

The Nuts and Bolts of the College Admission Process

Senior Parent Night 2024



CHRISTIAN
BROTHERS
ACADEMY

Agenda

- Who We Are
- Admission Overview
- Applying to Colleges – Student and Counselor Responsibilities
- Financial Aid
- Tips
- Questions



Guidance Department Staff

- Mr. Patrick Brennan, Director: S-Y
 - Ms. Gina Morrello: M-R
 - Mr. Dave Frick: A-D
 - Mr. Kevin McCaig: E-L
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- Mrs. Bonnie Stahl – Administrative Assistant

Different Roles

Primary Role: *Student*

- Drives the process
- Takes ownership over their college admission process
- Communicates with parents and counselor

Supportive Role: *Parents*

- Sets realistic goals/expectations
- Discusses costs/financial aid
- Facilitates conversations

Guiding Role: *Counselor*

- Develops partnership with student and parents
- Actively listens and shares information / feedback
- Serves as a sounding board

Admission Options

- Early Decision (I or II): 1st choice college, extremely competitive, binding
- Early Action: Applying typically by Nov. 1st and will hear by Jan. 1st, non-binding.
 - Restrictive Early Action
- Regular Decision: hear by April 1st
- Rolling Admission: apps reviewed as they are received, quick turnaround time

Early Decision

vs.

Early Action

vs.

Regular Decision

Apps typically due around Nov.
Decisions sent out in Dec.

Apps due sometime in fall
Decisions sent out Dec. - Feb.

Apps due between Jan. 1 - Feb. 1
Decision dates vary

PROS

- An early acceptance letter means the stressful process is over sooner!
- Schools know your commitment, so your chances can be (slightly) increased.

CONS

- An acceptance is binding, and you must withdraw applications from other schools.
- Beware of senioritis: don't let your grades slip just because you got in early!

DO THIS IF...

You have one dream school

PROS

- You'll get an early decision, but it's not binding
- You don't need to withdraw your other applications if you're accepted

CONS

- You still have to prepare your other applications, just in case—the Regular Decision deadline falls right after decisions are mailed out.

DO THIS IF...

You love one particular school, but still want to keep your options open

PROS

- Later deadlines mean you have longer to perfect your applications
- You aren't committed to any school, so it's perfect if you want to keep your options open

CONS

- A large, general applicant pool means stiff competition
- You won't receive a decision until later, so you'll be on pins and needles for longer!

DO THIS IF...

You like a lot of schools, and want to weigh all of your options

How Many Applications?

General guideline: Students should apply to 6-8 Colleges

- 1 -2 = Reach/Dream
- 3-4 = Target
- 1-2 = Likely (Admissions & Financial)

Application Types



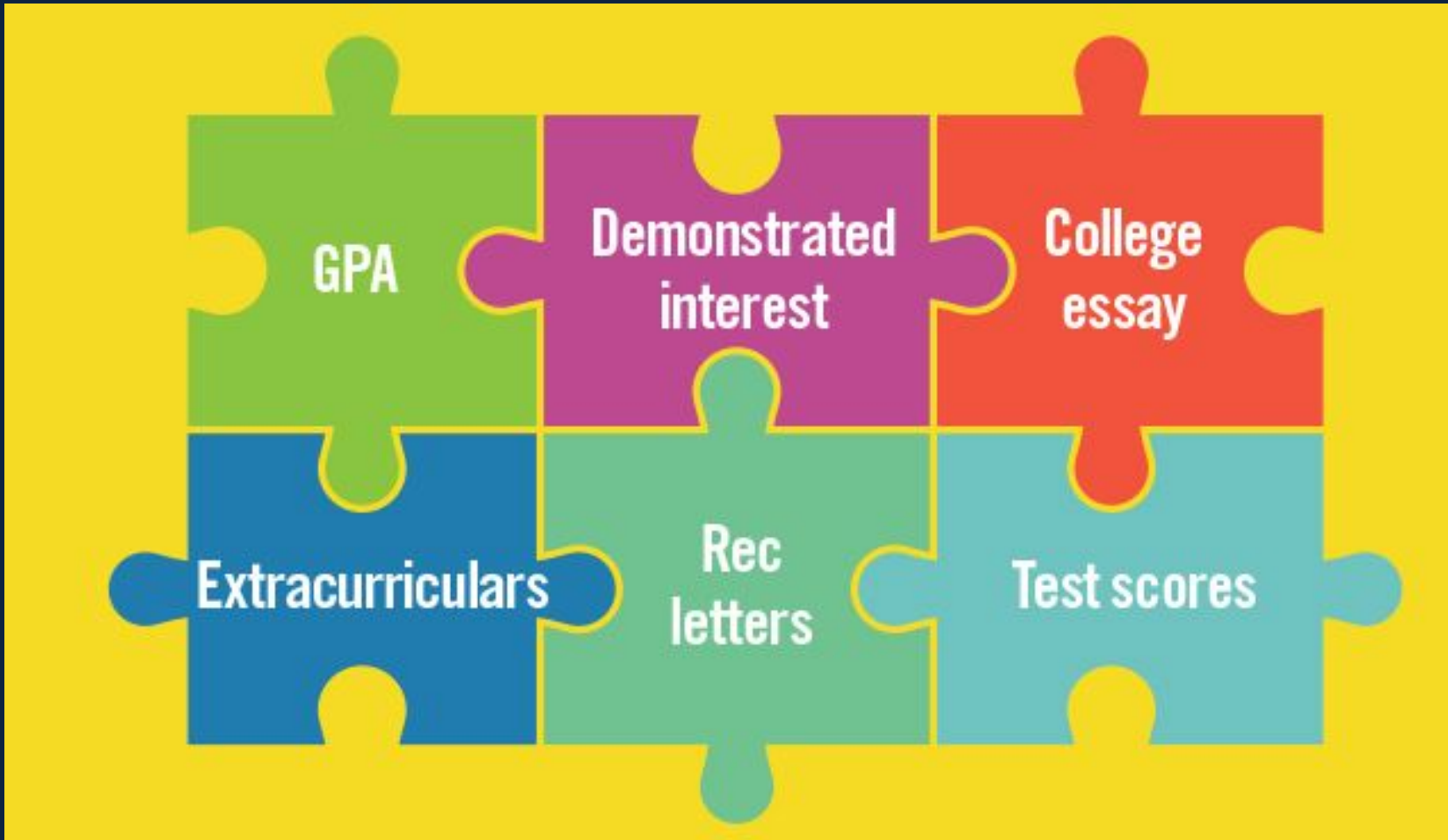
- Common Application

- www.commonapp.org
- Students have already created a common app account and completed certain sections during Junior College and Career Planning
- If a school uses Common App that is the preferred and easiest way to apply

- Other Applications

- Coalition
- School Specific Applications
 - Only used when absolutely necessary- ex: Georgetown or Military Academies

Admission Review Puzzle Pieces



Who writes the Letters of Recommendation?

Type 1: Counselor

- Required
- Purpose: Floodlight
 - Context- The Whole Person
 - Academic, Personal, Community

Type 2: Teacher

- 2 Required
 - Students Choice
 - Preferably Junior Year
 - Class of Interest and/or Class they WORKED for
- Purpose: Spotlight
 - In Class
 - How did you contribute to class? What would the class have been like without you?

Type 3: Other

- NOT Required
- Additional recs (coach, mentor, boss, etc.) are the EXCEPTION because schools may not accept and may not add something significant to the picture

Should I Submit My Test Scores?

Test Optional Policy

- Student has ability to determine best path
- 1800+ colleges have adopted this policy
- Application review vs. Merit Scholarship review
- May be in student's best interest to apply test optional

Submitting Test Scores

- Test Scores are NOT on your transcript
- Submit OFFICIALLY
- Self-report

The ACT logo is displayed in white on a dark blue rectangular background. It features the letters "ACT" in a bold, serif font, with a small registered trademark symbol (®) to the upper right. A thin red horizontal line is positioned beneath the letter "A".The CollegeBoard logo is shown in white on a dark blue rectangular background. It consists of a stylized acorn icon to the left of the word "CollegeBoard" in a sans-serif font.The SAT logo is displayed in white on a bright blue rectangular background. It features the letters "SAT" in a bold, sans-serif font, followed by a small registered trademark symbol (®).

Niche Processes

Athletic Recruitment

- Division I or II - must be cleared by NCAA clearinghouse
- Test scores
 - NOT required
 - If sending use clearinghouse code 9999
- Division III



Fine Arts

- Music, Art or Theater
- Audition - could be required
 - part of admission and scholarship review
- Portfolio - could be required
 - part of admission and scholarship review



Student vs. Counselor Responsibilities

• Student:

- Application
- Fee
- Essay – including optional essays
- Request for CBA documents
- Submit Test Scores (if applicable)
- SRAR
- Financial Aid
- Checking status on college's portal

• Counselor:

- Transcript
- Counselor Letter
- Teacher Letter(s)
- School Profile
- All documents will be submitted by application deadlines

****Seniors must request documents in Maia at least 2 weeks ahead of their 1st deadline****

Application Portal

Student can track their application checklist on each college's portal

Your checklist tells:

- Next steps
- What is received
- Missing pieces
- Admission Decision

Application Checklist

Your application is now complete and under review. You will receive an admission decision by late March.

Status	Details	Date
✓ Received	Application (Common Application or Coalition Application)	12/16/2018
✓ Received	Counselor Evaluation	12/18/2018
✓ Received	High School Transcript or GED	12/18/2018
✓ Received	SAT or ACT scores	12/16/2018
✓ Received	School Report Form	12/18/2018
✓ Received	Teacher Evaluation	12/18/2018
Optional	TOEFL or IELTS	

Upload Materials

Please feel free to submit additional information or materials using the available document types listed below.

Additional Applicant Info (self-upload) ▼

Choose File

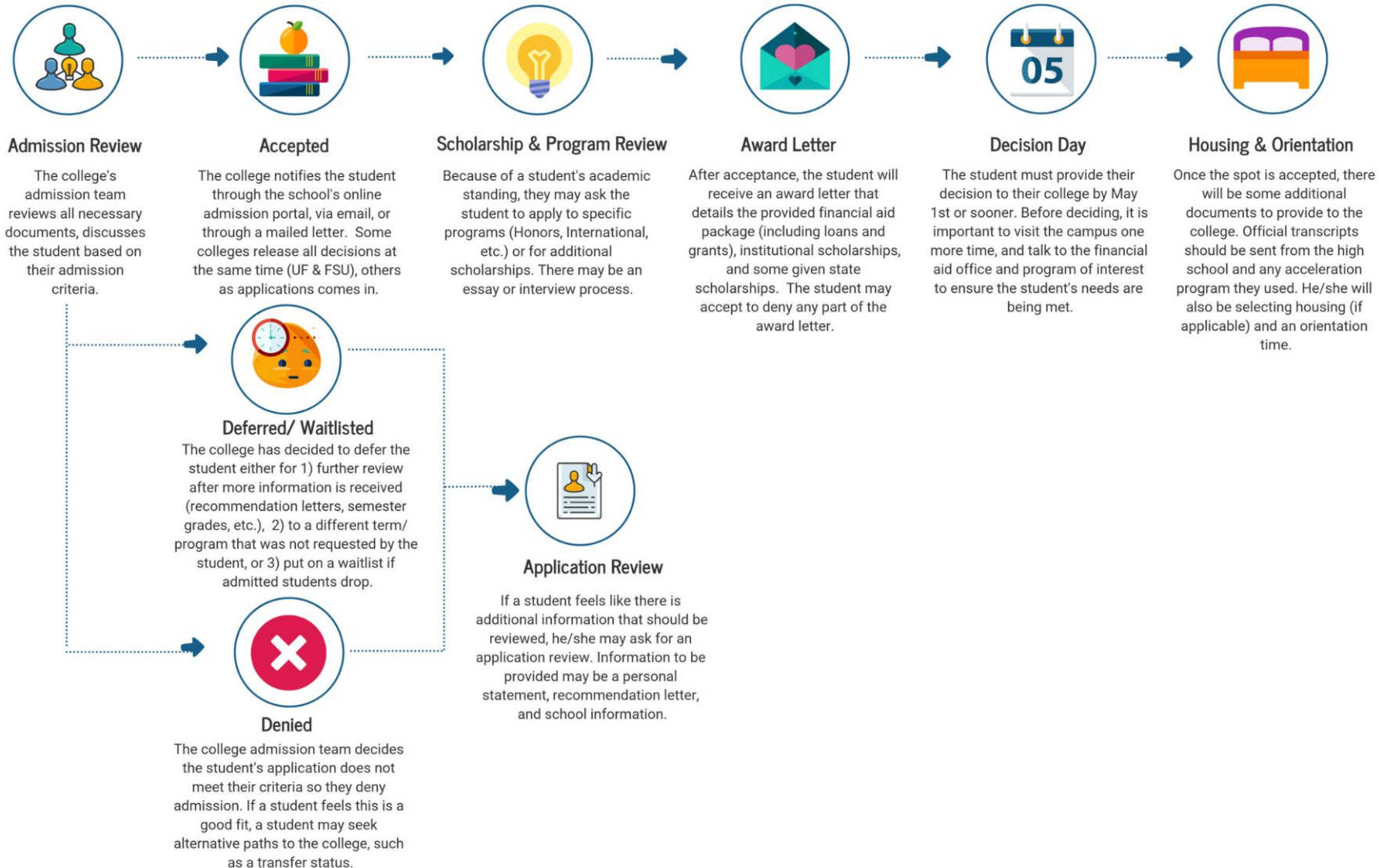
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UPLOAD

Student can submit application before counselor submits supporting documents. These do not have to occur at the same time!

Admission Outcomes

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS PROCESS

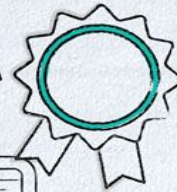
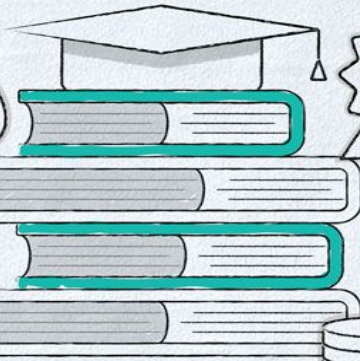


FINANCIAL AID

FUNDS TO HELP YOU AFFORD THE COST OF COLLEGE

TYPES

GRANTS
FREE MONEY!



SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDS FOR
ACHIEVEMENTS

LOANS
MUST PAY BACK



WORK-STUDY
HOLD A JOB
WHILE IN SCHOOL

HOW TO ACCESS

✓ **FAFSA**
MAIN FORM TO
FILL OUT

✓ **CSS PROFILE**
REQUIRED BY
SOME SCHOOLS

✓ **SEARCH ONLINE**
FIND YOUR OWN
SCHOLARSHIPS



MERIT BASED

QUALIFY WITH ACHIEVEMENTS:

● ACADEMICS ● ATHLETICS ● OTHER

| **VS.** |

NEED BASED

QUALIFY BASED ON YOUR
FAMILY'S FINANCIAL DETAILS



College Rep Visits

- Roughly 75-100 colleges will visit CBA in the fall
 - Parents can see the calendar of scheduled College Visits in their Maia Account
- Students sign up for visit on Maia 24 hours in advance
 - Seniors may sign up during free period, lunch, class with teacher permission (may not be excused from a test)

****Per the Student Handbook: Students are given 3 EXCUSED absences for in person College Visits****

Helpful Tips for Students and Parents

- Trust your kid!
- Be aware of DEADLINES!
- Read your email
- Proofread
- Be honest
- Set realistic expectations
- Be yourself
- Pursue happiness
- Know your strengths
- Trust the process
- Get excited about college and your future home
- Celebrate every acceptance

Our department is available to provide support and guidance to both your son and you throughout this process to hopefully reduce stress and anxiety. Please utilize us as a resource as you continue to navigate this process as a family. We are available and willing to help.

Upcoming Events

NJACAC College Fair at Monmouth U - October 15, 2023

Financial Aid Night- October 5, 2023

College Athletics Info Night- November 2, 2022

