

Commack High School College Planning Guide



Commack High School Counseling Center

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A MESSAGE FROM THE COUNSELING CENTER

If you take the college admission process step by step, stay organized, don't procrastinate, and have fun with it, everything will progress smoothly and it should be exciting! When you break it down, it is actually quite simple...

Step 1: Define

What are you looking for in a college? What do you envision for yourself to feel happy, confident, and successful?

Step 2: Research

Find schools that match your criteria. Visit virtually and/or in person. Connect with colleges, ask questions. Attend College Fairs and visiting colleges' Info Sessions at CHS. Learn as much as you can.

Step 3: Prepare

Gather and organize information you need to complete applications. Complete application(s), draft college essay; seek feedback. Decide your application type and deadline for each school.

Step 4: Apply

Complete and submit applications online; complete all required steps to ensure all materials are provided to each college prior to their deadline.

Step 5: Decide

Compare admission and financial aid offers and decide where you will commit!

JUNIOR YEAR TO-DO LIST

Please refer to the College Planning tab on the Counseling Center website for the most up to date information.

August/September/October

- Strong start to junior year! Maintain strongest grades in academic challenges
- Stay involved - pursue leadership, join new clubs or endeavors, maintain involvements
- Keep track of your accomplishments, activities, and work experiences. This will culminate in your building of your Resume in the spring, and be a part of your college application.
- Take the PSAT in October; this is the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test
- Begin to identify what you are looking for in a college

November/December/January

- Attend Junior College Planning Night
- Review your PSAT scores by signing into your College Board account
- Schedule Junior Planning Conference (JPC) - individual family meeting for post-graduation goals
- Meet with your counselor to request senior courses. Select the most challenging courses for which you are qualified; consider career interests and future major(s)
- Register for the SAT and/or ACT
- Begin exploring colleges
- Attend NCAA Night, if you are considering competing in athletics in college

February/March/April

- Attend your Junior Planning Conference (JPC)
- Following your JPC, commence college research, visiting, and communicating with colleges
- Develop a preliminary list of colleges that interest you. Begin taking a more serious look at them and gather information about academics, financial aid, and campus life
- Attend CHS College Day, CHS College & Career Fair, regional college fairs and college open houses to learn as much as you can about colleges
- Schedule campus visits, attend Open House programs, and visit campuses virtually
- Take SAT and/or ACT

May/June

- Counselors visit classes for Common Application Workshop, create Common Application account (Commonapp.org)
- Attend "Getting Started with your College Essay/Personal Statement" evening presentation
- Take or retake SAT and/or ACT, as needed
- Start solidifying your list of colleges you aim to apply to
- Ask two teachers if they agree to write a recommendation for you; submit request digitally via Naviance
- Verify CSIP is "S" Satisfactory and complete for all years
- Submit Autobiography, Parent Feedback, and Activity Resume to counselor by the last day of school

Summer

- Work through the Common Application (or individual college applications, only if needed)
- Rough-draft your college essay
- Continue research and visiting colleges
- After August 1st, begin working on supplemental writing/essays/questions
- Attend summer application workshops at CHS for application and essay completion

SENIOR YEAR TO-DO LIST

Please refer to the College Planning tab on the Counseling Center website for the most-up-to date information.

August/September

- Complete application(s)
- Add colleges to Common App
- Complete the FERPA Agreement
- Match your Naviance account to your Common Application account
- Continue developing college essay. Begin Supplemental writing/questions after August 1
- Provide your college essay to your counselor and/or teachers for feedback
- Review your transcript and report suspected errors to your counselor
- Register for the SAT and/or ACT, if you did not take it as a junior, or if you want to improve your score
- Attend Senior Class Assembly and Senior Class Meeting re: deadlines and application submission procedures
- Attend Senior College Planning Night
- Meet with college representatives visiting CHS through the fall, attend CHS College Day, visit campuses
- Utilize Checklist and calendar to chart application, Counseling Center, and financial aid deadlines
- Track whether teacher recommendations are posted in Naviance; follow up with teachers, if needed
- Verify whether any of your private colleges require the CSS Profile; register and complete, if they do

October/November

- Provide your college essay to your counselor and/or teachers for feedback; finalize essay
- Decide application types and monitor colleges' deadlines
- Track teachers' letters of recommendation posted in Naviance. Follow-up with teachers, if needed. Thank teachers after they post!
- Submit the College Application Processing Form (Google form found on the Counseling Center/Senior College Planning website) to request that your transcript and letters of recommendation be sent to the colleges that you are applying to. Submit this Google form 30 days prior to colleges' deadlines.
- Track application materials submitted by your counselor - "Application Milestones" section
- Attend Financial Aid & Scholarship Night
- Check Counseling Center Scholarship Bulletins frequently, apply for as many as you are eligible!
- Submit college applications; pay careful attention to **deadlines**.
- Go to SAT and/or ACT websites and request official score reports be sent to colleges, when needed
- Submit the CHS MP1 Grades Request Form for any college that requests MP1 grades, or if you wish to send

December

- Continue applying for scholarships and school-specific scholarships
- Register for the January SAT (if needed). It is the last SAT colleges will be able to consider for a senior
- Notify your counselor as you receive admissions decisions

January

- Submit CHS Midyear Grades Request Form to send to colleges that require, or if you wish to send
- File the FAFSA form (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). The sooner you complete, the sooner you receive financial packages and financial aid options.
- Continue applying for scholarships and school-specific scholarships

Continue to next page -

February/March/April

- Finish strong, no senioritis! Colleges can, and do, request grades or revoke acceptances if your grades drop!
- Review acceptances, compare financial aid packages
- Attend Accepted Students Days/Weekends, when offered, for colleges of interest (some virtual, most in-person)
- Continue applying for scholarships and school-specific scholarships

May

- Submit tuition deposit to the college you plan to attend by May 1 and notify other schools that you will not attend. Deposit to only one school!
- Complete your Senior Survey: indicate which college you will attend and final transcript request. Notify the Counseling Center if you change your mind after completing the survey to be sure the right college receives your final transcript.

STEP 1: DEFINE

What are you looking for in a college?

Academics

- Majors
- Programs
- Level of challenge/rigor
- Class size and learning environment
- Style of Instruction

Campus and Community

- Location
- Setting
- Size
- Facilities
- Campus life, extracurricular opportunities

Selectivity

- Admitted Student Profile
- Acceptance Rates

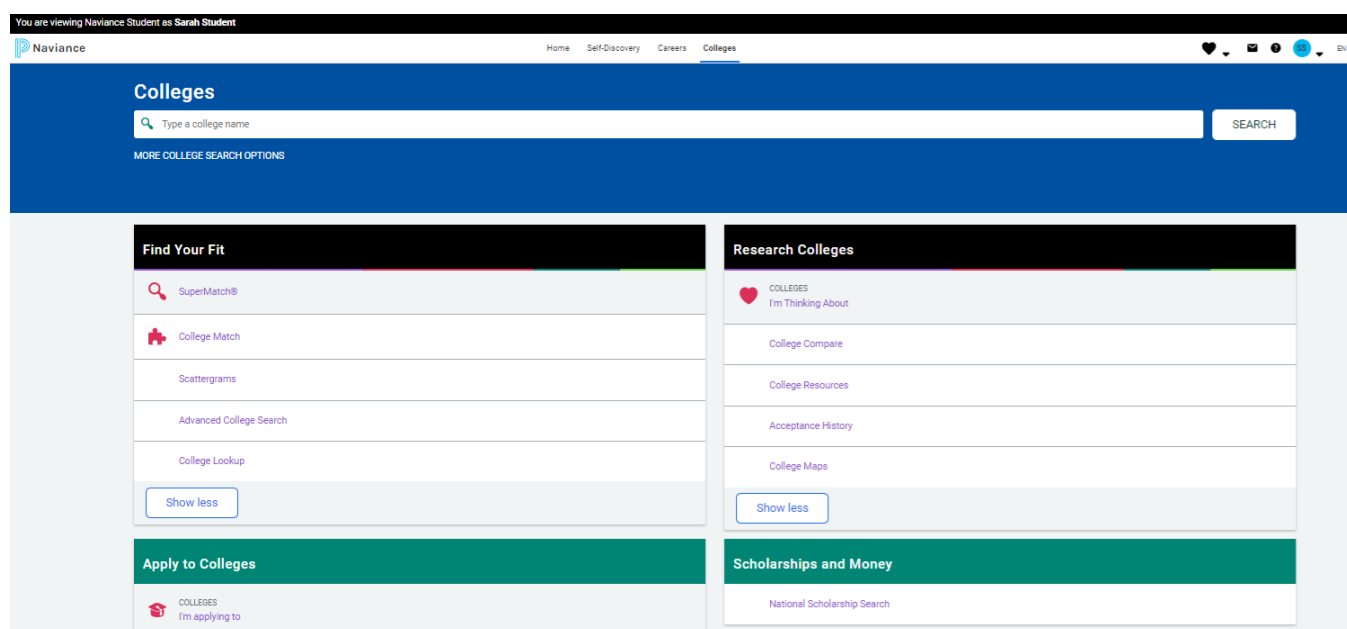
Results

- Retention & Graduation Rates
- Career Advising
- Job and Graduate School Placement
- Net Cost

STEP 2: RESEARCH

Naviance Student

- Identify college preferences and career goals using surveys
- Complete college searches
- Develop a prospective college list
- Compare colleges
- Compare your qualifications to recent CHS application results
- View list of colleges visiting CHS
- Use all resources (colleges' websites, research links below, Financial Aid, NCCA, etc.)
- To login: <https://student.naviance.com/commack>
 - Contact the Counseling Center for new account registration or trouble logging in



Other College Research Websites

College Score Card: collegescorecard.ed.gov
College Navigator: nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator
College Data: www.collegedata.com
College Prowler: www.collegeprowler.com
In Like Me – inlikeme.com
College Express – www.collegexpress.com
College Majors – www.collegemajors101.com

Petersons – www.petersons.com
College View – www.collegeview.com
College Results Online – www.collegeresults.org
Unigo – www.unigo.com
Best College Fit – www.bestcollegefit.com
Youiversity – youiversitytv.com
Fairtest – www.fairtest.org

UTILIZE ALL OF YOUR RESOURCES:

CHS COUNSELING CENTER

- College Information Sessions
 - Presentations by visiting college admissions representatives; register in Naviance
- Junior College Planning Night
 - Presentation for students and parents commencing the college research and application process
- Junior Planning Conference
 - Personal student, parent(s), and counselor meeting to discuss future plans
- College Days
 - October and March; approximately 50 colleges in attendance
- College & Career Fair
 - Approximately 150 colleges and careers represented; March evening program
- Common Application Workshop for juniors
 - Spring semester during school day, counselor visit classes to set up Common App account
- Getting Started with your College Application Essay/Personal Statement
 - Spring evening presentation
 - Essay-Writing Workshop for juniors to brainstorm essay ideas with College Admissions Reps during the school day
- College Application Summer Camp
 - Summer Sessions for seniors (late August) run by counselors to finalize college applications and college essay
- Senior College Planning Night
- Senior Class Meetings

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS OFFICES

- Campus visits, Information Sessions, and Open House Programs in-person or virtually
- Connect with regional admissions representatives when visiting CHS, on campus, or via email
- Colleges' websites, publications, blogs and social media
- Interviews (if available)
- Regional Information Sessions and College Fairs
- Virtual Tours

OTHER

- College alumni
- Current college students
- Guidebooks

HOW TO “VISIT” COLLEGES FROM ANYWHERE

- Virtual Campus Tours
- Virtual Student Panels
- Virtual Information Sessions
- Virtual Question and Answer Sessions

** Registration required directly through individual college websites**

IN PERSON CAMPUS VISITS

Campus Visit Checklist

Visiting a college campus helps you get a sense of what a college — and life at that college — is like. This can help you decide whether the college is right for you.

GATHER INFORMATION

Find out what you need to do to apply, and see if the college's class and major offerings are what you want:

- ☐ Take part in a group information session at the admission office.
- ☐ Sit in on a class that interests you. If classes aren't in session, just see what the classrooms are like.
- ☐ Talk to students about what they think of their classes and professors.
- ☐ Interview with an admission officer.
- ☐ Meet a professor who teaches a subject that interests you.
- ☐ Get the names and business cards of the people you meet so you can contact them later if you have questions.
- ☐ Pick up financial aid forms.

EXPLORE THE CAMPUS

Get a feel for student life, and see if this college is a place where you will do well:

- ☐ Take a campus tour.
- ☐ Talk to current students about the college and life on campus.
- ☐ Talk to the coaches of sports that you may want to play.
- ☐ Visit the dining hall, fitness center, library, career center, bookstore, and other campus facilities.
- ☐ Check out the freshman dorms, and stay overnight with a student, if possible.
- ☐ Walk or drive around the community surrounding the campus.

CHECK OUT CAMPUS MEDIA

Tune in to learn what's happening on campus and what's on students' minds:

- ☐ Listen to the college radio station.
- ☐ Go to the career center and learn what services it offers.
- ☐ Read other student publications, such as department newsletters, alternative newspapers, and literary reviews.
- ☐ Read the student newspaper.
- ☐ Browse the school's website and any campus blogs.

WHAT TO ASK A COLLEGE REP

When meeting with a college rep there are many questions you could/should be asking. Do your research, first, so you present as well-informed! And ask any questions to help you get to know a school better! Information about admissions, academics, campus life, dorms, and sports are all important factors in choosing the right college for you.

Admissions:

- What information about me is evaluated for admission? What is the most important part of my application?
- Do you read the essay?
- Do you use letters of recommendation?
- Do I need an SAT or ACT for admission? Specific to my major?
- Is credit given for AP, IB or dual enrollment (college credit) courses?
- When will I know if I've been accepted?

Academics:

- Do I have to choose a major right away?
- Can I complete a Bachelor's degree in less than 4 years?
- Are there 5-year Master's programs available? Accelerated programs?
- Are special education services/accommodations available?
- What percentage of students graduate in 4 years?
- What is the average class size?

Campus Life:

- In what kind of area is the campus located? Suburban, rural or urban?
- What is the size of the school?
- What types of campus organizations are available? Clubs? Groups?
- Does the school have fraternities or sororities?
- Does the school sponsor discount tickets to shows or events?
- Does the school offer activities for students on weekends?
- What do students typically do at night or on the weekends?
- Are there places of interest nearby? Museums, malls, theaters, movies?
- Is there a religious affiliation with the school?
- What is the female to male ratio on campus?

Dorms:

- What types of dorms are available? What percentage of students live on campus?
- Is housing guaranteed all 4 years? How is housing placement determined?
- Do I get to pick my roommate?
- Do students mostly go home on the weekends or do they stay on campus?

Sports:

- What varsity sports programs are offered? Intramural activities?
- Do students regularly attend sporting events? Are there discounts for student tickets?
- What sport is the most popularly attended?

STEP 3: PREPARE

- Choose challenging senior year courses
- Take SAT and/or ACT; retake for higher score, if needed
- Submit Student Autobiography, Parent Feedback, and Activity Resume to counselor
- Identify schools to which you will apply
- Request two teacher recommendations
- Begin essay(s)
- Review activities and choose which to report on applications
- Gather information requested on applications
- If you plan to play NCAA Division I or Division II sports, register for the NCAA Eligibility Center

SAT AND ACT

It is the student's responsibility to register for SAT and/or ACT exams.

To view test dates and register online:

SAT

- <https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/sat/registration/dates-deadlines>
- Commack High School CEEB Code: 331-453
- Commack High School Test Center Code: 33-336

ACT (Take with Writing)

- <http://www.actstudent.org/regist/>
- Commack High School Code: 331-453
- Commack High School Test Center Code: 181210

***Please note:** Colleges use the SAT and the ACT interchangeably. Students may consult with their counselors and the college admissions office to discuss appropriate testing. Scores for the SAT, and ACT are not listed on the high school transcript. Students must contact the appropriate testing agency directly (www.collegeboard.org for the SAT or www.act.org for the ACT) to have scores sent to colleges to which they will apply.

It is the student's responsibility to send official SAT and/or ACT scores to each prospective college, if needed.

To report scores

SAT

- <http://sat.collegeboard.org/scores> for SAT

ACT

- <http://www.actstudent.org/scores/send/> for ACT

TEST OPTIONAL SCHOOLS

Many colleges do not require SAT/ACT scores as part of a complete application. For Test Optional schools, the student decides if they wish to report a score(s). For a complete list of colleges and universities that do not require SAT or ACT scores go to: www.fairtest.org

SAT AND ACT TEST PREP

The following test prep opportunities are currently available to Commack High School students.

Khan Academy (<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/practice/khan-academy>)

- Personalized SAT Practice through College Board

The Princeton Review (www.princetonreview.com)

- Free Online Test Prep
- Discounted SAT and ACT Courses
- Discounted SAT and ACT Tutoring

Commack School District Continuing Education

<http://www.commack.k12.ny.us/ourschools/continuinged.asp>

- Evening SAT Prep Courses

Methodize

- Free SAT/ACT test prep can be accessed through Castle Learning

COMPARE THE SAT AND ACT TESTS

- ACT includes a Science section
- SAT includes one SAT Math Section on which you may not use a calculator

	SAT	ACT
Why Take It	Colleges use SAT scores for admissions and merit-based scholarships.	Colleges use ACT scores for admissions and merit-based scholarships.
Test Structure	Reading Writing & Language Math	English Math Reading Science Reasoning Essay (Optional)
Length	3 hours	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: Arithmetic Algebra I & II Geometry, Trigonometry and Data Analysis	Covers: 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	None	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

<https://www.princetonreview.com/college/sat-act>

SAT/ACT CONCORDANCE TABLE

SAT	ACT	SAT	ACT	SAT	ACT	ACT	SAT	SAT Range
1600	36	1250	26	910	16	36	1590	1570-1600
*1590	36	*1240	26	900	16	35	1540	1530-1560
1580	36	1230	26	*890	16	34	1500	1490-1520
1570	36	1220	25	880	16	33	1460	1450-1480
1560	35	*1210	25	870	15	32	1430	1420-1440
1550	35	1200	25	860	15	31	1400	1390-1410
*1540	35	1190	24	*850	15	30	1370	1360-1380
1530	35	*1180	24	840	15	29	1340	1330-1350
1520	34	1170	24	830	15	28	1310	1300-1320
1510	34	1160	24	820	14	27	1280	1260-1290
*1500	34	1150	23	810	14	26	1240	1230-1250
1490	34	*1140	23	*800	14	25	1210	1200-1220
1480	33	1130	23	790	14	24	1180	1160-1190
1470	33	1120	22	780	14	23	1140	1130-1150
*1460	33	*1110	22	770	13	22	1110	1100-1120
1450	33	1100	22	*760	13	21	1080	1060-1090
1440	32	1090	21	750	13	20	1040	1030-1050
*1430	32	*1080	21	740	13	19	1010	990-1020
1420	32	1070	21	730	13	18	970	960-980
1410	31	1060	21	720	12	17	930	920-950
*1400	31	1050	20	*710	12	16	890	880-910
1390	31	*1040	20	700	12	15	850	830-870
1380	30	1030	20	690	12	14	800	780-820
*1370	30	1020	19	680	11	13	760	730-770
1360	30	*1010	19	*670	11	12	710	690-720
1350	29	1000	19	660	11	11	670	650-680
*1340	29	990	19	650	11	10	630	620-640
1330	29	980	18	640	10	9	590	590-610
1320	28	*970	18	*630	10			
*1310	28	960	18	620	10			
1300	28	950	17	610	9			
1290	27	940	17	600	9			
*1280	27	*930	17	*590	9			
1270	27	920	17					
1260	27							

*Use this SAT score when a single score point comparison is needed.

Note: Concordance tables for the ACT Composite were derived from concordances of the



<https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/ACT-SAT-Concordance-Tables.pdf>

STUDENT AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Please complete this form as completely and honestly as you can. You do not have to answer a question if you feel that it does not apply to you. If there is anything that you would like your counselor to include in your letter that you feel is important for colleges to know, please feel free to add additional information. Please provide information in paragraph form, providing examples and/or anecdotes. The more information you provide, the more personal your letter of recommendation will be.

Students email your responses to your counselor.

- **Your name:** _____
- **E-mail address:** _____
- **Names of the two teachers (no more) you will ask to write a recommendation for you. Colleges limit the number they will accept.**
 - _____
 - _____

1. How would you describe yourself? What adjectives reflect your uniqueness?
2. How would your family & friends describe you?
3. How would you describe your role in your family?
4. How would your teachers describe you?
5. What do you consider to be your most significant or unique personal achievement?
6. What do you consider to be your most significant or unique academic achievement?
7. At CHS, we are: Knowledgeable, Caring, Reflective, Inquirers, Open-Minded, Communicators, Thinkers, Balanced, Principled, and Risk-Takers. Please share how you have developed or how you embody any of these learner profile traits.
8. Has any summer activity, internship, job, and/or volunteer experience been of significance to you? Why?
9. Do you have any hobbies or specific interests? What do you choose to learn about outside of school?
10. What type of work do you hope to be doing 10 years from now? If you are not sure, what are some possible areas of interest? What is your favorite subject area/discipline?
11. Are there any special circumstances, background information, or other factors that may be relevant?
12. Has COVID-19 impacted you and/or your family personally or academically? If so, please share?
13. What will you contribute to the college you attend?
14. What is something that your counselor probably does not know about you?

PARENT FEEDBACK

As your family embarks on the college planning process, it is important to reflect on your child's growth as a student and as an individual. The counselor letter of recommendation can help convey information about your child not otherwise noted in the application process. A parent/guardian's perspective provides invaluable information to assist your counselor in writing your letter of recommendation. When responding to the following questions, please provide examples and/or anecdotes.

While it is not required to answer all questions, the more information you provide, the more thoroughly your child's counselor will be able to advocate for him/her. **Please type your responses to the questions below and email them directly to your child's counselor.**

Student's Name: _____

1. What do you consider to be your child's best personality traits? What should the whole world know about him/her?
2. What five adjectives best describe your child, and why?
3. In what areas has your son/daughter shown the most development and growth during the high school years?
4. What do you consider unique accomplishments of your son/daughter throughout the high school years?
5. Are there any personal or family circumstances or influences, which have affected your child's educational experience?
6. Please share insights on the role of your child within the dynamics of your family (Sibling relationships, responsibilities, etc.).
7. Is there anything about your family (individuals, history, cultural influences, and special circumstances) which would be helpful to know?
8. What does your child choose to learn on his/her own? What do these choices show about your child's interests and the way he/she likes to learn?
9. Please share why a college would want your child as a part of their campus community.

COMMACK HIGH SCHOOL REQUEST FOR TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

Student's Name:

Teacher:

Date Submitted:

Course:

Counselor:

Student Directions: To prepare for your teacher recommendation requests, please complete the following tasks:

- Meet with 2 teachers and communicate why you think they should write you a letter. Request from teachers at least four (4) weeks prior to the requested due date.
- Invite/request the two teachers digitally on Naviance
- Compose your responses to the prompts/questions below
- Thank your teachers!
- Provide your teacher with this completed Request Form

These questions must be answered completely to be considered for recommendation. Thorough responses demonstrate your ambition to be a successful college candidate. **Choose at least three (3) of the questions below.** Retype the question and answer each selected prompt in a well-developed, organized paragraph.

1. Explain **why** this recommendation should be written for you. List three adjectives to describe yourself as a student in this class. Provide **examples** to illustrate them. (*You **may not** use hardworking, respectable, and dedicated.*)
2. As you consider the required reading for this class, which did you enjoy? Why?
3. Describe the best piece of work (paper, lab report, oral presentation, group project, etc.) completed in this class.
4. Explain a particular moment or experience that challenged you in this class.
5. Describe a particular instance when you were a strong collaborator in a group project.
6. Cite an instance when you were an effective communicator in this class? In a written assignment? In an oral presentation?
7. Describe a particular assignment or skill in which you excelled during the year. **Why** do you think you reached success in these areas?
8. In retrospect, what could you have done to make this class more meaningful to you?
9. Write **one paragraph** about what makes you unique in comparison to other students with similar achievement.
10. Evaluate your time management skills and your daily preparation for this class.

Teacher Information: *Your unique observation of this student is an integral component of the college application process. In accepting this task, please be aware that this student has a deadline for all application material, typically the fall of their senior year. Upon completion of your letter, please upload your letter and Teacher Evaluation Form in Naviance. Letters for the upcoming year can be uploaded beginning in August, upon receipt of notification from the Counseling Center.*

ACTIVITIES

The Common Application, and most college applications include a section to report your activities. If there is not enough room to tell them about everything, they may consider your Activity Resume as long as it provides meaningful information not found elsewhere in your application.

The Counseling Center asks you to submit a resume for your file. It will give your counselor information that may help with their recommendation and provide information for scholarship applications. The Counseling Center does not send resumes to colleges. Students must do so themselves.

Common Application

The Common Application includes a section to report Honors and another section to report Activities

Honors

Use this section to report academic honors, accolades, or recognitions you have been granted, received, or awarded with. Provide the following information for each.

- Title
- Grade Level
- Highest Level of Recognition (School, State/Regional, National, or International)

Activities

Students may report up to ten activities and must provide the following information for each. It may be necessary to group similar activities together to stay within the ten-activity limit.

Activity Type

Academic	Debate/Speech	Music: Instrumental
Art	Environmental	Music: Vocal
Athletics: Club	Family Responsibilities	Religious
Athletics: JV/Varsity	Foreign Exchange	School Spirit
Career Oriented	Foreign Language	Science/Math
Community Service (Volunteer)	Honor Society(s)	Student Government/Politics
Computer/Technology	Journalism/Publication	Theater/Drama
Cultural	Junior R.O.T.C.	Work (Paid)
Dance	LGBT	Other Club/Activity

Position/Leadership

Students are encouraged to report and describe all leadership roles within activities. (50-character limit)

Participation

- Grade Level(s); Timing of participation (School, Break, or Year); Hours spent per week; Weeks spent per year; Plans to participate in college
- Details, honors won, and accomplishments (150-character limit)
- Club/activity name(s) and other pertinent details

SAMPLE ACTIVITY RESUME

For Counseling Center use and scholarship application reference only

Mary Student

marystudent@gmail.com

Work Experience

Head Counselor

Commack, NY
Suffolk Y Jewish Community
Center Grades 9,10, 11, 12
25 Hrs/Week
Total Hours: 200

Summer job

Volunteer Service

Organizer

Commack, NY
Suffolk Y Leadership Rally
Grade 11
3 Hours/Week
Total Hours: 3

Participant

March of Dimes Walk America
Grades 9,10, 11,12
5 Hours/Week
Total Hours: 5

Extracurricular Activities

Girl Scouts

Grades 9,10, 11, 12
2 Hrs/Week
Total Hours: 100

Silver Award

Girls Scholar Athlete Leadership Club

Grades 9,10,11,12
1 Hrs/Week
Total Hours: 40

Class Executive Board

Grades 9,10, 11, 12
1 Hrs/Week
Total Hours: 40

Awards/Certificates

Cougar Letter Achievement Award

Grades 10, 11, 12

Athletic Achievement

Soccer

Grade 9
12 Hrs/Week
Total Hours: 72

Junior Varsity 9th; Varsity 10th, 11th, & 12th; Captain 12th

THE COLLEGE ESSAY

How Important Is It?

- Very! The College Essay/Personal Statement is (one of) the only ways for your voice, your personality, and your writing strength to shine through your application. This personal piece is often utilized when making final admissions decisions.
 - Used to distinguish among equally qualified applicants
 - Could make a difference for applicants who don't quite meet academic requirements, but have a really strong essay
 - Will not always help applicants significantly below requirements

What Do They Look For?

- Your ability to organize thoughts into a concise, coherent, and structured narrative
- Your personality, character, qualities about you, preferences, values, and thought process
- What you can bring to their campus
- Something they cannot learn about you from the rest of your application
- Your "story," not a "standard 5-paragraph academic essay"

What To Avoid

- Plagiarism
- Using AI
- Poor grammar, usage, and spelling
- Using a generic essay that doesn't give personal insight into who you are
- Too much information
- Long list of accomplishments
- Exhaustive narrative of your hopes and dreams
- Recitation of reasons you want to attend their college
- Long-winded efforts to impress
- Words you never use in a conversation
- Flattery
- Bragging

*Attend Getting Started on your College Essay/Personal Statement Presentation (spring)

Additional Resources

Tips for Writing an Effective Application Essay (College Board): <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org>

Top Ten Tips for Writing a College Essay (National Association of College Admissions Counseling):

<https://www.nacacfairs.org/learn/apply/EssayTips/>

INFORMATION FOR STUDENT ATHLETES

NCAA Eligibility Basics

Source: <http://professionals.collegeboard.com/guidance/prepare/athletes/clearinghouse>

FAQs about the NCAA Eligibility Center

Student-athletes must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center to be eligible to play NCAA Division I or II sports in college. Athletes playing in Division III do not have to register.

What is the NCAA Eligibility Center?

(<https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/>)

The NCAA Eligibility Center certifies whether prospective college athletes are eligible to play sports at NCAA Division I or II institutions. It does this by reviewing the student-athlete's academic record, SAT or ACT scores, if required, and amateur status to ensure conformity with NCAA rules.

What are NCAA Divisions I, II, and III?

The NCAA is the governing body of many intercollegiate sports. Each college regulated by the NCAA has established rules on eligibility, recruiting and financial aid and falls into one of the three membership divisions (Divisions I, II and III). Divisions are based on college size and the scope of their athletic programs and scholarships.

When should students register?

The NCAA recommends that student-athletes register at the **beginning of their junior year** in high school, but many students register after their junior year. There is no registration deadline, but students must be cleared by the Eligibility Center before they receive athletic scholarships or compete at a Division I or II institution. If you are thinking about playing D1 or D2, you must file for eligibility. If you are thinking about playing D3, you can choose to complete a free profile page.

How do students register?

Students must register online at the NCAA Eligibility Center. They will have to enter personal information, answer questions about their course work and sports participation outside of high school, and pay a registration fee.

What records does the Eligibility Center require?

Once registered on the NCAA website, student transcripts will be automatically sent to the eligibility center. Students must also arrange to have their SAT or ACT test scores reported, if required, directly by the testing company to the Eligibility Center.

STEP 4: APPLY

IMPORTANT APPLICATION TERMINOLOGY

Early Decision: Binding agreement with college stating student must attend, if accepted. Deadlines are earlier, typically November 1 or 15, but this varies by school.

Early Action: Non-binding, students apply early, meeting an early deadline, but have until May 1 to commit/decide. Deadlines are typically November 1 or 15, but vary by school.

Regular Decision: Decisions are made after the deadline date has passed. Most decision letters are mailed in early April.

Rolling Decisions: First come, first served. Applications are processed as they “roll” in and decisions are quickly “rolled” back to the applicant.

Single Choice Early Action: A few of the most competitive colleges offer this non-binding admission policy. Students may apply to a single choice college, however, they are not permitted to apply to other schools using the EA/ED option during this period. Details vary by school.

**** Be thorough and carefully read and understand each admissions type/deadline before clicking “submit!” ****

GENERAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- Create Common App account and match it to Naviance
- Submit applications online prior to colleges' deadlines
- Submit College Application Processing Request (Google Form) found on the Counseling Center website under College Planning/Seniors
 - Be aware of Counseling Center deadlines
 - Requests processed chronologically by the date received and cannot guarantee late requests will meet college deadlines. If the processing deadline falls on a day when school is closed, the request is due the next school day.

College Application Deadline is:	Requests Due to Counseling Center by:
October 15 and November 1	October 1
November 15	October 15
December 1	November 1
January 1	November 15
After January 1	15 School Days in Advance

- Google Forms will not be processed the day before Thanksgiving break, Winter Recess, Mid-Winter Recess, or Spring Recess

COMPONENTS OF A COMPLETE APPLICATION

Student:

- Application (online)
- Request letters of recommendation from teachers, invite in Naviance
- Essay (in application)
- Input Resume information into Activities section of application
- Send Official SAT/ACT scores, if needed; or self-report in application
- Application Fee
- Maintain strong academics senior year! Colleges often request senior year grades/Midyear Report
- Interview or portfolio, if required, per specific majors
- Submit Google Application Processing Request Form to Counseling Center to request below materials be sent to requested schools

Counselor:

- Official Transcript
- Letter of Recommendation
- School Reports
- IB DP/CP Addendum, if applicable
- Sends counselor and teacher letters of recommendation
- *Counselor is not able to send official SAT/ACT scores

*** In mid-July, the Counseling Center sends a final transcript to the college the student indicated they would attend in their Senior Survey. If plans change after completing the Senior Survey, the Counseling Center must be notified. ***

THE COMMON APPLICATION

- www.commonapp.org
- Standardized first-year application for use at any member institution
- Over 1,000 member colleges & universities

SECTION I: COMMON APP

Profile

- Contacts: Email address, phone number, mailing address
- Demographics: Religion, military service, race/ethnicity (all optional)
- Geography: Birthplace, countries lived in, language proficiency, citizenship

Family

- Household: Parent marital status, parent(s) with whom you reside
- Parent/Guardian: Name, birthplace, occupation, education, stepparent information
- Siblings: Age, grade, education

Education

- School: Current school, dates attended; counselor name, phone, and email
- History: Previous schools, dates attended, past/pending education interruptions, college courses, college assistance programs

- Academic Information: GPA, class rank, current year courses, honors and awards

Testing

- College Entrance: ACT and SAT
- English for Non-Native Speakers: TOEFL, IELTS, PTE
- Academic Subjects: AP, IB

Activities

- Principal Activities/Work
- Years of participation, hours per week, weeks per year, position/leadership held (50 characters), brief description (150 characters)
- Maximum 10 activities

Writing

- Common App Essay Prompts
- COVID Impact, optional
- Additional Information - if there is an imperative information about you not represented elsewhere in the application

SECTION II: COLLEGE PAGES (NOT ALL COLLEGES WILL ASK ALL QUESTIONS)

General

- Entry term, degree status, housing preference, test-optional preference,
- Scholarship and financial aid preference

Academics

- Academic interest, program(s) applying to

Contacts

- Interaction with the institution (campus visit, off-campus interview, etc.)

Family

- Family members who have attended or been employed by the institution

Evaluations

- Names of classroom teachers, coaches, other recommenders

Residence

- Required by some public institutions to determine in-state status

Signature

- Acknowledgments and affirmations

Writing Supplement

- Additional short answer or essay responses if requested by institution

****Some colleges and universities may ask you to self-report your grades.**

You can access your unofficial transcript in the Campus Backpack on the Portal, to report your final grades from grades 8-11.**

MATCHING COMMON APP TO NAVIANCE

- Create Common Application account
 - Add at least one college to Common App using the “College Search” tab
 - Add Commack High School as your current high school (Education section)
 - Go to “My Colleges” tab
 - Click any college name on the left. Under drop down, “Recommenders and FERPA”
 - Complete FERPA Agreement
- Log in to Naviance student account
 - “Colleges” tab
 - “Colleges I am Applying to”
 - Click Match Accounts (in pink bar)
 - Enter Common Application log in information to confirm

APPLYING USING THE SUNY or COALITION APPLICATIONS

SUNY Common App Members (www.commonapp.org)

- Albany
- Alfred State
- Binghamton
- Brockport
- Buffalo State
- Buffalo University
- Canton
- Cobleskill
- Cortland
- Delhi
- Environmental Science & Forestry
- Farmingdale
- Fredonia
- Geneseo
- Institute of Technology
- Maritime College
- Morrisville
- New Paltz
- Old Westbury
- Oneonta
- Oswego
- Plattsburgh
- Potsdam
- Purchase
- Stony Brook

SUNY Application (www.suny.edu)

- Most SUNY Community Colleges (except non-participating campuses listed below)

Non-Participating Campuses

- Empire State College www.esc.edu
- Downstate Medical University www.downstate.edu
- Nassau Community College <https://www.ncc.edu/admissions/>
- Suffolk Community College <https://www.sunysuffolk.edu/apply-enroll/apply-now.jsp>
- Rockland Community College <https://www.applyweb.com/apply/rockcc/>
- Westchester Community College <http://www.sunywcc.edu/admissions/admissions-application/>

COALITION Application

- www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org
- The Coalition for Access, Affordability, and Success
- Provides a single, centralized toolkit to organize, build, and refine student applications to numerous institutions



ADMISSIONS INFORMATION SUMMARY - 2023

Campus Name	REGULAR ADMISSION				HONORS ADMISSION				EOP ADMISSION			
	Undergraduate Enrollment	2020 SAT Scores	2020 ACT Scores	H.S. GPA	Freshman Enrollment	2020 SAT Scores	2020 ACT Scores	H.S. GPA	Freshman Enrollment	2020 SAT Scores	2020 ACT Scores	H.S. GPA
University Centers and Doctoral Degree Granting Institutions												
Albany	12,264	1130-1300	23-29	89-95	288	1240-1400	26-31	94-98	163	990-1070	18-20	83-89
Binghamton+	14,402	1300-1450	29-33	93-98	600	1500-1540	34-35	95-99	161	1080-1170	21-24	90-94
University at Buffalo+	20,761	1150-1330	24-30	92-98	585	1340-1470	29-33	97-100	210	960-1040	14-20	84-88
Stony Brook+	17,977	1250-1340	27-33	92-97	450	1380-1520	31-35	95-99	151	1050-1150	20-24	86-90
NYS Ceramics at Alfred University+	534	1000-1160	20-27	83-92	35	1180-1330	25-30	82-99	0	800-900	18-21	77-81
SUNY Polytechnic Institute+	2,100	1130-1300	26-32	87-94					18	950-1020		79-82
College of Optometry	Graduate only											
Cornell University:									29	1140-1250		92-97
Agriculture & Life Sciences+	3,914	1370-1530	31-35									
Human Ecology	1,317	1445-1540	33-35									
Veterinary Medicine	Graduate only											
Industrial & Labor Relations+	999	1390-1520	31-34									
Environmental Science & Forestry	1,700	1120-1310	23-28	89-96	38	1380-1450	31-33	96-99	19	1070-1260		84-90
SUNY Downstate Health Sciences Univ+	282											
Upstate Medical University (Syracuse)+	195											
University Colleges												
Brockport+	5,149	1080-1200	21-26	86-95	100	1260-1320	26-29	93-97	69	900-980	18-19	80-88
Buffalo State+	5,464	920-1130	18-28	79-89	143	1130-1280	22-28	93-97	113	870-1000	15-18	77-82
Cortland	5,848	1100-1230	24-26	88-94	23	1300-1420	32-35	98-100	24	940-1030	15-19	80-84
Fredonia+	3,000	1030-1220	21-26	81-94	126	1200-1340	26-30	92-97	30	840-980		75-85
Geneseo	3,844	1170-1320	25-30	90-96	23	1390-1460	29-34	96-99	30	970-1080	17-24	78-89
New Paltz	6,160	1130-1280	24-29	91-97	70	1260-1330	28-33	93-99	150	910-1040		81-88
Old Westbury+	3,907	1000-1130	19-23	82-91	32	1180-1300	25-28	93-96	48	820-950	14-17	76-81
Oneonta+	4,873	1070-1220	22-27	88-95					48	890-990	16-20	80-84
Oswego+	5,985	1050-1240	21-27	85-96	65	1290-1380	27-30	96-100	120	880-980		77-84
Plattsburgh+	4,004	1020-1170	21-26	85-94	77	1200-1320	24-29	92-97	70	880-1000	17-19	76-81
Potsdam+	2,082			85-95					17			77-79
Purchase+	3,230			87-90					45			78-83
Empire State	8,637								40			
Colleges of Technology												
Alfred State +	3,348	940-1150	19-25	80-90	10	1080-1300	23-26	86-93	28	880-1070		76-84
Baccalaureate only	1,559	990-1220	21-27	85-93								
Canton+	2,835	920-1130	17-23	81-91	15	1010-1170	19-27	89-95	25	810-930		73-76
Baccalaureate only	2,151	970-1150	18-23	82-92								
Cobleskill+	1,783	870-1060	18-22	81-90	51	1220-1450		93-95	55	830-930		73-76
Baccalaureate only	1,372	930-1070	21-25	88-92								
Delhi+	2,412	920-1100	19-23	82-90	10			90-92	32	870-940		70-79
Baccalaureate only	1,300	970-1130	19-25	82-90								
Farmingdale State College+	9,264	990-1150	19-24	84-91	21			93-97	18	910-980		75-85
Maritime College	1,540	1170-1220	22-26	86-93					11	930-1070		79-88
Morrisville State	1,696	850-1060	18-23	80-88					95	800-950		73-77
Baccalaureate only	935	860-1050	17-22	81-87								

All scores reflect middle 50%. The SAT ranges represent combined evidence-based reading and writing and math scores. (The maximum possible total is 1600.)

1.800.342.3811
www.suny.edu
/attend

askSUNY@suny.edu

+Contains 2022 Data.

Not Offered

SUNY CAMPUS LOCATIONS





APPLYING TO CUNY

CUNY Admission Profile: Freshman Fall 2023

FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES	General Admission High School Average ¹	SEEK/College Discovery High School Average ²
Baruch College	93.0	82.7
Brooklyn College	91.4	86.5
The City College of New York	90.4	80.7
The Sophie Davis Biomedical Education Program/CUNY School of Medicine	95.0	—
College of Staten Island	88.3	72.9
Hunter College	92.7	85.3
John Jay College of Criminal Justice	89.4	80.1
Lehman College	89.5	80.1
Macaulay Honors College	90.0	—
Medgar Evers College ⁴	79.4	71.4
New York City College of Technology ⁴	82.2	74.9
Queens College	90.4	80.7
York College	85.7	76.7

COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Borough of Manhattan Community College	78.8	72.8
Bronx Community College	78.1	73.0
Guttman Community College ³	75.4	—
Hostos Community College	77.6	72.9
Kingsborough Community College	78.9	72.5
LaGuardia Community College	78.5	72.9
Queensborough Community College	79.0	72.8

1. Includes applicants admitted to the Macaulay Honors College and local honors programs.
2. Available to New York Residents Only.
3. Based on the first step of a three-step admission process.
4. Based on students admitted to both associate and bachelor's degree programs.

COLLEGES CLOSE TO HOME

Adelphi University
Stewart Ave.
Garden City, NY

CUNY Brooklyn College
P.O. Box 350136
Brooklyn, NY

SUNY Farmingdale
Rte. 110
Farmingdale, NY

Five Towns College
305 North Service Rd.
Dix Hills, NY

Hofstra University
100 Fulton Ave.
Hempstead, NY

LIU
720 Northern Blvd.
Brookville, NY

Molloy University
1000 Hempstead Ave.
Rockville Centre, NY

Nassau Community College
1 Education Dr.
Garden City, NY

New York Institute of Technology
Northern Blvd
Old Westbury, NY

New York Institute of Technology (Central
Islip)
211 Carleton Ave.
Central Islip, NY

SUNY Old Westbury
Route 107
Old Westbury, NY

CUNY Queens College
65-30 Kissena Blvd.
Flushing, NY

St. John's University
8000 Utopia Parkway
Jamaica, NY

St. Joseph's University
155 West Roe Blvd.
Patchogue, NY

SUNY Stony Brook University
100 Nichols Rd.
Stony Brook, NY

Suffolk County Community College
Ammerman Campus
533 College Rd.
Selden, NY

Suffolk County Community College
Eastern Campus
121 Speonk Riverhead Rd.
Riverhead, NY

Suffolk County Community College
Grant Campus
Crooked Hill Rd.
Brentwood, NY

Touro College of Health Sciences
1700 Union Blvd
Bay Shore, NY

Webb Institute
Crescent Beach Rd.
Glen Cove, NY

MEETING COLLEGE COSTS: FEDERAL STUDENT AID

Source: www.studentaid.gov

WHAT is federal student aid?

Federal student aid comes from the federal government—specifically, the U.S. Department of Education. It is money that helps a student pay for higher education expenses (i.e., college, career school, or graduate school expenses). Federal student aid covers such expenses as tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, and transportation. Aid also can help pay for a computer and for dependent care.

There are three main categories of federal student aid: grants, work-study, and loans. Check with your prospective colleges to find out which programs the school participates in. <https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types>

WHO gets federal student aid?

The most basic eligibility requirements are that you must:

- demonstrate financial need (for most programs— to learn more, visit StudentAid.gov/how-calculated),
- be a U.S. citizen or an eligible noncitizen,
- have a valid Social Security number,
- show you're qualified to obtain a college or career school education by
 - having a high school diploma or General Educational Development (GED) certificate or
 - completing a high school education in a homeschool setting approved under state law.
- Find more details about eligibility criteria at StudentAid.gov/eligibility.

HOW do you apply for federal student aid?

- 1) Student must create their own StudentAid.gov account and request FSA ID. After receiving account information (usually within 1 week), the student will invite “contributors” to their FAFSA Form.
 - a) Create an account at StudentAid.gov/fsa-id/create-account
 - b) A “contributor” is anyone who is required to provide their information and signature on the FAFSA form as well as provide consent and approval to have their federal tax information transferred from the IRS directly into the form via direct data exchange. This includes the student, and may include a biological or adoptive parent, parent’s spouse (stepparent), or student’s spouse.
 - c) Contributor participation does not indicate financial responsibility.
- 2) Complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.gov.
- 3) After you apply, review the FAFSA Submission Summary (formerly known as the SAR) to confirm all information is accurate. Each school(s) you list on your FAFSA (maximum of 20 schools) will receive this data electronically.
- 4) Contact the school(s) you might attend. Make sure the financial aid office at each school you’re interested in has all the information needed to determine your eligibility.
- 5) If eligible, the student will receive aid offers from schools they listed on their FAFSA form and have been accepted to. This will tell them how much aid they’re eligible for at that school. Each college’s financial aid office will send you an award letter showing the amount and types of aid (from all sources).
- 6) Compare award letters from the schools you have been accepted to.

TYPES OF FEDERAL AID

Program	Type of Aid	Program Details	Annual Amount
Federal Pell Grant	Grant: does not have to be repaid	Available almost exclusively to undergraduates	Amounts can change yearly. The maximum Federal Pell Grant award is \$7,395 for the 2023–24 award year (July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024).
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)	Grant: does not have to be repaid	For undergraduates with exceptional financial need; Federal Pell Grant recipients take priority; funds depend on availability at school https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/grants/fseog	\$100–\$4,000
Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant	Grant: does not have to be repaid unless student fails to carry out service obligation, in which case student must repay TEACH Grant as Direct Unsubsidized Loan with interest accrued (accumulated) from date grant was disbursed (paid out to student)	For undergraduate, post baccalaureate, and graduate students who are or will be taking course work necessary to become elementary or secondary teachers; recipient must sign Agreement to Serve saying he or she will teach full-time in designated teacher shortage area for four complete years (within eight years of completing academic program) at elementary or secondary school serving children from low-income families https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/grants/teach	Up to \$4,000 a year; total amount may not exceed \$16,000; Graduate student: Total amount may not exceed \$8,000
Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant	Grant: does not have to be repaid	For students who are not Pell-eligible due only to having less financial need than is required to receive Pell funds; whose parent or guardian died as a result of military service in Iraq or Afghanistan after the events of 9/11; and who, at the time of the parent's or guardian's death, were less than 24 years old or were enrolled at least part-time at an institution of higher ed.	The grant award is equal to the amount of a maximum Federal Pell Grant for the award year but cannot exceed your cost of attendance for that award year. For the 2023–24 award year (July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024), the maximum Federal Pell Grant award will be \$7,395.
Federal Work-Study	Money earned while attending school; does not have to be repaid	For undergraduate and graduate students; jobs can be on campus or off campus; students are paid at least federal minimum wage	No annual minimum or maximum amounts
Federal Perkins Loan	Loan: must be repaid with interest	For undergraduate and graduate students; must be repaid to school that made the loan; 5% rate	Undergraduate students: up to \$5,500; graduate and professional students: up to \$8,000; Total may not exceed \$27,500 for undergraduate and \$60,000 for graduate (including amount borrowed in undergrad)
Direct Subsidized Loan	Loan: must be repaid with interest	For undergraduate students; U.S. Department of Education pays interest while borrower is in school and during grace and deferment periods (if you receive a Direct Subsidized Loan that is first disbursed between July 1, 2012, and July 1, 2014, you will be responsible for paying any interest that accrues during your grace period); student must be at least half-time and have financial need; 6.8% rate	\$3,500–\$5,500, depending on grade level; For total lifetime limit, see StudentAid.gov/sub-unsub
Direct Unsubsidized Loan	Loan: must be repaid with interest	For undergraduate and graduate students; borrower is responsible for all interest; student must be at least half-time; financial need is not required.	\$5,500–\$20,500 (less any subsidized amounts received for same period), depending on grade level and dependency status For total lifetime limit, see StudentAid.gov/sub-unsub
Direct PLUS Loan	Loan: must be repaid with interest	For parents of dependent undergraduate students and for graduate or professional students; student must be enrolled at least half-time; financial need is not required Borrower is responsible for all interest.	Maximum amount is cost of attendance minus any other financial aid student receives; no minimum amount

SCHOLARSHIPS

Finding and Applying for Scholarships *(Source: www.studentaid.gov)*

What kinds of scholarships are available?

Some scholarships for college are merit-based. You earn them by meeting or exceeding certain standards set by the scholarship-giver. Merit scholarships might be awarded based on academic achievement or on a combination of academics and a special talent, trait, or interest. Other scholarships are based on financial need.

Many scholarships are geared toward particular groups of people; for instance, there are scholarships for women or high school seniors. And some are available because of where you or your parent work, or because you come from a certain background (for instance, there are scholarships for military families).

A scholarship might cover the entire cost of your tuition, or it might be a one-time award of a few hundred dollars. Either way, it's worth applying for, because it'll help reduce the cost of your education.

How do I find scholarships?

You can learn about scholarships in several ways, including contacting the financial aid office at the school you plan to attend and checking online. But be careful. Make sure scholarship information and offers you receive are legitimate; and remember that you don't have to pay to find scholarships or other financial aid. Check out our information on how to avoid scams.

Try these free sources of information about scholarships:

- the financial aid office at a college or career school
- the Counseling Center's website
- the U.S. Department of Labor's FREE scholarship search tool
- federal agencies and your state grant agency
- your library's reference section
- foundations, religious or community organizations, local businesses, or civic groups
- organizations (including professional associations) related to your field of interest
- ethnicity-based organizations
- your employer or your parents' employers

When do I apply for scholarships?

That depends on each scholarship's deadline. Some deadlines are as early as a year before college starts, so if you're in high school now, you should be researching and applying for scholarships during the summer between your junior and senior years. But if you've missed that window, don't give up! Look at scholarship information to see which ones you can still apply for now.

How do I apply for scholarships?

Each scholarship has its own requirements. The scholarship's website should give you an idea of who qualifies for the scholarship and how to apply. Make sure you read the application carefully, fill it out completely, submit all components (essay, resume, etc.) and meet the application deadline.

How do I get my scholarship money?

That depends on the scholarship. The money might go directly to your college, where it will be applied to any tuition, fees, or other amounts you owe, and then any leftover funds given to you. Or it might be sent directly to you in a check. The scholarship provider should tell you what to expect when it informs you that you've been awarded the scholarship. If not, make sure to ask.

How does a scholarship affect my other student aid?

A scholarship will affect your other student aid because all your student aid added together can't be more than your cost of attendance at your college or career school. So, you'll need to let your school know if you've been awarded a scholarship so that the financial aid office can subtract that amount from your cost of attendance (and from certain other aid, such as loans, that you might have been offered). Then, any amount left can be covered by other financial aid for which you're eligible. Questions? Ask your financial aid office.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Web Sites

- Federal Student Aid: www.studentaid.gov
- FAFSA: www.fafsa.gov
- CSS Profile:
<http://student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile>
- New York State Higher Education Services:
www.hesc.ny.gov
- Fastweb: www.fastweb.com

- National Association of College Admissions Counseling: www.nacacnet.org
- National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators: www.nasfaa.org
- SallieMae: www.collegeanswer.com
- FinAid: www.finaid.org
- Fresch: www.freschinfo.com
- Hispanic Scholarship Fund: www.hsf.net

Counseling Center


Scholarship Bulletins

- Posted on the Counseling Center website
- Available in the Counseling Center
- Available through e-mail notification

Information Programs

- Financial Aid & Scholarship Evening Presentation (November)

Sample Bulletin



COMMACK HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELING CENTER

SCHOLARSHIP BULLETIN 2020-2021

NOTE: Counseling Center deadlines may be different than those stated on individual scholarship applications to allow for processing time. All scholarship applications requiring transcripts, recommendations, or school provided documents must have a scholarship receipt on file [Scholarship Receipt Form](#) and are due to the counseling center at least **10 school days prior** to the actual scholarship deadline date.

FINANCIAL AID / SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH SITES

back2college.com	goingmerry.com
blackexcel.org	goodcall.com
broscholar.com	hesc.ny.gov
cappex.com	hsf.net
chegg.com	internationalscholarships.com
collegeboard.org	nacac.com
collegepeas.com	nasfaa.org
collegescholarships.com	petersons.com
college-scholarships.com	raise.me
collegescholarships.org	review.com
discovernursing.com	salliemae.com
dosomething.org	scholarshipamerica.org
ed.gov	scholarshiphunter.com
educationplanner.org	scholarships.com
edupass.org	scholarships360.org
edvisors.com	scholarships4students.com
fastweb.com	supercollege.com
finaid.org	unigo.com
gocollege.com	

Commack High School
November 9, 2020

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DECEMBER

OSWEGO POSSIBILITY SCHOLARSHIP
Designed to support high-achieving & financially disadvantaged students from NYS who are committed to studying in a STEM field.
Apply to SUNY Oswego for STEM, Teacher recommendation & plan to live on campus
<https://www.oswego.edu/financial-aid/scholarships>
Deadline: Submit after applying to Oswego

SUFFOLK COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Various scholarships offered.
<https://sunvsuffolk.edu/apply-enroll/scholarships/index.jsp>
Deadline: Various – see web site

BOSTON UNIVERSITY – TRUSTEE SCHOLARSHIPS
Full undergraduate tuition and fees, renewable
When applying for admission, complete 600-word or less, additional essay (available on the common application), GPA 96+.
<http://www.bu.edu/admissions/tuition-aid/scholarships-financial-aid/first-year-merit/trustee/>
Deadline: With admissions application

BOSTON UNIVERSITY – PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS
\$25,000 renewable
Apply for admission, submit SAT or ACT scores
<http://www.bu.edu/admissions/tuition-aid/scholarships-financial-aid/first-year-merit/presidential/>
Deadline: With admissions application

LAMBER-GOODNOW INJURY LAW TEAM EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS
\$1,000
Submit a 500- to 750-word essay on how you are driven to innovate, how you plan to influence progress on any level in any space or how you have already affected positive change with creative thinking. GPA 83+.
<https://lambertgoodnow.com/scholarships/>
Deadline: 12/01/20

Commack High School
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COLLEGE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

TRANSITIONING FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO COLLEGE FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

There are many differences between the K-12 Special Education system and Post-Secondary Disability Services. Because of these differences, students with disabilities may face different challenges when beginning college. Commack High School wants to help you to make a smooth transition! Learn about some of the differences between high school and college below:

High School

College

- Services Provided under IDEA or Section 504, with subpart D
- Services provided to ensure success of student
- Schools responsible for identifying and evaluating the student.
- The IEP is mandated and followed.
- Teacher ensures student uses modifications and accommodations.
- Assignments and Tests may be modified.
- Special education teachers inform other instructors of student needs.
- Parents involved in planning.
- High School is highly structured; 7 hrs a day.
- Attendance policy is flexible, especially for students with disabilities that affect their ability to attend school.
- Teachers and parents often know more than the student about the disability, arrange all services and often speak for the student.

- Services Provided under the Americans Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504, subpart E
- Services provided to ensure equal access. Success is the responsibility of the student.
- Students must self-identify and provide appropriate and current documentation.
- No IEP. Accommodation Memo provided.
- Student responsible for using accommodations.
- Students are expected to do the same assignments and tests as all students.
- Student responsible for informing accommodations.
- Students are responsible for planning.
- In college, you are responsible for structuring your own time. You may have class only 12-15 hours each week.
- Each instructor determines their own attendance policy, and may drop you from their class or give you a failing grade if you miss too many classes.
- Students should be able to know their disability, explain how it affects them, and know which accommodations they will need. Self-advocacy.

THE COLLEGE SEARCH PROCESS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Important Information:

- At the college level, education is no longer a right, but a matter of eligibility, as defined by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the American with Disabilities Act of 1990.
- In order to be accepted to a college or university, students must meet the entry level admissions requirements for that specific institution. Only in rare cases are special entrance requirements used for students with learning disabilities.
- Students do not have to identify themselves as a student with a learning disability to the office of admissions when applying to college. Students may wish to inform the admissions office, however, so that the school can provide them with information about the support services that they offer.

Types of Colleges:

- Four-year colleges with structured support programs
- Four-year colleges that provides coordinated services and/or accommodations
- Two-year colleges
- Specialized colleges/Trade schools

In addition to the typical factors that students consider in deciding on a college choice, it is recommended that students with disabilities research the support options that are available, as having academic supports or accommodations may assist them with reaching their goals and meeting with success.

What Needs To Happen During High School?

- 1-Set goals for potential future transition; employment, military options, post-secondary studies. Define interests.
- 2- Identify what colleges may be appropriate. Utilize Naviance to assist with career interest inventories, personality type questionnaires, and college searches.
- 3-Apply for services (if applicable) from ACCES-VR and/or OPWDD. Contact your child's case manager.
- 4-Apply to college! Provide the appropriate supporting documentation to the college/university. What documentation is required? Many schools will request a copy of the most recent IEP and updated psycho-educational testing to review accommodations/modifications that are given in high school. At your child's last annual review during senior year, you will be given an exit summary document which should also be forwarded to your child's college of choice. **These documents are all considered confidential and it is the responsibility of the family to submit this information to colleges your child is applying to.**

**** CHS will not submit these documents! ****