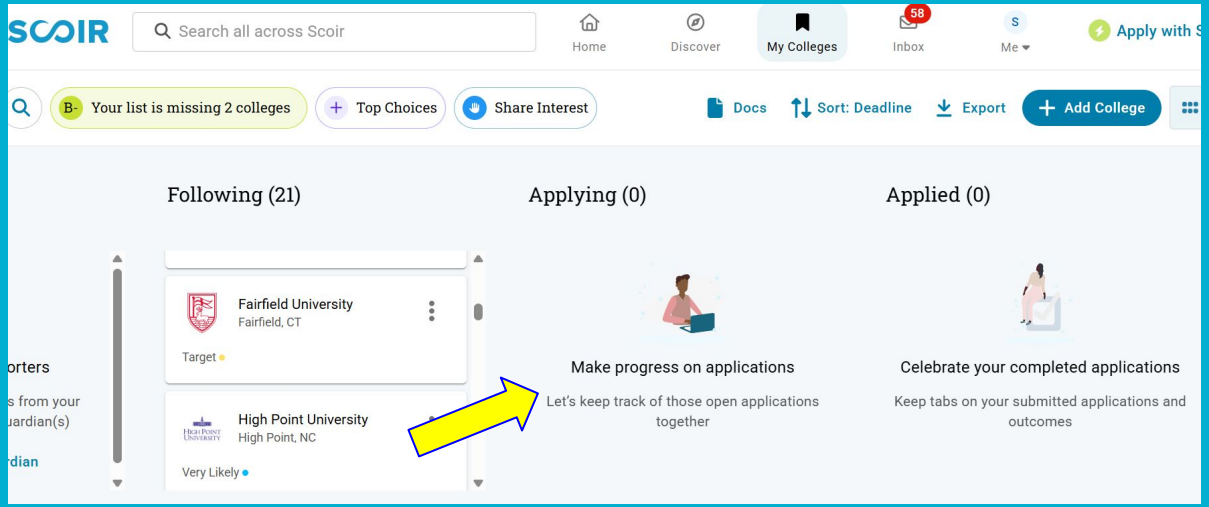
- FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) - Opens by Oct. 1, 2026
- CSSProfile-Online application used by colleges and scholarship programs to award non-federal institutional aid (Opens 10/1)
- Be aware of financial aid and scholarship deadlines
- Apply for outside scholarships
    - MLHS Counseling Department-Under “College & Career” then “Scholarships & Pre-College Programs”
- **Financial Aid Night (Virtual) - Thursday, October 29 @ 7pm**

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Update schools & deadlines in Scoir, requesting recommendations in Scoir, brag sheets
- Submit the application! **Please send your college applications out when you are ready. You do not need to wait for counselor/teacher documents to be submitted.**
- Send testing via the College Board/ACT (if applicable); if test-optional, checking to see if they have any additional requirements
- Submit financial aid/scholarship applications (if applicable)
- Meet deadlines! MLHS and college specific
- Check your email—REGULARLY

SCOIR: ADD COLLEGES TO “APPLYING”

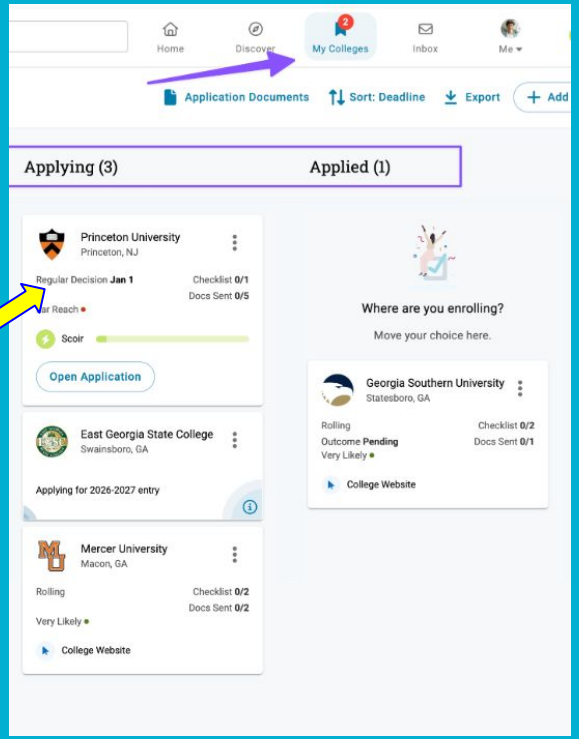
1. For each college you’re applying to, move it from “Following” to “Applying” (if it is not a Common App School)
2. Click on your school and drag it to the “Applying” List (if it is not a Common App School)



3. Colleges you **add** in **Common App** ↠ will appear in the Applying list in Scoir.

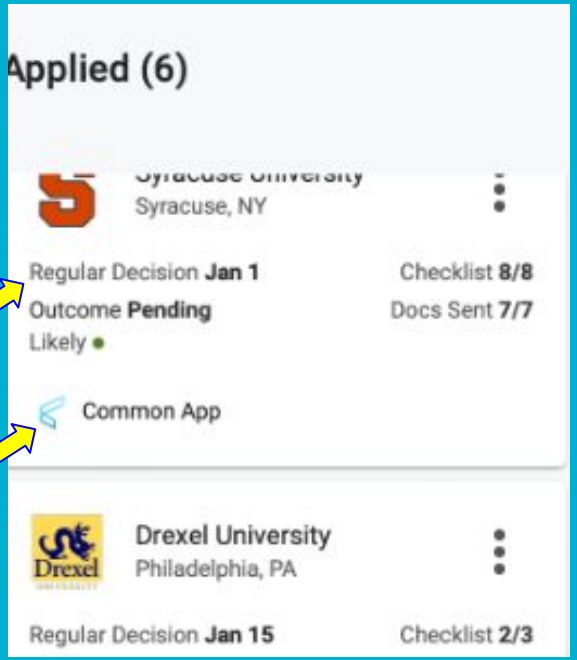
- If you **remove** a college in Common App ↠ it moves to the **Following** list in Scoir.
- When you **submit** an application in Common App ↠ it moves to the **Applied** list in Scoir.

SCOIR: APPLYING & APPLIED LIST

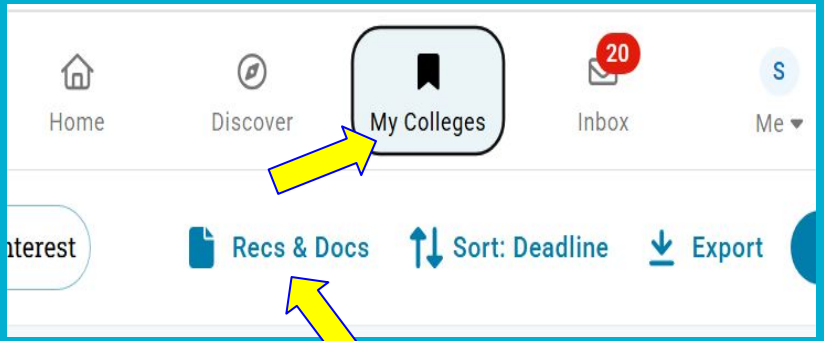


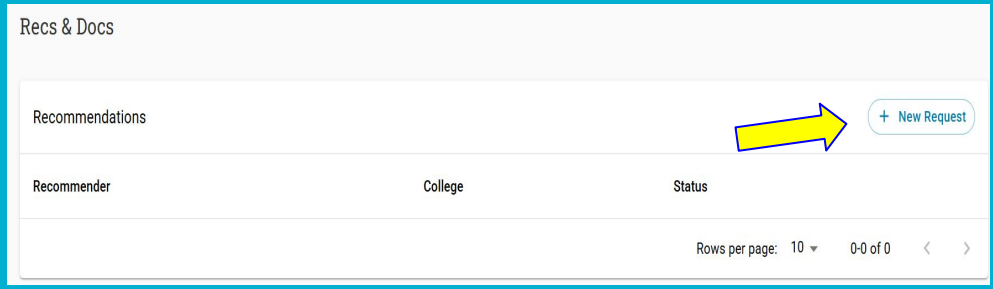
1. Make sure that you have the correct application deadline in Scoir and Common App. (Early Decision, Early Action, Regular Decision, etc)

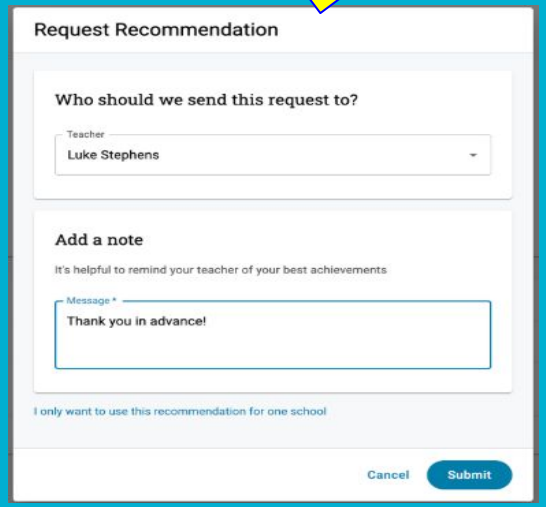
2. Choose method of submitting your application (Common App or other)



SCOIR: REQUEST TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS



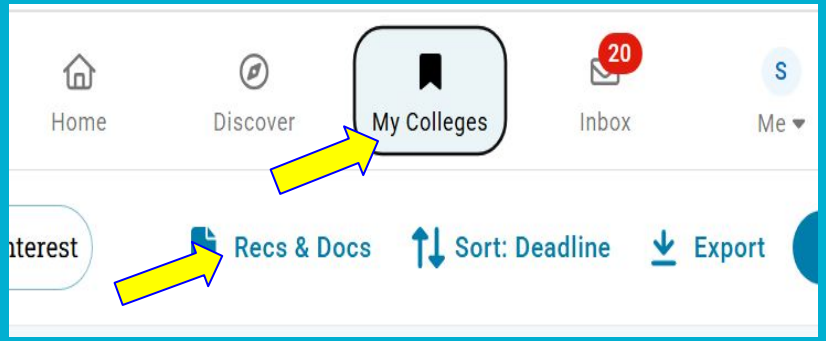




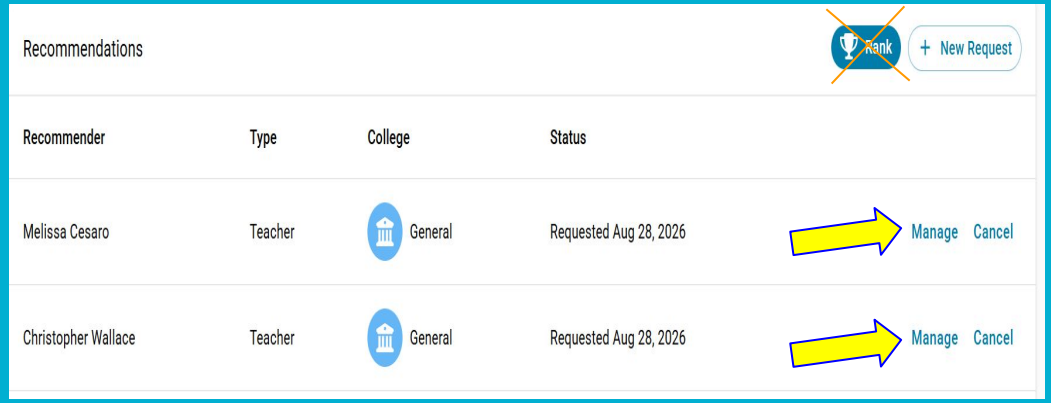
1) Go to **My Colleges** in your Scoir Student account and click **Recs & Docs** > Scroll down to **Recommendations**, click +**New Request** > In the request form, begin typing in the name of the teacher and choose from the dropdown > Lastly, add a short message, then click **Submit**.

SCOIR: REQUEST TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS

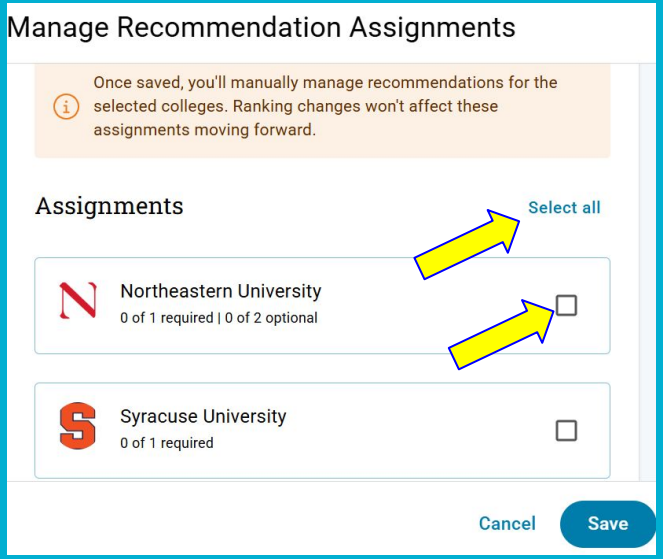
1.



2.

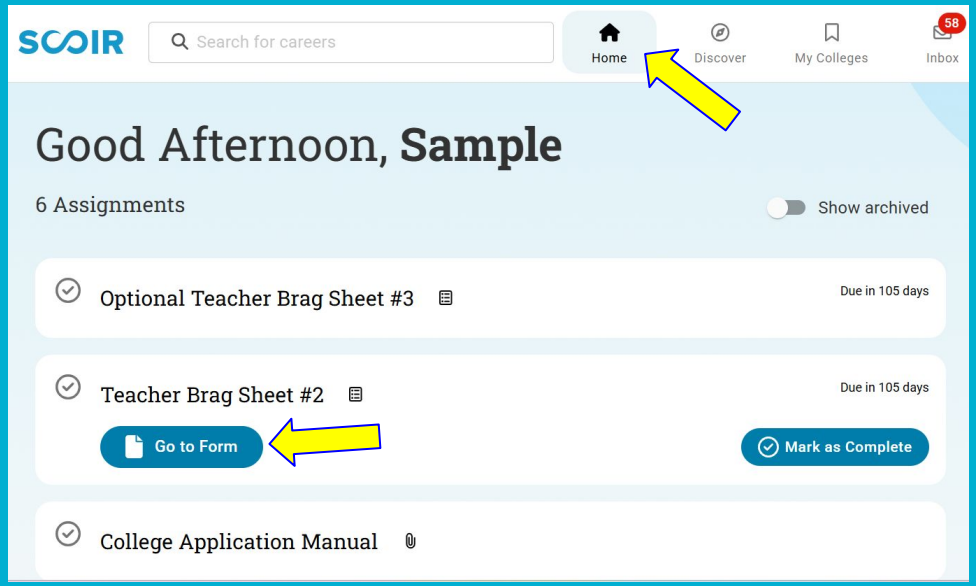


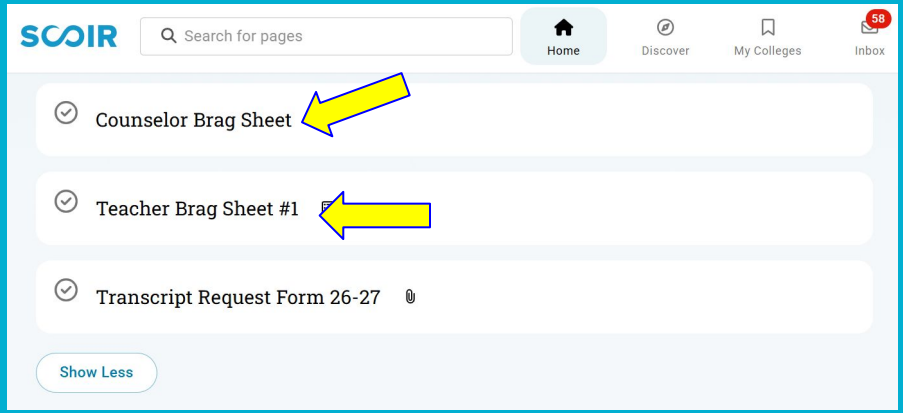
3.



SCOIR: BRAG SHEETS

All Required MLHS Forms will be found on your Home Screen under Assignments





* Counselor Brag Sheet: Was due on 8/31. Required for counselor letter of rec

* Teacher Brag Sheet: Was due on 8/31. Let them know when you submit it!

COUNSELOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Meet college deadlines (provided MLHS deadlines are met)
- Send student's supporting documents: transcript, secondary school report, counselor letter of recommendation, and school profile
- Support you through the process!



APPLICATION DEADLINE TYPES

EARLY DECISION (I and II):

- BINDING. If accepted, student must attend
- Contract-Needs to be signed by Parent, Student & School Counselor
- Typically Nov 1 deadline/Jan 1 deadline

EARLY ACTION:

- Apply earlier, non binding
- Restrictive Early Action: may not apply ED or EA to any other *private* school
- Typically Nov 1, Nov 15, Dec 1 deadline (there are quite a few 10/15 EA schools)

ROLLING: Usually a late deadline-students should apply early before spots fill

REGULAR DECISION: Typically, January and later

NEXT STEPS...

- Set up school portals and monitor for receipt of required documents (it could take up to 3 weeks for colleges to update their portals)
    - Check email regularly -schools may email you about missing materials
- Keep your grades up - first semester grades are (automatically) sent to all colleges
    - Q1 grades are only sent upon student request
- Decisions for Early Action/Decision are released in December or January
- Decisions for Regular Decision are typically released in March/April, prior to May 1st
- Update Scoir and your counselor with admissions decisions
- Resources: MLHS Counseling Website-College Application Manual

#RINGTHEBELL



Instagram

@MLHS_admin

Q & A


NDSU
BOISE STATE
JACKRABBITS
NEVADA
Huskers
BYU
KU
LOBOS
VANDERBILT
PENN STATE
OHIO STATE
CRIMSON TIDE