SENIOR COLLEGE INFORMATION NIGHT

SEPTEMBER 29, 2026



Presented by the Sayville HS Guidance Department

Michele Guinta
Colleen Restrepo
Kelsey DeBrino
Nina Santoro

PUTTING CORE INTO PRACTICE

C CONNECTION

The college process is about students building connections in order to make informed decisions

School Counselors, Teachers, Coaches
Admissions representatives
College communities
Parents & Families

O OWNERSHIP

Students are given a chance to begin taking ownership

College List - Deadlines - Common App
Activities & Accomplishments - Communication
Future Decisions

R RESILIENCE

The college process doesn't always go according to plan

Resiliency is learning how to respond when it doesn't & understanding that one decision does not define a student's entire future

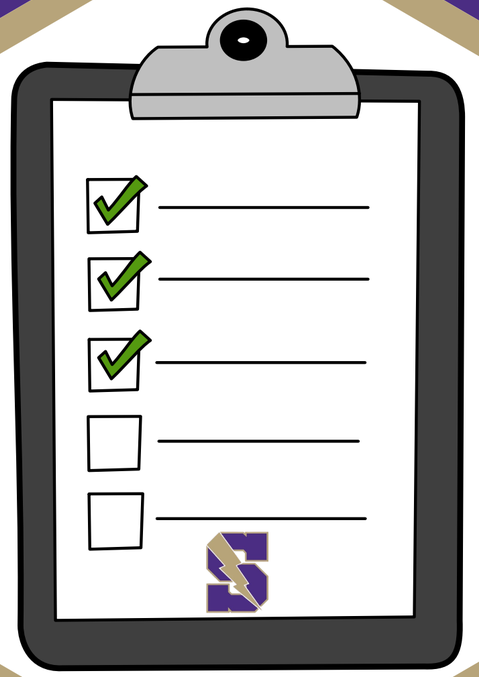
E EXPLORATION

Students are being asked to explore themselves

Who am I? What are my strengths?
What interests me? What kind of environment helps me thrive? Which colleges will fit my goals?

TONIGHT'S AGENDA

- FINALIZING THE COLLEGE LIST
- APP PROCESS & COMMON APP
- LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION
- STANDARDIZED TESTS
- FINANCIAL AID/SCHOLARSHIPS
- COLLEGE OPPORTUNITIES & DEADLINES
- TRANSCRIPTS
- DATES TO REMEMBER



FINALIZING THE COLLEGE LIST

- COLLEGE SEARCH
- CAMPUS VISITS
- REP VISITS @ SHS
- COLLEGE FAIRS
- COUNSELOR MEETINGS

8-10



TARGET- SAFETY- REACH

CONNECTION

EXPLORATION

OWNING THE PROCESS

August 2026

COMMON APP BOOTCAMP

- Introduced students to CA
- Created CA accounts
- Reviewed Application Sections

September-Ongoing

INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS

- Parents & Students
- Individualized College Appointment
- Schedule through Guidance Office

September 2026

CLASSROOM VISITS

- Created CA accounts continued
- Presented key components of the application process
- Discussed LOR’s, Activities Resume, Senior Survey

September-Ongoing

APPLICATION SUPPORT

- Student Driven Process
- Students complete application
- School Counselors offer guidance
- Parents offer support

OWNERSHIP

DEADLINES



EARLY DECISION

A **binding agreement** where you commit to attending the college if accepted.

You can only apply ED to one school.

EARLY ACTION

A non-binding way to apply early.

If accepted, you do not have to commit and have until May 1 to decide.

REGULAR DECISION

The standard, non-binding way to apply to as many schools as you want.

It gives you time to compare offers and financial aid.

ROLLING ADMISSIONS

The school reviews applications and sends out decisions as they come in, rather than waiting for a single deadline.

OWNERSHIP

COMMON APP FAQ

Does Sayville High School report rank? **No**

How should I report my courses on Common App? **By semester**

Do we report weighted or unweighted GPA? **Weighted**

What is our GPA scale? **Out of 100**

Should I self report my SAT/ACT/AP exams?
Choice is yours and should be made with the competitiveness of each school in mind.

Do I need to send my scores officially through College Board if I self report them? **Yes**

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

1- ASK IN PERSON

Students should request 2 teacher letters of recommendation in person

2- REQUEST ON NAVIANCE

Once teachers are secured, seniors can request the teacher letter through Naviance

3- SENIOR SURVEY

Students should complete this for their school counselor to support their letter of recommendation

4- ACTIVITIES RESUME

Students should complete an activities resume to provide to teachers for LOR, as well as to reference for their applications

CONNECTION

OWNERSHIP

ON-SITE ADMISSIONS EVENT

PARTICIPATING COLLEGES

- 11/16: **New York Institute of Tech**
- 11/16: **SUNY Farmingdale**
- 11/17: **SUNY Oneonta**
- 11/18: **Molloy University**
- 11/19: **University of New Haven**
- 11/20: **St. Joseph's University**
- 11/23: **Hofstra University**
- 12/3: **LIU Post**



CONNECTION

OWNERSHIP

RESILIENCE

EXPLORATION

FINANCIAL AID



FAFSA

- Filing is open for the 2027-28 school year
- Used for Federal & State Aid
- Free to submit
- Required by most schools for aid consideration



CSS PROFILE

- Used by private colleges for Institutional Aid
- $25 application fee, $16 per school submitted to
- More detailed financial review



SCHOLARSHIPS

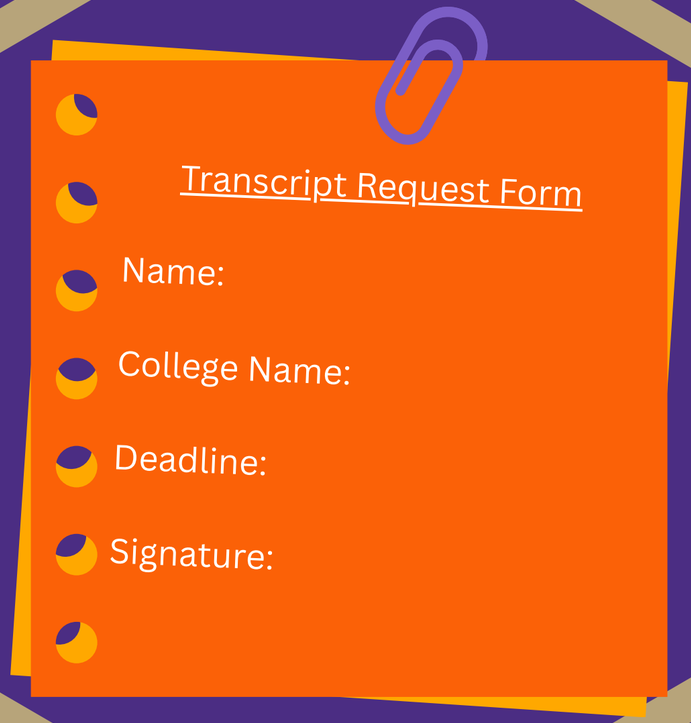
- Merit-Based Scholarships
- Private Scholarships
  - SHS Community Scholarships
  - 80+ awards annually
  - Applications open January 2027

Financial Aid Night- October 20

FAFSA Completion Workshop- November 17

TRANSCRIPT REQUEST FORM

- Students should complete **ONE** transcript request form per college
- Forms should be submitted at least **TEN** school days before the college application deadline
- Forms must be signed by the student and parent/guardian



OWNERSHIP

DATES TO REMEMBER



SUNY/CUNY FREE APPLICATION WEEKS

SUNY: OCT 19- NOV 2

CUNY: OCT 15- NOV 16

SAYVILLE/CONNETQUOT COLLEGE FAIR

OCT 5 @ 6:30 PM

FINANCIAL AID NIGHT

OCT 20 @ 7:00 PM

FAFSA COMPLETION NIGHT

NOV 17 @ 7:00 PM

QUESTIONS?



The college process is more than where students are going.
It is about who they are becoming along the way.