


**COLD SPRING HARBOR  
HIGH SCHOOL  
COLLEGE KICKOFF**



Current 11<sup>th</sup> Grade: Steps for Successful College Admission

Presented by the Counseling Center  
December 9, 2020

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**COLD SPRING HARBOR JR. SR. HIGH  
SCHOOL COUNSELING CENTER WEBSITE**

- Can be found on the district website
  - go to Schools, select CSH Jr Sr HS
  - on the left side, select "Counseling Center" tab
  - <https://www.csh.k12.ny.us/Page/555>
- Parent Night Presentations & Materials
- Counseling Curriculum
  - Student presentations & materials

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**TONIGHT'S AGENDA**

- Degree Requirement Updates
- Timeline
- Stakeholders
- What do you want in a college?
- What do colleges want in an applicant?
- What does this all mean?
- Resources

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## DEGREE REQUIREMENT UPDATES

- NYS Regents Exam Exemption:
  - All June '20, August '20, and January '21 Exams
- Exempted exams removed from graduation requirements
- Exemption does not replace a previously taken PASSED exam, but will replace a FAILED exam\*
- All Diploma types, honors, and mastery will exclude exempt exam for calculation purposes
- Colleges are aware of NYS Regents Exemption
- As of now, June 2021 Regents Exam still remain scheduled

\*For graduation and diploma type determination only – Honors and mastery will use previously earned score.

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## 11<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TIMELINE

When	What
December 9	College Kickoff Night Event
December-February	Course Requests – Senior year matters! GPA freezes end of 11 <sup>th</sup> Grade!
Winter-Spring 11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	SATs/ACTs
February Break	College Visits – either live or virtual
March-May	Junior Conferences with Counselor (must have completed Junior Bio)
March 1	Junior Bio Deadline for Spring Junior Conference
April Break	College Visits – either live or virtual
May-June	Consider retaking SATs/ACTs/SAT Subject Tests
June	Ask teachers for Letters of Rec.
Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit Colleges – either live or virtual</li> <li>• Draft Essay and Supplemental Essays for each college</li> <li>• Draft Resume (optional)</li> <li>• Refine college list</li> <li>• Complete CommonApp</li> </ul>

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## 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TIMELINE

When	What
Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit Colleges</li> <li>• Draft Essay</li> <li>• Draft Resume (optional)</li> <li>• Refine college list</li> <li>• Complete CommonApp</li> </ul>
September 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete Applications</li> <li>• Attend 12<sup>th</sup> Grade College Application Workshop</li> <li>• Attend College App Bootcamp</li> </ul>
September-November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply Early Action / Early Decision I / Rolling / Priority</li> <li>• Final re-takes for SAT/ACT/SAT Subject Test (if necessary)</li> </ul>
January - April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply Early Decision II / Regular Decision</li> <li>• Application decisions and financial aid packages arrive</li> </ul>
May 1, 2022	National Decision Day (deposits due)

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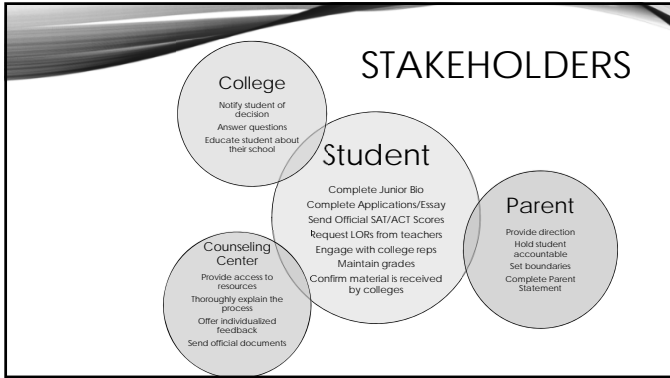
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**JUNIOR BIO & JUNIOR CONFERENCE**

**Junior Bio completion is Required** before a Junior Conference can be scheduled with your counselor

Junior Bio	Junior Conference
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides detailed information about the student so the counselor can...               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Help the student identify potential colleges</li> <li>Educate the student on majors/concentrations</li> <li>Write the student's letter of recommendation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individualized meeting for student and parents to discuss how the college application process applies directly to you. We discuss many topics, some of which include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>College <b>entrance exam</b> schedule</li> <li>College <b>majors, interests, and extracurriculars</b></li> <li>Feedback from the completed <b>Junior Bio</b></li> <li>Personal approach to <b>selecting colleges</b></li> <li>Development of a <b>college list</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

*\*\*\*Your Junior Bio must be completed by **March 1** to guarantee a Spring Junior Conference with your counselor\*\*\**

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**KEY FACTORS**

**When reviewing potential colleges, be sure to prioritize:**

- Academic expectations and support systems
- Programs and majors of interest
- Successful graduation and job placement rates (preferably, in field of study)
- Athletics, clubs, Greek life, and other extracurriculars
- Campus culture
- Proximity to home – how far away is okay?
- Campus size and accessibility
- Financial commitment

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## COLLEGE VISITS

- First: Identify desired **characteristics**
- Second: Search for schools that embody those characteristics
  - Look for college clusters
- Third: Adjust your list to reflect your new learning experiences

PROS	CONS
① _____	1) _____
② _____	2) _____
③ _____	3) _____

**Hint:** Using Virtual Campus Tours is a quick and easy way to identify if a school has many of the surface level characteristics you are looking for

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## UNDERSTANDING COLLEGE CLUSTERS

<b>BIG TEN</b>	<b>NESCAC</b>	<b>COALITION for ACCESS, AFFORDABILITY and SUCCESS</b>	<b>A COLLEGE THAT CHANGES LIVES</b> <b>CTCI</b> <small>COLLEGE TRUST CHANGES LIVES</small>
All (except one) are very large state schools Mostly in the Midwest Spirited college towns Strong academic reputation	Small New England schools Liberal Arts DIII Athletics Often referred to as, "Baby Ivy"	Strong academic reputation Very high 4-year Graduation Rate Meets almost all demonstrated financial need	"Hidden Gems" Smaller in size Beautiful campuses Uncommon college experiences

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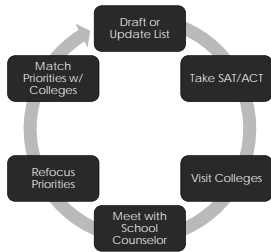
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## THE EVOLUTION OF YOUR COLLEGE LIST

- How Many Colleges?**
- Between 8-12 Schools
  - Aligns with academic strengths
  - Meets social expectations
  - Must include some schools with high acceptance rate




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## WHAT DO COLLEGES WANT?

Each college will prioritize these elements differently, but most schools are considering the following for admission:

- Weighted and Unweighted GPA
- Grades in specific courses
- Course rigor
- SAT/ACT Scores
- Demonstrated interest
- Leadership qualities, extracurriculars, and special interests
- Community engagement
- Letters of recommendation
- College essay
- Interview (only some colleges conduct interviews)



What unique qualities do you bring to their campus?

What will you be a part of while attending?

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# What does it all mean?

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<b>STUDENTS: WHICH COLLEGE ADMISSION PROCESS BEST SUITS YOU?</b>				
<b>Regular Decision</b>	<b>Rolling Admission</b>	<b>Early Action (EA)</b>	<b>Early Decision (ED)</b>	<b>Restrictive Early Action (REA)</b>
<b>DEFINITION:</b> Students submit an application by a specified date and receive a decision in a clearly stated period of time.	<b>DEFINITION:</b> Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render admission decisions throughout the admission cycle.	<b>DEFINITION:</b> Students apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular response date.	<b>DEFINITION:</b> Students make a commitment to a first-choice institution where, if admitted they definitely will enroll and withdraw all other applications. The application deadline and decision deadline occur early.	<b>DEFINITION:</b> Students apply to an institution of preference and receive a decision early. They may be restricted from applying ED or EA or REA to other institutions. If offered enrollment, they have until May 1 to confirm.
<b>COMMITMENT:</b> NON-BINDING	<b>COMMITMENT:</b> NON-BINDING	<b>COMMITMENT:</b> NON-BINDING	<b>COMMITMENT:</b> BINDING	<b>COMMITMENT:</b> NON-BINDING
Students are not restricted from applying to other institutions and have until May 1 to consider their options and confirm enrollment.			Students are responsible for determining and following restrictions.	

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### SAT AND ACT EXAMS

- All colleges accept either SAT or ACT exam
- Some colleges are test optional – [www.fairtest.org](http://www.fairtest.org)
- Contact your schools to see what changes they have made to their testing requirements for current 11<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- **SAT** – [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
  - Assess Math, Reading Comprehension, and Essay writing (optional)
  - Each section out of 800 points (Essay scaled 1-4 points)
  - Often considered strategy based
  - Recommendation: Take at least once with Essay
- **ACT** – [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)
  - Assess Math, English, Reading, Science, and Writing (optional)
  - Each section out of 36 points, with a composite score representing the average of the four sections (Writing is excluded and scaled 2-12 points)
  - Often considered content based
  - Recommendation: Take at least once with Writing

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### SAT SUBJECT TESTS

- **Required by very few colleges, but strongly recommended by some others** and often depends on major
  - Those that require or recommend, usually ask for 2-3
- **Best taken in May or June** of the year you take the subject
  - Always consult with your teacher to ensure proper preparation
- **Ideal score:** 700 is the general benchmark, but may vary depending on exam taken and/or college applied

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### NCAA INFORMATION

- Core Course GPA – helps you track your NCAA GPA  
<https://www.clearinghousecalculator.org/login.php>
- Grades and SAT/ACT scores matter!
- Understand the recruiting process for your sport
- Talk to your coaches and counselor!
- Register with the NCAA at the conclusion of 11<sup>th</sup> Grade

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**RESOURCES**

COLLEGE FAIR

Counseling Center

MY NEXT MOVE  
What do you want to do for a living?

NAVANCE

FairTest  
The National Center for Fair and Open Testing

FISKE GUIDE TO COLLEGES 2019  
EDWARD B. FISKE

ACT

CollegeBoard

COLLEGES THAT CHANGE LIVES  
LOREN POPE

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**THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING**

We hope to see you soon in the Counseling Center!!!

Mr. Justin Arini, Director of Guidance  
jarini@csh.k12.ny.us

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