



# College Application Process

## CLASS OF 2022

September 21, 2021

# AGENDA

- Post Secondary Planning and Senior Year Reminders
- College Process and Procedures
- Student Responsibilities
- Common App and Naviance
- Letters of Recommendation
- SAT/ACT
- Financial Aid/Scholarships
- Q&A



# POST SECONDARY PLANNING

- **Timeline, Process and Pathways will Differ**

*This evening is an overview and a kickoff – The next steps will be specific and individual*

- **Organizing Activities:** *Defined steps can ensure timely completion and help to reduce stress*

- **Counselors Guide, Advise and Support**  
*Each step of the way*



A photograph of several graduates in dark blue gowns and mortarboards, captured in the middle of throwing their caps into the air against a clear blue sky. The caps are scattered at various heights and angles, creating a sense of motion and celebration.

## SENIOR YEAR REMINDERS

- **Senior Courses and Grades**
  - Courses included on transcript
  - Many colleges request 1<sup>st</sup> quarter grades
  - Mid-year grades sent to all
  - Final transcript sent to college attending



# THE COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS



## Preparing Materials

- Applications
- Essay(s)
- Scores

## Requesting Materials

- Transcript
- Letter(s) of Recommendation

## Submitting Materials

- Final Completed Application
- Scores (if needed/choose to send)
- Other: NCAA Eligibility Center, Portfolios, Auditions
- Financial Aid Applications



# COMPONENTS OF THE APPLICATION

- HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT
- Essay(s)
- Activities Resume
- Recommendation Letters
  
- SAT/ACT Scores
  - Many test-optional, flexible or blind
- Demonstrated Interest
  - Some consider for admission; other may factor in deferral/waitlist process



# *What are colleges reviewing?*

## HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPTS

- Level of rigor in courses taken
- Consistency in grades earned
- Academic growth over high school years
- Senior year course selections
- Three-year cumulative Grade Point Average
- Mid-year senior grades



# WHAT STUDENTS SHOULD BE DOING

## CHECKLIST FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

- **TRANSCRIPT:** Verify accuracy. Sign and submit Authorization of Release of Records Form
- **LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION**
- **ESSAY(S)**
- **COLLEGE LIST:**
  - Target, Reach and Likely?
  - Timeline for Applications: Deadlines, Process (ED, EA, RD, Rolling)
  - Requirements: Supplemental Essays, Testing, Other



# AVAILABLE RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

## ➤ COLLEGE VISITS

- Currently 92 college representatives scheduled to visit CHS HS (onsite or virtual)
- List is on Counseling Center webpage and in Naviance
- Students sign up in Naviance
- [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1zuguS04Kasxeu3NIxYo-fNKSYgJI\\_yJo/edit#gid=659942925](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1zuguS04Kasxeu3NIxYo-fNKSYgJI_yJo/edit#gid=659942925)



## ➤ ESSAY WRITING

### College Essay Writing Informational Seminars and One-to-one Essay Assistance:

Ms. Henry and Mr. Miller will be conducting informational seminars that include tips for planning and writing your college admissions essays and supplements. ***IF YOU DIDN'T ATTEND A SEMINAR THIS PAST SPRING, please attend one of the following if you would like to meet for an individual conference. If you already attended a seminar, you DO NOT need to attend another one.*** You may attend any seminar.

1. Friday, September 17th @ 10:46 a.m (period 5) in H-16
2. Monday, September 20th @ 11:30 a.m. (period 6) in H-16
3. Wednesday, September 22nd @ 2:30 p.m. in H-18
4. Friday, September 24th @ 2:30 p.m. in H-18

# WAYS TO APPLY



- **Common Application:** over 900 participating schools

[www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)

- **Coalition Application**

[www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org](http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org)

- **School Website**

- **SUNY Application**

[www.suny.edu](http://www.suny.edu)

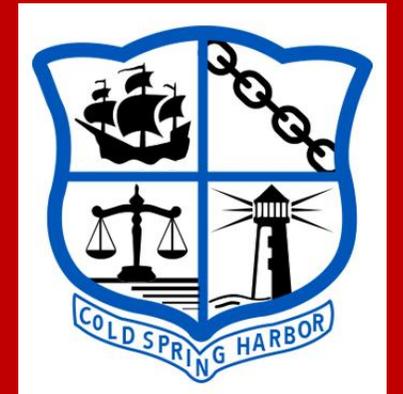
- **CUNY Application**

[www.cuny.edu](http://www.cuny.edu)

# WHAT STUDENTS SHOULD BE DOING WHEN READY TO APPLY

## ➤ NAVIANCE

- Match your Common App and Naviance Accounts
  - *Counselors conducting classroom presentations week of 9/27*
- *Colleges I'm Thinking About*
- *Colleges I'm Applying To*
- Request teacher recommendation letters
- Request transcripts to be sent to colleges



# MATCH COMMON APP AND NAVIANCE

## FERPA Release Authorization Process

**MUST** be completed for teacher & counselor letters to be submitted:

Sign in to Common App

- ▶ Complete *Family and School Profile* Section
- ▶ Complete *Education* section
- ▶ Click *College Search*
- ▶ Add at least 1 College
- ▶ Complete FERPA Release Authorization (student must electronically sign name)
- ▶ Match Common App to Naviance



[Naviance Instructions](#)



# COLLEGE ESSAY

- An opportunity to share your voice and what is important to you
- Try to *show*, not *tell*
- TIPS: Be specific
  - Focus on the positive
  - Think about what you want the reader to know/feel
  - Seek out assistance, but not too much
  - Plan ahead
  - Watch for supplemental essays/questions



# COLLEGE ESSAY

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# COLLEGE ESSAY: Common Application



1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

# COLLEGE ESSAY: Coalition Application

1. Tell a story from your life, describing an experience that either demonstrates your character or helped to shape it.
2. Describe a time when you made a meaningful contribution to others in which the greater good was your focus. Discuss the challenges and rewards of making your contribution.
3. Has there been a time when you've had a long-cherished or accepted belief challenged? How did you respond? How did the challenge affect your beliefs?
4. What is the hardest part of being a student now? What's the best part? What advice would you give a younger sibling or friend (assuming they would listen to you)?
5. Submit an essay on a topic of your choice.



# ACTIVITIES

- Extracurricular Activities: In school and outside of school
- Community Service
- Athletics/Musical Talents, etc...
- Awards and Recognitions
- Work/Summer Experiences
- Educational Programs
- Leadership
- *List them on the application in order importance to you*



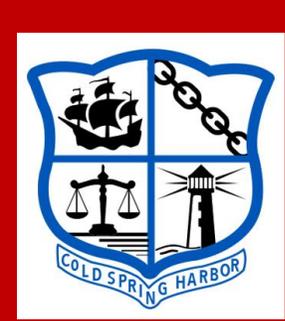


# RECOMMENDATION LETTERS

**School Counselor:** Letter written highlights overall high school career. Students and parents are encouraged to share any personal information deemed significant to their lives and its impact on high school career.

**Teacher(s):** Letter written highlights the student during the duration of the course.

- Students are encouraged to sign all waiver forms waiving access to recommendation letters. College admissions representatives deem these letters more credible in the admissions process.



# STANDARDIZED TESTING

- Many colleges are Test Optional for the Class of 2022
- View [fairtest.org](http://fairtest.org) for participating colleges.
- Most colleges, not all, pull highest SAT subcomponent score from different test dates – “superscore.”
- Many colleges superscore and others use single ACT test date for admission.
- Score Choice is available for both SAT and ACT.

# STANDARDIZED TESTING (Continued)

- Cold Spring Harbor does not report any standardized test scores.
- SAT and ACT scores are sent to colleges by the student.
- To register/send scores use the following websites:

[www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)



# THE RIGHT COLLEGES: How Do I Know?

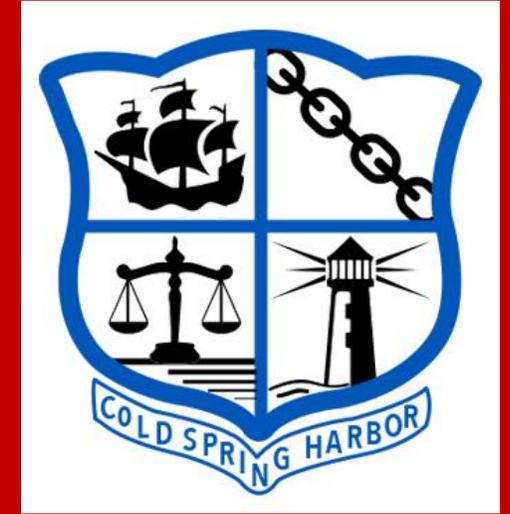
- Review College Acceptance Rates:
  - Utilize Naviance, College Board Search, College Scorecard, etc...
- Programs of Interest, Geography, Setting, Size, Athletics, Community
- Special Programs
  - Majors with stricter admission/combined programs (Business, Medical, etc....)
- Recommendation: 6-10 schools with majority in TARGET range (These are schools that students will be happy to attend if accepted)



# MATERIALS TO SUBMIT

## Student:

- **Submit Application to the College:**  
Essay(s), Activities and Payment
- **Naviance Transcript Request**
- **Test Scores**
  - [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
  - [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)



## Counselor:

- Transcript
- Teacher/Counselor Letters of Recommendation

# SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS

*Pay Attention to DEADLINES*



*ED/EDII/EA/Single Choice EA*

*Rolling*

*Regular*

- Naviance and Common Application must be matched
- Create Common App Account and Sign FERPA waiver
- **Transcript Verification Form** must be submitted
- Authorization to Release Records must be submitted for students who are NOT using Common Application, or requesting records sent to NCAA, scholarships, etc.

Naviance Tutorial

# TRANSCRIPT REQUESTS - NAVIANCE

1. Colleges must first be listed in *Colleges I'm Applying To* in NAVIANCE
2. Request Transcripts.
  - For Early applications (including Early Action, Early Decision, Rolling, Priority)

- Please request transcripts early:

Deadline of 10/15 Requests are due by Friday, October 1st

Deadline of 11/1 Requests are due by Friday, October 15th

Deadline of 11/15 Requests are due by Monday, November 1st

For January 1 deadline, input colleges by Friday, December 10th in order to guarantee delivery of transcripts, recommendations and forms by the winter recess.



Once you have added your colleges in Naviance, click “Edit”, then:

1. Indicate if you have submitted your application
2. Indicate the “application type” (i.e. ED, EA, Rolling, etc.) Please double check the deadline listed in Naviance. Check the college website to verify the deadline for the type of application you are filing.
3. Indicate if you are applying via the Common App.

Under the *Colleges I'm Applying To* tab, Click on a College and then click on + *Request Transcripts*. Select *Initial*. We will not send transcripts unless you request them in Naviance. If a school does not accept the Common App, they may still accept transcripts and recommendations via Naviance. Naviance will indicate whether or not a school accepts eDocs (Naviance). If a college does not accept transcripts via Naviance then we will mail your transcripts and recommendation to those colleges.

# RESPONSIBILITIES

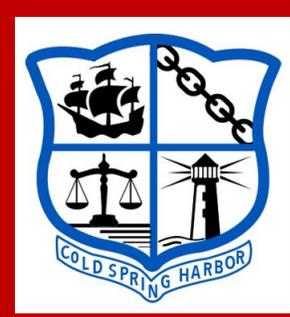
- Finalize list of colleges: Reach, Target, Safety; complete applications, confirm materials were received
- Complete transcript request in Naviance 2 weeks prior to application deadline
- Match your Common Application account with Naviance
- Follow up on Teacher Recommendations
- Make an appointment with your counselor



# RESPONSIBILITIES

- Complete Activities Resume and Personal Essay
- Complete Testing Requirements (if testing) and send SAT/ACT scores via the testing websites
- College Correspondence/Onsite and Virtual College Visits/Interviews/Auditions/NCAA
- Complete FAFSA with family, research scholarships, determine CSS requirements
- Communicate with your Counselor





# FINANCIAL AID

*Financial Aid Night Program: September 29, 7pm*

*Federal Student Aid: Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)*

- FAFSA Form is available beginning October 1st
- File your FAFSA online at [www.FAFSA.gov](http://www.FAFSA.gov)
- Prior-Prior Year Income Data for the FAFSA

*CSS Profile* must be filled out for colleges that require it:

<https://profile.collegeboard.org/profile/ppi/participatingInstitutions.aspx>

*Scholarship applications* – List in NAVIANCE

- College-specific
- Other/Community



# DATES TO REMEMBER

- **October 1st** - FAFSA forms can be submitted
- **November 1st** - Early Application (ED and EA) Deadline for most colleges
- **November 24th** – Suggested date for Regular Decision applications submitted to the Counseling Center
- **May 1st** – COMMON REPLY DATE  
Deposit Due to College of Choice

# THINGS TO REMEMBER...

- Seek out your school counselor for support and ask questions
- Read all emails from the Counseling Center
- Review the list of colleges visiting CSH
- Attend Virtual Open Houses and/or visit colleges of interest if possible. Register for CSH school visits – many colleges track interest.
- Apply early and monitor deadlines
- Prioritize the ‘right fit’ over the ‘right name’
- Visit college(s) before depositing
- Share your admissions decisions/results with your counselor





# Questions

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