

Postsecondary Planning Class of 2027

Presented by the DHS Counseling Department



Google Classroom ~ DHS Class of 2027

Please join the
Google Classroom
if you haven't done
so already!

archaot

Counseling Postsecondary Planning Site

- On DHS School Counseling Website
- [DHS Postsecondary Planning Site](#) important school-based information
- Comprehensive career-training site with links to local programs for many career paths
- Military site:
 - All branches
 - Recruiter contacts
 - ASVAB information & prep
 - Military careers
- Gap Year supports



Vocational & Skilled Trade Programs



- *Acquire specialized skill sets in specific career trades

- *Certification/Licensure pathways

- *GNBVT Adult Ed Programs, New England Tech, MTTI, UTI, Northeast Maritime Institute, Bristol Community College, Rob Roy Academy, Paul Mitchell, The Peterson School

- *[DHS Post Secondary Planning Site](#) for resources and career training pathways

The Armed Services & ASVAB

- Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery
- Categories: Verbal, Math, Science, Technical and Spatial
- Identifies interests & interests and helps with career planning
- 225 questions, time of exam 2.5 hours



BCC On-site Admissions



- Bristol Community College will be at Dartmouth High School in February 2027 to meet with all interested seniors and accept students On the Spot!
 - BCC has many majors that are articulated to transfer directly to over 111 colleges!
 - MassTransfer Program: A2B (Associates to Bachelor's)
 - BCC is ***FREE!***

Tuesday, September 29, 2026

DHS Gymnasium

10:42 am - 11:26 am

College Fair at DHS!



Attendance is required for every senior!

It's important to talk to the admissions representatives who traveled here to meet YOU before they receive your application.

Financial Aid - Paying for College

FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid

- Estimated to be October 1st at www.fafsa.gov
- Required by all schools to apply for grants, loans and work study
- Required by some schools for merit scholarships
- File Early! The “Early Bird gets the Worm!”



Financial Aid - Private Colleges

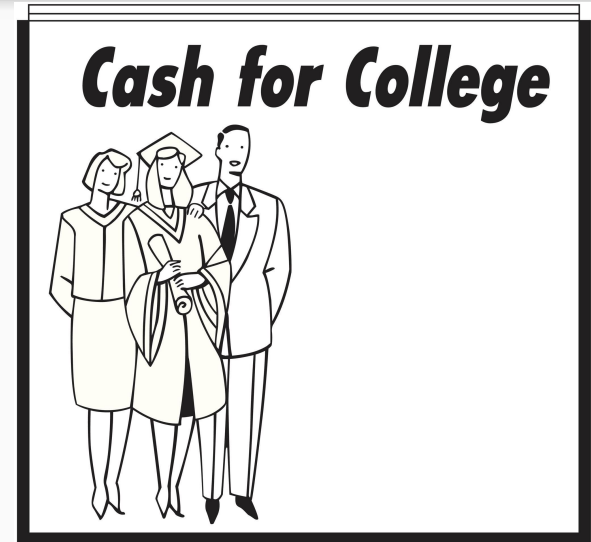
In addition to the FAFSA....

CSS Profile - College Scholarship Service

Available now at www.collegeboard.org

Required by some private schools for merit aid/scholarships

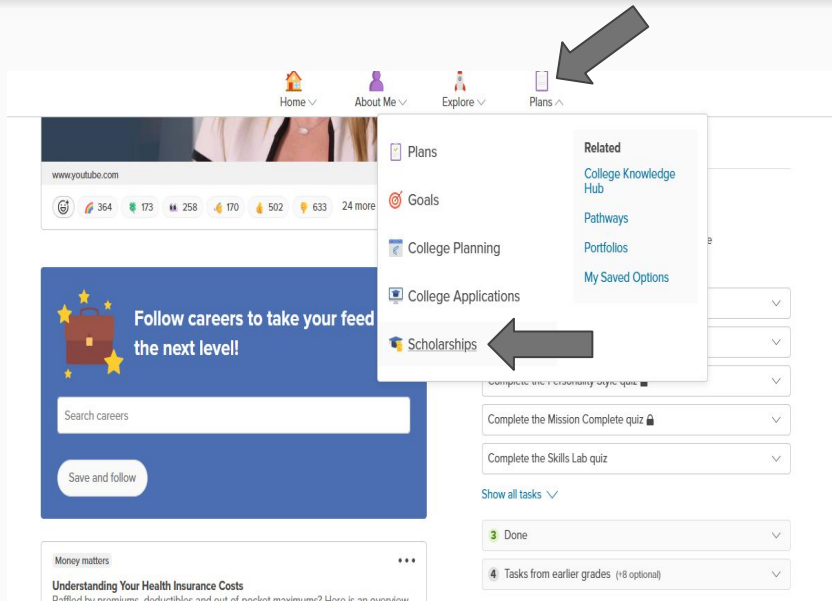
Most schools have deadlines in the fall for the CSS Profile



IDOC - A CollegeBoard form required by some colleges

Check colleges' financial aid websites for all required forms & deadlines!

Local Scholarships



In Xello, under the “Plans” tab, then
Scholarships

Check once per week!

****New Scholarships added throughout
the school year!****

National & College Specific Scholarships

- Xello.world - listing of scholarships for DHS students at the local, regional and national levels
- www.studentaid.gov - Official government site for financial aid and scholarships

Follow link to Grants and Scholarships, then “Finding and Applying for Scholarships”

- www.scholarships.com and www.fastweb.com - National Search Engines
- www.commonapp.org - follow links to scholarships and financial aid
- Colleges’ websites for school-specific scholarships

College Application Types

Application Types:

- Early Decision: binding contractual agreement, early notification
- Early Action: non-binding, early notification
- Regular Decision: standard, non-binding
- Rolling Admission: flexible in dates, non-binding



Common App vs. Institutional Applications

Common Application - www.commonapp.org

- Accepted by over 1,000 colleges and universities
- One application, submit to multiple colleges

Institutional Applications - Application is submitted online on the college's website/college does not or may not accept Common App

- *Examples:* Endicott College, MIT, Bristol Community College

Self-Reported Transcript & Academic Record [STARS]

Required by many colleges in addition to your official transcript.

*[STARS](#): students self-report courses and grades that have been completed, or will be attempted (e.g., senior year courses in-progress), for high school credit.

*Utilize your high school transcript to self-report your GPA, Rank, courses grades 9-12.

*List senior year courses as In Progress (IP). Choose a semester schedule.

*List of [SRAR participating colleges and universities](#). Also can be found on My Colleges and Universities dashboard on the Homepage of the STARS.

* Several [colleges and universities will accept self-report standardized test scores \(SAT/ACT\)](#) through the STARS form

Standardized Tests



- **SAT - Register at collegeboard.org**
 - September 18th is the registration deadline for the October 3rd SAT
 - October 23rd is the deadline for November 7th SAT
 - November 20th is the registration deadline for the December 5th SAT
- **ACT - Register at actstudent.org**
 - September 29th is the late registration deadline for the October 17th ACT
 - November 6th is registration deadline for December 12th ACT

Send scores to colleges ***at least three weeks*** before your college deadline!

Scores must be sent directly from www.collegeboard.org or www.actstudent.org

If you qualify for Free/Reduced lunch, you can take both for free twice.



Resume

- Forum to highlight your achievements, skills, qualifications etc.
- Activities Section of Common App
- Helpful for recommenders
- Scholarships, college & job applications
- Google Resume Template
- ***Xello: Click Explore at top and then click on My Resume***

FERPA Waiver and Release Authorization

What is FERPA and how does it relate to my applications?

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

- FERPA Waiver
 - Colleges require you to waive your right to read your recommendation letters, or they will not accept them
 - In the application you'll be asked if you want to waive this right
 - Waiving your right lets colleges know that you do not intend to read your recommendations, which helps reassure colleges that the letters are candid and truthful.
- Release Authorization
 - Allows the school to disclose personally identifiable and otherwise private information from your academic record

FERPA Waiver and Release in Common App

My Colleges

Wheaton College, Massachusetts

College information

APPLICATION

- General
- Academics
- Activities
- Contacts
- Family
- Other Information
- Recommendations and FERPA**

Recommendations and FERPA

In progress

Recommendations are people who will submit forms to colleges on your behalf. This page shows which recommender types this college needs. Each college will have different requirements.

FERPA Release Authorization

Before you can invite your counselor, teachers, recommenders, parents, or advisors, you must complete the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) release authorization process.

[Learn more about FERPA](#)

Complete Release Authorization

Continue

Release authorization

colleges to which I am applying for admission. I also understand that employees at these colleges may confidentially contact my current and former schools should they have questions about the information submitted on my behalf.*

Please select one: *

- ☒ I want to review all recommendations and supporting documents.
- ☐ I DO NOT waive my right to review all recommendations and supporting documents.

☒ I understand that my waiver or no waiver selection above pertains to all colleges to which I apply and that my selections on this page can be changed once I sign and click Save below.

Signature * ! Date *

Your Name Here September 16, 2026

Back Save and Close

xello

Every Student,
Future Ready!



- **Research Colleges & Majors**
Browse and compare **colleges**, **universities**, and academic programs.
- **View Admission Stats**
See data on **acceptance rates**, GPA ranges, test scores, etc.
- **Connect with Colleges**
Find ways to contact schools or visit their websites directly from Xello.
- **Request letter(s) of recommendation**
- **Request Transcripts**
- **Match Common App and Xello**
- **Explore Scholarships**

Video - Xello & Common App

[Requesting your Common App documents in Xello - Video](#)



Logging onto Xello



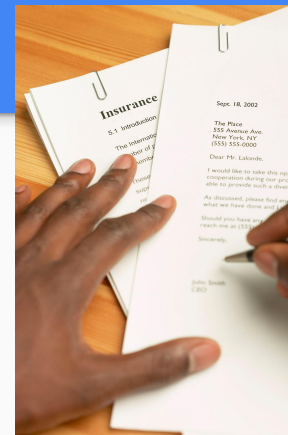
From Gmail, Click on the Google App Launcher (Waffle):

- Scroll until you see Xello Login
- Choose the Xe icon
- Information will automatically populate
- Click sign in

The Xello logo, featuring the word "xello" in white lowercase letters. The letter "o" is stylized with a green semi-circle inside it. The logo is set against a dark grey rectangular background.

Teacher Letters of Recommendation - Request in Xello

- **Click on the “College Planning” section**
This is usually found on your dashboard or under the “Plans” tab.
- **Select “view my applications”**
This section tracks your applications and includes tools for document requests.
- **Click on “Request under application checklist”**
You’ll see an option to request letters for specific colleges.
- **Choose a Teacher or Recommender**
Select from the list of available staff (teachers or counselors). Make sure you've spoken with them first and they've agreed to write for you.
- **Add a thank you message.**
Write a brief thank-you or reminder of what you'd like them to highlight (e.g., your leadership in a club, academic strengths, etc.).
- **Submit the Request**
Once submitted, Xello notifies your teacher/counselor, and you'll be able to track the status of your request.
- **This needs to be completed for EVERY school you are applying to.**



Connecting Xello to your Common App Account & Adding Other Colleges to Xello

xello



College Planning

College applications



Connect Common App to Xello

Sign in or create an account to sync your college applications. Be sure to connect the account you used to create your applications.

[Learn more](#)

Connect

Important dates

View all

OCT
1
2026

FAFSA open date
College year 2027-2028

NOV
15
2026

Application deadline
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
[View application](#)

NOV
15
2026

Transcript due date
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
[View application](#)

Transcript

Your transcript will appear here once it's been uploaded by an educator.

Application tracker



[New application](#)

School Counselor Letters of Recommendation - Assign in Xello



- Click on College Applications, then Application Checklist
- Under Application Checklist > Counselor Forms
 - Assign counselor and confirm your guidance counselor
- See your counselor for details on how best to provide information (Google Form or Interview)
- Depicts a comprehensive picture of you as a member of our school community:
 - School / Extracurricular involvement
 - Highlights of courses taken 9 - 12th grades
 - Future goals
 - Awards/Achievements

Transcript Request in Xello

- **Go to College Planning**
 - From Dashboard: *Plans* → *College Applications*
- Select Your College**
 - Click the college name or *Create new application* if it's not listed.
- Request Transcript**
 - Click **Request** next to Transcript
 - You'll see a confirmation banner
- Track Status**
 - See when it's sent, received, or late
- Mark as Complete**
 - Once received, click **Options** → *Mark as complete*
- **Forms need to be submitted 10 school days BEFORE deadline**



Requesting Letters & Transcripts in Xello

xello

Home ✓About Me ✓Explore ✓Plans ✓

College Applications



BRISTOL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Fall River, MA

...

Admission decision

ⓘ No decision yet

Method

Direct Application

Type

Regular decision

Deadline

Sep 7, 2025

1

Application tasks
You may need to add more tasks to this application checklist. Check the [college website](#) to make sure you have the complete list of required tasks.
[Got it!](#)

Application checklist

⊕ Add task

ⓘ Need help?

 Transcript

Due date: Sep 7, 2025

 Request

Options ▾

 Recommendation letters

 Request

Options ▾

Your Guidance Appointment is right around the corner....

School Counselors are scheduling your individual appointment. You will all have a one-on-one appointment with your school counselor. We know many of you have early deadlines and will work as quickly as possible to meet with you.

You will receive a Google Calendar invitation and Smart Pass for your meeting. Please be sure to check your school email for your meeting invitation date and time.

We look forward to helping you! - Mrs. Thibodeau, Mrs. Heath, & Mrs. Levesque

School Counselor & Support Team Contacts

Assistant Principal Mr. Coogan A – J Grades 9 - 12		Assistant Principal Mr. Martin K – Z Grades 9 - 12	
Student Last Name	A - E Grades 10 -12	F - M Grades 10 - 12	N - Z Grades 10 - 12
Social Worker	Mrs. Gleicher	Mrs. Thomas	Ms. Iwanczuk
Guidance Counselor	Ms. Thibodeau	Ms. Heath	Ms. Levesque