

Senior Year College Planning Calendar

September/October

- The Counselors will meet with all seniors during September. Please pay attention to the meeting slips you receive in homeroom - it's important that you come to these meetings to update your counselor on everything you did over the summer.
- Your senior grades matter to colleges - many will review your 1st quarter or 1st semester grades when making a decision. It's important to start the year strong and keep it up!
- Check Maia Learning on a regular basis for emails and updates.
- Take the ACT or SAT. Many colleges continue to be test optional for the Class of 2024. That does not mean test blind. There will be situations where it will be to your benefit to send your test scores.
- Before submitting your test scores, please discuss with your counselor which colleges should receive your SAT/ACT scores.
- Finalize your college essay and ask your counselor and English teacher to review. Allow them at least 2 weeks to complete the review.
- Don't leave college supplemental essays until the last minute! Some colleges will have multiple supplements - you need to give the supplements the same attention you give your essay.
- Attend the college representative visits at CBA through the fall. This is a good way to demonstrate interest to the school.
- Student Athletes should complete the NCAA Clearinghouse requirements by applying on-line at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net.
- Complete and submit applications for all Early Action/Early Decision schools. Check all deadlines. Remember: don't be on time, be early!
- If you intend to submit SAT and ACT scores to a college, know they must come directly from the College Board and/or American College Testing. See your counselor for exceptions to this rule. Please make sure you fully understand the Test Score Reporting policies.
- Review Financial Aid Deadlines for each college. Many colleges now allow parents to file the FAFSA and CSS Profile beginning in October based on the previous year's tax information. Remember: October 1 isn't the deadline: it's the day the form opens.
- In Maia Learning, check out the search engines for Scholarships (Sallie Mae, Fastweb, Going Merry).

November

- Continue to submit college applications and financial forms as necessary.
- Check college portals to ensure that your EA or ED applications are complete. If not, complete them ASAP.
- If colleges request 1st quarter grades, please see Mrs. Stahl in the Counseling Office and formally request that we send them in Maia Learning. Note that we automatically send Mid-Year Grades.

December

- Continue to study hard. Your mid-year grades are extremely important - colleges have the right to rescind an acceptance if your grades fall below the standards they set in accepting you.
- As you receive decisions - both the good and not so good - remember to tell your counselor. We won't know about your college decisions until you tell us!
- If you have been accepted Early Decision, have you mailed in your deposit? Have you notified the other colleges that you are withdrawing your application? Have you given your counselor a copy of your letter withdrawing your applications from other colleges as required?
- For everyone who has received at least one acceptance letter, celebrate the accomplishment over Christmas!

January

- Check the status of all regular decision applications to see that they are complete. If not, send the missing items ASAP.
- If you ultimately decide not to apply to a college you submitted a transcript request for, please tell your counselor so we can update all records.

February

- The Counseling Office automatically forwards mid-year grades to the colleges to which you have applied. If the college suggests that you come in for an interview, make sure you do. That interview could make the difference and tilt the scale in your favor.
- This may seem repetitive but it's important - continue to study hard. Colleges may ask to see 3rd quarter grades.

March/April/May

- Bring copies of **all** decisions and scholarship letters that you have received (merit, leadership, service, and/or athletic) to the Counseling Office.
- If you receive a request for third quarter grades, notify your counselor.
- Some colleges invite you to attend accepted student days or geographic alumni receptions. These are important to attend.
- If you have applied for financial aid on time and have not received an offer by April 15, please contact the Financial Aid office of that college ASAP.
- Meet with your counselor to discuss your acceptances - weigh the advantages and disadvantages of each school as you make the decision on where you'll enroll.
- May 1st is the deadline for most colleges to submit your deposit. You must submit your deposit to **one - and only one** - college by this date.
- Complete the Graduation Survey in Maia Learning so we can send your final transcript to the correct college.
- As a courtesy, notify the other colleges that you will not be attending. Thank them for your acceptance.
- Study for your AP exams and prepare accordingly.

June/July

- Send Advanced Placement scores to your college for evaluation for credit.
- Watch the mail for information for your freshman orientation. Pick the early sessions if given a choice. You may have a better chance to receive a class schedule that is more to your liking.