

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 fall into place.

Step 1: Define

What are you looking for in a college?

Step 2: Research

Find schools that match your criteria.

Step 3: Prepare

Gather and organize information you need to complete applications.

Step 4: Apply

Submit applications online and complete your file.

Step 5: Decide

Compare admission and financial aid offers and decide where you will go.

JUNIOR YEAR TO-DO LIST

Adapted from NACAC Preparing for College: Junior Checklist
www.nacacnet.org

August/September/October

- Enroll in high school courses that strengthen your academic record.
- Keep track of your accomplishments, activities, and work experiences. This will be part of your college application.
- Take the PSAT in October.
- Begin to identify what you want in a college.

November/December/January

- Attend your Junior Class Meeting
- Attend Junior College Planning Night
- When you get your PSAT scores, use the access code found on your score report to sign in to College Board to review results and see projected SAT scores.
- Schedule a Junior Planning Conference so you, your parents, and counselor can discuss your specific goals.
- Meet with your counselor to plan your senior schedule. Enroll in the most challenging courses for which you are qualified.
- Register for the SAT and/or ACT.
- Attend NCAA Night if you are considering playing sports in college.

February/March/April

- 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 and Career Fair, regional college fairs, and college open houses to learn as much as you can about colleges.
- Schedule campus visits and open house programs.
- Take SAT, SAT Subject Tests (if applicable), and/or ACT.

May/June

- Attend Common Application Workshop and create a Common Application Account-Commonapp.org
- If you still need to do so, take SAT, SAT Subject Tests (if applicable), and/or the ACT
- Review college applications to see what information they require.
- Ask two teachers (no more) if they agree to write a recommendation for you and request them digitally via Naviance.
- Submit autobiography, parent feedback, and activity resume to your counselor by the end of the school year.

Summer

- Continue examining potential colleges.
- Start working on applications. Individual college applications are usually online by the beginning of August.
- Begin writing your essay(s).

SENIOR YEAR TO-DO LIST

Adapted from NACAC Preparing for College: Senior Checklist
www.nacacnet.org

August/September

- Create a Common Application Account if you have not already done so
- Complete the FERPA agreement
- Match your Naviance Student account to your Common App account
- 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 your Senior Class Meeting to review college application procedures.
- Attend Scholarship Information Evening
- Meet with college representatives who visit CHS during the fall, attend CHS College Day, and visit campuses.
- Create a checklist and calendar to chart application, Counseling Center, and financial aid deadlines.
- Check Naviance to see if your teacher recommendations are on file. Follow up with them if they are not.
- Check to see if any of your colleges require the CSS/Financial Aid Profile and register for it if they do.
- Attend Financial Aid & Scholarship Night

October/November

- Meet with your counselor to go over your progress and discuss any questions.
- Finalize your college essay and ask your counselor to review it.
- Check Counseling Center Scholarship Bulletins frequently to see if you are eligible for anything publicized and apply.
- Submit college applications
- Follow the Counseling Center's application processing policies and procedures; pay special attention to deadlines!
- Go to SAT and/or ACT websites and request official score reports to colleges
- Notify your counselor as you receive admissions decisions.
- Attend Financial Aid Night in October.
- File the FAFSA form. The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) will be available beginning October 1. The sooner you complete it; the sooner you will have an idea of your financial aid options. Your Student Aid Report (SAR) should arrive approximately four weeks after the FAFSA is filed.
- Attend Financial Aid Night in October.

December

- Attend NCAA Night if you are considering playing sports in college.
- Register for the January SAT (if needed). It is the last SAT colleges will be able to consider for a senior.

January

- See the CHS application processors to request mid-year transcripts for any college that requests them.

Feb/March/April

- No Senioritis! Colleges can, and do, revoke acceptances if your grades drop.
- Review your acceptances, compare financial aid packages, and visit your final choices.

May

- Send tuition deposit to the college you plan to attend by the postmark date of May 1 and notify other schools that you will not attend. Deposit to only one school!
- Complete your Senior Survey and indicate which college you will attend so the Counseling Center can send them your final transcript. Notify the Counseling Center if you change your mind after completing the survey to be sure the right college gets your transcript.

STEP 1: DEFINE

What are you looking for in a college?

Academics

- Majors
- Programs
- Level of Challenge
- Style of Instruction

Campus and Community

- Location
- Setting
- Size
- Facilities
- Campus Life

Selectivity

- Admitted Student Profile
- Acceptance Rates

Results

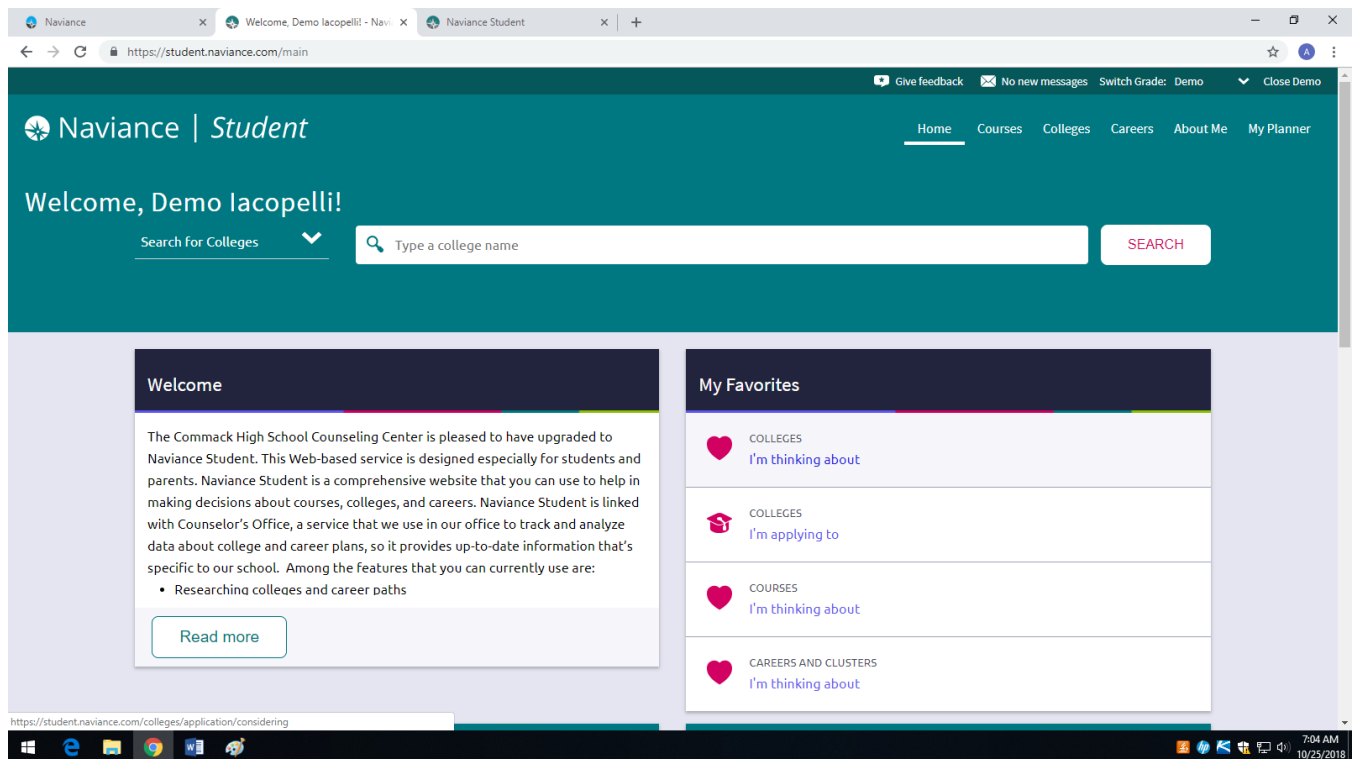
- Retention & Graduation Rates
- Career Advising
- Job and Graduate School Placement
- Net Cost

STEP 2: RESEARCH

INTERNET

Naviance Student

- Identify college preferences and career goals through surveys
- Complete a college search
- Develop a prospective college list
- Compare colleges
- Compare your qualifications to recent CHS application results
- View list of colleges visiting CHS
- Links to selected third party resources (College websites, Financial Aid, NCCA, etc.)
- To login go to: <https://student.naviance.com/commack>
 - Contact the Counseling Center for new account registration or help logging in to existing account.



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 – www.inlikeme.com
College Express – www.collegeexpress.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 – www.youiversity.com
Fairtest – www.fairtest.org

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

CHS COUNSELING CENTER

- College Information Sessions
 - Small group presentations by college admissions representatives scheduled through Naviance
- Junior Planning Conferences
 - Student, parents, and counselor meet to discuss future plans
- College Days
 - October and March
 - Approximately 50 colleges represented
- College and Career Fair
 - March evening program
 - Approximately 130 colleges and careers represented
- College Help Desk
 - Application assistance available in the Counseling Center
- College Planning Workshops for Juniors
 - Spring semester during school day
- College Application Summer Camp
 - Summer Sessions for Seniors (late August) that help students begin/work on their college applications with the assistance of a counselor.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS OFFICES

- Campus Visits, Information Sessions, and Open House Programs in person or virtually
- Website, Publications, Blogs and Social Media
- Interviews (if available)
- Regional Information Sessions and College Fairs
- Virtual Tours

OTHER

- College alumni
- Current college students
- Guidebooks

QUESTIONS TO ASK COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES

Students

- How would you characterize the majority of students?
- What do students like most about the college? Like least?
- Has the student government made any real contribution to the school? How do you get into student government?
- What issues concerned students last year? How did the administration react? What was the resolution?

Social Life and Campus Activities

- What do students do for fun?
- What is the role of fraternities and sororities on campus?
- What role do team sports play in the social life of the college?
- Is there a good balance of academics, social life, and extracurricular activities?
- What were the social or cultural highlights last year?
- What is the role of the campus newspaper?

Campus Facilities

Housing and Dining

- Is there something I should know about housing that would help me in my choice?
- What are the types of food plans? All you can eat? Vegetarian? Kosher?

Activity Centers and Athletic and Recreational Facilities

- What kinds of facilities does the student center have? How would you rate the fitness center?

Health, Career Counseling, Special Student Services, and Security

- Is there a doctor, nurse, psychologist, or career counselor on campus? What is the waiting period for appointments?
- How good is the security on campus? Do students feel safe on campus?

Library

- What have been students' experiences with the library? Is it well equipped?

The Community Off-Campus

- What is there to do in town? How would I get there?

Academics and Faculty

- What is distinctive about the education here?
- What is the most popular major on campus and why?
- Do you think that students are generally enthusiastic about their classes?
- How would you characterize the academic pressure and workload?
- Are there research possibilities with the faculty?
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of the advising system?
- What is the quality of student and faculty relationships?
- Are there any new programs next year? Are there any current programs that will not exist?

Source: College Counseling Sourcebook 2008, The College Board

CAMPUS VISIT CHECKLIST

Source: www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org

How to Make the Most of Your Trip

When planning your campus visits, make sure to allow time to explore each college. While you are there, talk to as many people as possible. These can include college admission staff, professors and students. Below are some other things you can do while visiting. Note that some activities, such as meeting with an admission officer or staying overnight in a dorm, might need to be set up in advance.

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.
- If available, schedule an interview with an admission officer.
- Pick up financial aid forms.
- Sit in on a class that interests you. If classes are not in session, just see what the classrooms are like.
- Meet a professor who teaches a subject that interests you.
- Talk to students about what they think of their classes and professors.
- Get the names of the people you meet and their business cards so you can contact them later if you have questions.

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 life on campus and the college.
- Check out the freshmen dorms and stay overnight with a student, if possible.
- Visit the dining hall, fitness center, library, career center, bookstore and other campus facilities.
- Talk to the coaches of sports that you may want to play.
- 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.
- Read the student newspaper.
- Read other student publications, such as department newsletters, alternative newspapers, and literary reviews.
- Scan bulletin boards to see what daily student life is like.
- Go to the career center and learn what services it offers.
- Browse the school's website and any campus blogs.

Questions to Ask Students

- What are the best reasons to go to this college?
- What do you do in your free time and on weekends?
- What do you love about this college?
- What do you wish you could change about this college?
- Why did you choose this college?
- What is it like to live here?

STEP 3: PREPARE

- Choose challenging senior year courses
- Take SAT and/or ACT and SAT Subject Tests (If required)
- 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 register online:

SAT and SAT Subject Tests

- <http://sat.collegeboard.org/register>
- 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

It is the student's responsibility to send official SAT and/or ACT Scores to colleges.

To report scores

SAT and SAT Subject Tests

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

ACT

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

TEST OPTIONAL SCHOOLS

- For a complete list of colleges and universities that do not require SAT or ACT scores go to: www.fairtest.org

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

Method Test Prep

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

SAT/ACT TEST AND REGISTRATION DATES

SAT and SAT Subject Tests

Spring 2021	Tests	Registration Deadline	Late Registration (Late Fee)
March 13	SAT Only	February 12	March 2
May 8	SAT & Subject Tests	April 8	April 27
June 5	SAT & Subject Tests	May 6	May 26
Tentative Fall 2021			
August 28	SAT & Subject Tests		
October 2	SAT & Subject Tests		
November 6	SAT & Subject Tests		
December 4	SAT & Subject Tests		

ACT

Spring 2021	Registration Deadline	Late Registration (Late Fee)
Feb 6	Jan 8	Jan 9-15
April 17	March 12	March 13-26
June 12	May 7	May 8-21
Tentative Fall 2021		
September 11		
October 23		
December 11		

Please note: Most colleges use the SAT and the ACT interchangeably. Others will take the ACT in place of the SAT and SAT Subject Tests. Students may consult with their counselors, current teachers, and the college admissions office to confirm appropriate testing. Scores for the SAT, SAT Subject Tests, and ACT are not listed on the high school transcript. Students must contact the appropriate testing agency directly (www.collegeboard.org for the SAT and SAT Subject Tests or www.act.org for the ACT) to have scores sent to colleges to which they will apply.

SAT SUBJECT TESTS

What are SAT Subject Tests?

One-hour college admissions test that give students the opportunity to demonstrate knowledge and achievement.

Do all colleges require the SAT Subject Tests?

No, only a fraction of the colleges in the United States requires SAT Subject Tests.

Which schools require SAT Subject Tests?

Most selective and highly selective colleges might require them.

How many SAT Subject Tests are required?

No school requires more than three tests. Often, only one or two are required.

It is the student's responsibility to be aware of their respective colleges testing requirements

What tests are available?

English

Literature

History

U.S. History

World History

Mathematics

Mathematics Level 1

Mathematics Level 2

Science

Biology E/M (Ecological/Molecular)

Chemistry

Physics

Languages

Reading Only

French, German, Italian, Latin, Modern Hebrew, Spanish

With Listening

Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Korean, Spanish

COMPARE THE SAT TO THE ACT

Features	SAT	ACT
Widely Accepted	Almost all U.S. colleges	Almost all U.S. colleges
Major redesign	SAT is based on the latest research on the skills colleges value most.	No recent significant revisions.
Tests the vocabulary you'll use	Yes	Yes
Everyday math formulas provided	Yes	No
Essay is optional	Yes	Yes
Penalty for guessing	No	No
Free daily practice questions	Yes, the free mobile app, Daily Practice for the SAT	Yes
Free comprehensive test practice	Yes, through Khan Academy®, with over 4,000 questions and video lessons.	No
Free, downloadable practice tests	Yes	No
Mobile app that instantly scores paper tests	Yes, Daily Practice for the SAT.	No
Testing Time	3 hours + 50-minute essay (optional)	2 hours 55 minutes + 40-minute essay (optional)
Structure	3 tests + optional essay	4 tests + optional writing test
Number of questions	154	215
Time per question	1 minute, 10 seconds	49 seconds
Score range	Composite 400–1600 (SAT Essay: reported in 3 dimensions, each 2–8)	Composite 1–36 (writing domain scores: 2–12)
Test length and timing	Reading Test 65 minutes, 52 questions Writing and Language Test 35 minutes, 44 questions Math Test 80 minutes, 58 questions	Reading Test 35 minutes, 40 questions English Test 45 minutes, 75 questions Math Test 60 minutes, 60 questions Science Test 35 minutes, 40 questions

SAT/ACT CONCORDANCE TABLE

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

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

*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. Has any summer activity, internship, job, and/or volunteer experience been of significance to you? Why?
8. Do you have any hobbies or specific interests? Do you have any musical talents?
9. 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?
10. What quote or motto best describes you or your philosophy of life?
11. Are there any special circumstances, background information, or other factors that may be relevant?
12. What do you choose to learn about outside of school on your own?
13. What will you contribute to the college you attend?

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. If you had to describe your child with five adjectives, what would they be?
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 over the past three to four years?
5. Are there any unusual 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. How does your child handle setbacks/disappointments academically, personally and socially?
9. 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?
10. In one sentence, summarize 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:			
Application Type			
(Check one) :	Early Decision	Early Action	Regular Decision
Requested Due Date for Teacher to submit to Counseling Center:			

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

- Meet with the teachers you are planning on asking and communicate why you think they should write you a letter. Complete this task at least four (4) weeks prior to the requested due date.
- Invite/request the two teachers digitally via Naviance.
- Compose your responses to the following prompts/questions.
- Thank your teacher!
- Provide your teacher with this Request Form or the form specific to the college to which you are applying.

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 or use another sheet of paper and answer each one 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 materials indicated above. Upon completion of your letter, please upload your letter and Teacher Evaluation in Naviance. Letters for upcoming year can be uploaded in August upon receipt of notification from the Counseling Center.

ACTIVITIES

Most college applications include a section for you 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 up to five (5) honor society memberships, honors or awards and 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: Vocal
Art	Environmental	Religious
Athletics: Club	Family Responsibilities	School Spirit
Athletics: JV/Varsity	Foreign Exchange	Science/Math
Career Oriented	Foreign Language	Student Government/Politics
Community Service (Volunteer)	Journalism/Publication	Theater/Drama
Computer/Technology	Junior R.O.T.C.	Work (Paid)
Cultural	LGBT	Other Club/Activity
Dance	Music: Instrumental	

Position/Leadership

Students may report and describe a leadership role within the activity. (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?

- The more competitive the school, the more important it is
 - Used to distinguish among equally qualified applicants
 - Could make a difference for borderline applicants who don't quite meet academic requirements
 - Will not 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, 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
- Poor grammar, usage, and spelling
- Using a generic essay that doesn't answer the question
- 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

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

Ncaa.org

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?

(www.ncaaeligibilitycenter.net)

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, 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.

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.

Can students have the registration fee waived?

Students who have received a waiver for the SAT or ACT are eligible for a waiver of the registration fee. The student's counselor must submit confirmation of the student's test fee waiver. Go to the NCAA Eligibility Center High School Portal for more information.

What records does the Eligibility Center require?

Students should arrange to have you send their high school transcript as soon as they have completed at least six semesters of high school. The transcript must be mailed directly from their high school. They must also arrange to have their SAT or ACT test scores reported directly by the testing company to the Eligibility Center. Students can arrange this when they register for the tests.

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 has until May 1 to commit/decide. Deadlines are typically November 1 or 15, but varies by school.

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

Rolling Decisions: First come, first served. Applications are processed as they “roll” in and decision is quickly “rolled” back to student.

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 account
- Submit applications online
- Submit College Application Processing Request via triplicate form or Google Form found on the Counseling Center website
 - Respect 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 Deadlines is: Requests Due to Counseling Center by

November 1	October 1
November 15	October 15
December 1	November 1
January 1	November 15
After January 1	15 School Days in Advance

- Processing Requests accepted Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. No requests accepted on Thursdays.
- Processing forms and Google Forms will not be accepted 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
- Essay (in application)
- Input Resume information into application
- Send SAT/ACT scores
- Application Fee
- Maintain strong academics Senior year! Colleges often request Senior Year Grades/Midyear Report

Counselor

- Official Transcript
- Letter of Recommendation
- School Reports
- Sends counselor and teacher letter of recommendation
- *Counselor is not able to send SAT/ACT scores

** In mid-July, the Counseling Centers sends a final transcript to the college the student indicated they would attend when they completed their Senior Survey. If their plans change after completing the survey, they must notify the Counseling Center. **

THE COMMON APPLICATION

- www.commonapp.org
- Standardized first-year application form for use at any member institution
- Over 500 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, SAT Subject Tests

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

- **Utilize Common App Essay Prompts**

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 get a copy of your **unofficial transcript from the Counseling Center to report your final grades from grades 8-11.****

MATCHING COMMON APP TO NAVIANCE

- Create Common App account
- Add at least one college to Common App My Colleges
- Go to My Colleges and Complete FERPA
- Log on to Naviance Student account
- Go to Colleges tab
- Click Colleges I am Applying to
- Enter e-mail address used to create Common App account and verify date of birth.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with three tabs: 'View Student Summary', 'Colleges I'm applying to - Naviance Student', and 'Naviance Student'. The address bar shows the URL 'https://student.naviance.com/colleges/common-app/match'. The page content includes a 'Close' button, a 'Common App Account Matching' title, and a yellow warning box: 'Note: Once you match account, your FERPA status can no longer be changed and you cannot unmatch your account.' Below this is an introductory paragraph: 'We're excited that you are ready to apply to colleges. Some colleges allow you to apply with Common App. You can match your Common App and Naviance Student account to track your applications in one place! In just a few short steps, we'll have your accounts matched.' The page is divided into two columns. The left column is titled 'Get Started with Common App' and contains two bullet points: 'Create a Common App account on [Common App Online](#)' and 'Sign the Common App (CA) FERPA Waiver on [Common App Online](#)'. Below this is the 'Match Your Accounts' section, which asks the user to provide their 'Common App Email Address' and 'Date of Birth' in text input fields. A 'Match Accounts' button is located below the input fields. The right column is titled 'TIPS' and contains three bullet points: 'Mark sure you use the **email address** that you chose for your Common App account', 'Make sure that **last name** on your Naviance Student account matches the last name you used to create your Common App account.', and 'Make sure the **date of birth** on your Naviance Student account matches the date of birth on your Common App account.' At the bottom right of the page, there is a link that says 'I don't need this'. The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the time as 8:00 AM on 10/25/2018.

APPLYING TO SUNY/THE COALITION APPLICATION

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 - 2020

For more information call our toll-free number at 800-342-3811 or visit us on the web at www.suny.edu/attend

Campus Name (by campus type)	Undergraduate Enrollment	SAT Scores** (combined) <i>Scores reflect middle 50%</i>	ACT Scores (composite)	H.S. GPA	Early Decision (ED)		EOP Program	English Language		Teaching Certificate	Time		ROTC
					or Early Action (EA)	Early Admission		Joint Admissions	Options		Honors Program	Shortened Degree	
University Centers and Doctoral Degree Granting Institutions													
Albany	13,286	1130-1300	23-29	89-95	EA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Grad level	Yes	No	A*, AF*
Binghamton	14,168	1300-1450	29-33	93-98	EA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Grad level	Yes	No	A*, AF*
University at Buffalo***+	21,925	1150-1330	24-30	90-96	EA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Grad level	Yes	No	A*, AF*
Stony Brook***+	17,909	1250-1340	27-33	91-97	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	A*
SUNY Polytechnic Institute	2,216	1130-1300	26-32	87-94	EA	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	A*, AF*
NYS Ceramics at Alfred University+	496	1000-1160	20-27	80-92	ED	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes*	Yes	No	A*
College of Optometry	Graduate and Professional Degrees Only				No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Cornell University:													
Agriculture & Life Sciences	3,762	1370-1530	31-35	--	ED	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	A, AF, M, N
Human Ecology	1,146	1445-1540	33-35	--	ED	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	A, AF, M, N
Veterinary Medicine	Graduate Level Only				No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Industrial & Labor Relations	970	1390-1520	31-34	--	ED	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	A, AF, M, N
Environmental Science & Forestry+	1,812	1120-1310	23-28	90-96	ED	Yes	Yes	Yes*	No	No	Yes	No	A*, AF*
Downstate Medical Center (Brooklyn)	182	--	--	--	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Upstate Medical University (Syracuse)+	238	--	--	--	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
University Colleges													
Brockport+	6,673	1080-1200	21-26	88-93	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	A, AF*, N*
Buffalo State	7,647	920-1130	18-28	81-90	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	A*
Cortland+	6,295	1100-1230	24-26	86-92	EA	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	A*, AF*
Fredonia	4,221	1030-1220	21-26	86-95	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Geneseo	5,274	1170-1320	25-30	90-95	ED	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	A*, AF*
New Paltz	6,807	1130-1280	24-29	90-95	EA	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	A*
Old Westbury	4,809	1000-1130	19-23	81-90	EA	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	A*, AF*
Oneonta	6,064	1070-1220	22-27	87-93	EA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Oswego	6,920	1050-1240	21-27	86-93	EA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	A*, AF*
Plattsburgh	4,871	1020-1170	21-26	84-92	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Potsdam	3,063	--	--	87-92	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	A*, AF*
Purchase+	4,050	--	--	87-90	EA	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Empire State College	9,095	--	--	--	No	No	No	No	Yes	Grad level	No	Yes	Yes
Colleges of Technology													
Alfred State	3,780	940-1150	19-25	80-89	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	A*
Baccalaureate only	1,797	990-1220	21-27	83-92									
Canton	3,220	920-1130	17-23	80-89	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	A*, AF*
Baccalaureate only	2,226	970-1150	18-23	82-91									
Cobleskill+	2,268	870-1060	18-22	83-93	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	A*
Baccalaureate only	1,409	930-1070	21-25	85-91									
Delhi+	2,875	920-1100	19-23	78-88	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Baccalaureate only	1,537	970-1130	19-25	81-89									
Farmingdale State+	9,939	990-1150	19-24	87-93	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	A*, AF*
Maritime College+	1,522	1170-1220	22-26	86-92	ED	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	A*, AF*, CG*, M, N
Morrisville State	2,781	850-1060	18-23	79-87	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	A*, AF*
Baccalaureate only	843	860-1050	17-22	81-87									

Abbreviations: A = Army, AF = Air Force, CG = Coast Guard, M = Marines, N = Navy

* Cross-registration (offered at neighboring institutions)

** The SAT ranges above represent combined evidence-based reading and writing and math scores. (The maximum possible total is 1600.)

*** Enrollment includes Health Science Centers.

+ Academic profile contains 2019 Data.



Community College Admissions Information Summary – 2020

For more information call our toll-free number at 800-342-3811 or visit us on the web at www.suny.edu/attend

Campus Name	Enrollment Fall 2019 (full- time)	Enrollment Fall 2019 (part- time)	Honors Program	Phi Theta Kappa	ASC Participating Campus	Student Only Housing	EOP	Study Abroad	English Language Options	ROTC	Telephone Number	Web Address
Adirondack	1,905	1,515	No	Yes	Yes	On Campus**	Yes	Yes	No	No	518.743.2264	www.sunyacc.edu
Broome	3,448	2,661	Yes	No	Yes	On Campus	Yes	No	Yes	No	607.778.5001	www.sunybroome.edu
Cayuga	1,368	2,301	Yes	Yes	Yes	Off Campus**	No	Yes	No	No	866.598.8883	www.cayuga-cc.edu
Clinton	529	770	Yes	Yes	Yes	Off Campus**	No	No	Yes	No	518.562.4170	www.clinton.edu
Columbia-Greene	529	918	Yes	Yes	Yes		No	No	No	No	518.828.4181	www.sunycgcc.edu
Corning	1,601	2,637	Yes	Yes	Yes	On Campus**	No	Yes	No	No	607.962.9151	www.corning-cc.edu
Dutchess	3,514	5,177	Yes	Yes	Yes	On Campus	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes*	845.431.8010	www.sunydutchess.edu
Erie	6,252	3,779	Yes	No	Yes		Yes	No	Yes	Yes*	716.851.1ECC	www.ecc.edu
FIT	7,340	1,168	Yes	Yes	Yes	On Campus**	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	212.217.3760	www.fitnyc.edu
Finger Lakes	2,243	3,406	Yes	Yes	Yes	On Campus**	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes*	585.785.1000	www.flcc.edu
Fulton-Montgomery	995	1,291	No	Yes	Yes	On Campus	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	518.736.FMCC	www.fmcc.edu
Genesee	1,918	3,367	Yes	Yes	Yes	On Campus**	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes*	585.345.6800	www.genesee.edu
Herkimer	1,268	1,128	Yes	Yes	Yes	On Campus**	No	No	Yes	Yes*	315.574.4028	www.herkimer.edu
Hudson Valley	5,401	5,015	No	Yes	Yes	Off Campus**	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes*	518.629.7309	www.hvcc.edu
Jamestown	1,973	2,477	Yes	Yes	Yes	On Campus	No	Yes	Yes	Yes*	716.338.1001	www.sunyjcc.edu
Jefferson	1,573	1,411	Yes	Yes	Yes	On Campus	Yes	No	No	No	315.786.2437	www.sunyjefferson.edu
Mohawk Valley	2,968	3,039	Yes	Yes	Yes	On Campus**	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes*	315.792.5354	www.mvcc.edu
Monroe	6,927	4,645	Yes	Yes	Yes	On Campus	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes*	585.292.2200	www.monroecc.edu
Nassau	9,486	7,164	Yes	Yes	No		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes*	516.572.7345	www.ncc.edu
Niagara	2,704	2,220	Yes	Yes	Yes	On Campus	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes*	716.614.6200	www.niagaracc.suny.edu
North Country	751	1,142	No	Yes	Yes	On Campus**	No	No	Yes	Yes*	888.TRY.NCCC	www.nccc.edu
Onondaga	4,236	5,213	Yes	Yes	Yes	On Campus**	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes*	315.498.2221	www.sunyocc.edu
Orange	2,680	3,692	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	No	Yes	No	845.341.4030	www.sunyorange.edu
Rockland	3,325	3,207	Yes	Yes	No	Off Campus*	No	Yes	Yes	No	845.574.4224	www.sunyrockland.edu
Schenectady	1,555	3,177	No	Yes	Yes	Off Campus**	Yes	Yes	No	No	518.381.1366	www.sunysccc.edu
Suffolk	12,399	12,831	Yes	Yes	No		Yes	Yes	Yes	No	631.451.4000	www.sunysuffolk.edu
Sullivan	779	849	Yes	Yes	Yes	On Campus**	No	No	No	No	800.577.5243	www.sunysullivan.edu
Tompkins Cortland	1,460	743	Yes	Yes	Yes	On Campus**	No	Yes	Yes	No	607.844.6580	www.tompkinscortland.edu
Ulster	1,424	2,126	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	No	Yes	No	845.687.5022	www.sunyulster.edu
Westchester	5,685	5,436	Yes	Yes	No		Yes	Yes	Yes	No	914.606.6735	www.sunywcc.edu

* With neighboring institutions

** Run by Campus Foundations, Dormitory Corporations or Privately Owned

SUNY CAMPUS LOCATIONS





APPLYING TO CUNY

CUNY Admission Profile: Freshman Fall 2020

FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES	General Admission High School Average ¹	SEEK/College Discovery High School Average ²
Baruch College	90.8	87.3
Brooklyn College	89.0	81.8
The City College of New York	89.8	85.3
The Sophie Davis Biomedical Education Program/CUNY School of Medicine	95.0	—
College of Staten Island	88.4	77.2
Hunter College	90.9	90.5
John Jay College of Criminal Justice	88.3	82.6
Lehman College	88.4	83.0
Macaulay Honors College	94.7	—
Medgar Evers College ⁴	79.3	79.0
New York City College of Technology ⁴	81.7	76.4
Queens College	89.2	85.6
York College	85.9	79.0
COMMUNITY COLLEGES		
Borough of Manhattan Community College	78.5	73.0
Bronx Community College	77.5	73.1
Guttman Community College ³	77.0	—
Hostos Community College	76.8	72.9
Kingsborough Community College	77.9	72.5
LaGuardia Community College	77.7	73.1
Queensborough Community College	78.2	73.2

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 Post
720 Northern Blvd.
Brookville, NY

Molloy College
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 College
155 West Roe Blvd.
Patchogue, NY

SUNY Stony Brook
100 Nichols Rd.
Stony Brook, NY

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

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

Suffolk 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

CHS COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESSING REQUEST

Sample Triplicate Form to be submitted OR complete the [Application Processing Request Google Form](#)

COMMACK HIGH SCHOOL APPLICATION PROCESSING REQUEST

Name (Last, First)	Counselor
E-mail Address Used on Common App	

TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS

List no more than two (2) teacher recommenders in priority order. Colleges limit the number of recommendations they accept.

1. Name
2. Name

PROCESSING DEADLINES, POLICIES, & PROCEDURES

We process requests chronologically by the date received and cannot guarantee late requests will meet college deadlines. If school is closed on the processing deadline, the request is due the next school day. **NO REQUESTS WILL BE ACCEPTED THE DAY BEFORE THANKSGIVING RECESS, WINTER RECESS, MID-WINTER RECESS OR SPRING RECESS.**

COLLEGE APPLICATION DEADLINE IS:	REQUESTS DUE TO COUNSELING CENTER BY:
November 1	October 1
November 15	October 15
December 1	November 1
December 15 - January 1	November 15
After January 1	15 School Days in Advance

STUDENT CHECKLIST

- Autobiography, parent feedback, and activity resume submitted to Counseling Center
- Common App Account set up and FERPA Agreement completed; Naviance account matched to Common App
- Confirm with teachers that Letters of Recommendation will be submitted to Naviance by earliest deadline date.
- Student is responsible for reporting SAT and/or ACT scores to colleges.
For SAT, go to <http://sat.collegeboard.org/scores>. For ACT, go to <http://www.actstudent.org/scores/send/>
- Student is responsible for sending any supplemental information required or accepted by the college (Ex. Portfolio, audition tapes, outside recommendations, activity resume)

PLEASE SEND OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT, SCHOOL REPORT, COUNSELOR & TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING COLLEGES AND/OR NCAA CLEARINGHOUSE.

*App Type: ED = Early Decision; EA = Early Action; PRI = Priority; REG = Regular; ROLL = Rolling

College	City/State	Common App Y/N	App Type *see above	College Deadline Date

I understand the deadlines, policies and procedures listed above. I authorize every school that I have attended to release all requested records and recommendations to the colleges I am applying to, or the NCAA Clearinghouse. I also authorize employees at these colleges to confidentially contact my current and former schools should they have questions about the information submitted on my behalf.

Student Signature:	Parent Signature:
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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. Its 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 school to find out which programs your school participates in. Information about the federal student aid programs is on page 2 of this document.

WHO gets federal student aid?

Our 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,
- register (if you haven't already) with Selective Service, if you're a male between the ages of 18 and 25,
- maintain satisfactory academic progress in college or career school, and
- 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) Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSASM) at www.fafsa.gov. If you need a paper FAFSA, you can get one from
 - a) our website at www.fafsa.gov, where you can download a PDF, or
 - b) our ED Pubs distribution center at www.edpubs.gov
 - c) or toll-free at 1-877-433-7827.
- 2) Review your Student Aid Report (SAR). After you apply, you'll receive a Student Aid Report, or SAR. Your SAR contains the information reported on your FAFSA and usually includes your Expected Family Contribution (EFC). The EFC is an index number used to determine your eligibility for federal student aid. Review your SAR information and make any corrections or changes, if necessary. The school(s) you list on your FAFSA will get your SAR data electronically.
- 3) 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. If you're eligible, each school's financial aid office will send you an award letter showing the amount and types of aid (from all sources) the school will offer you. You can compare award letters from the schools to which you applied and see what aid you can receive from each school.

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	2012–13: up to \$5,550 (2013–14 amount not determined as of this document's publication date); Total amount may not exceed the equivalent of six years of Pell Grant funding
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	\$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	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 education	Maximum is same as Pell Grant maximum; payment adjusted for less- than-full-time study; Total amount may not exceed the equivalent of six years of Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant funding
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 amount may not exceed \$27,500 for undergraduates and \$60,000 for graduate students (including amounts borrowed as an undergraduate)
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; 6.8% rate	\$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; 7.9% rate	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 information in a public library or 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
- 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, 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 web page <http://www.commack.k12.ny.us/Scholarships.aspx>
- Distributed in senior English classes
- Available in the Counseling Center
- Available through E-Mail Notification

Information Programs

- Scholarship Information/Financial Aid Evening (September)

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 STEP 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://lambergoodnow.com/scholarships/>
Deadline: 12/01/20

Commack High School
November 9, 2020

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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 the Post-Secondary Disability Services program. 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! Check out some of the differences between high school and college below.

High School

College

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 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. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Services Provided under the Americans Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504, subpart E▪ Services provided to ensure equal access. Success is 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. |
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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/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.

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! ****

Standardized Testing for Students with Disabilities

Both the SAT and the ACT have a process through which students can request the use of testing accommodations.

“The presence of an IEP, 504 PLAN, other formal written educational plan, or professional evaluation does not guarantee that a student is eligible for testing accommodations.” -College Board

SAT: Some students with documented disabilities are eligible for accommodations on College Board exams. Students cannot take the SAT, SAT Subject Tests, PSAT/NMSQT, or AP Exams with accommodations unless their request for accommodations has been approved by Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). No one qualifies automatically.

Students and families work with their special education case manager to apply for SAT-College Board testing accommodations. If approved, a testing accommodation authorization code will be mailed home. This code must be inputted when registering to take the SAT and any other College Board exam. If the request for accommodations is denied, you may opt to speak with your child’s case manager to file an appeal.

SAT-College Board

www.collegeboard.com

Use this site to sign up for SAT testing and access SAT preparation materials/information about the college search and financial aid process. If your child is approved for testing accommodations through college board, please utilize their authorization code when registering for the SAT. Questions about SAT accommodations? Contact your child’s special education case manager.

ACT: If you currently receive accommodations in school due to a professionally diagnosed and documented disability, students may submit documentation to support a request for testing accommodations on the ACT.

Students and families work with their school counselor to apply for ACT testing accommodations. Different than the SAT, ACT accommodations are not pre-approved and will most often need to be applied for every time a student registers for the exam. Parent/guardians should complete the attached document granting consent for release of information to ACT.

<https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/TAA-Consent-to-Release-Information-to-ACT.pdf>

ACT

www.actstudent.org

Use this site to sign up for the ACT exam. If your child would like to apply for ACT testing accommodations, return the release form and forward the ACT Admission ticket to your counselor so that they can complete and submit an accommodation application. Accommodations are not guaranteed.

Questions? Contact your child’s school counselor.

Reference: Collegeboard.com and actstudent.org