

Senior FALL Informational Student Meeting Notes

Important Dates

ACT Testing: If you would like to retake the ACT you should sign up by September 16th for October 22nd test at www.actstudent.org.

College Transcript Processing *NEW! It is NOW ONLINE. See REQUESTING A TRANSCRIPT on the counseling webpage.*

College Admission Representative Visits to SC: sign up in counseling to meet with college admission reps this fall if you didn't attend their meeting last year (if it would still be helpful and useful at this point).

Financial Aid Night for Parents: November 3(5:30pm) at RHS & January 10(7pm) at AHS. The presentation will be the same for both dates.

Deadlines: PLEASE be aware of important application and scholarship deadlines. You should request transcripts at least 1 week prior to any deadlines.

Steps to Processing Your College Applications Online

(Over 90% of applicants apply online)

Step 1: Locate the ONLINE College Applications. Note any deadlines or early action dates. It is good goal to complete all college applications by October 31st.

Step 2: Complete the college applications, hit SUBMIT (double check you submitted). Once the college receives any information from you, they will create a file for your materials. Colleges wait to receive all of the application requirements before they will read your application. It is the students' responsibility to make sure that all required materials are received.

Step 3: Request a transcript online. Do to this, follow the steps on the Transcript Request Procedure Form.

Letters of Recommendation

Common Application will require letters of recommendation. You will be asked to provide the email address of the person you are requesting a letter of recommendation from. You should also provide your letter writer with a complete Profile sheet and give them plenty of time to write the letter.

If a school does not provide online submission and requires letters of recommendations you must provide an addressed and stamped envelope to the writer so they may mail it when they are finished. Remember to check each schools college application requirements. Most schools in MI except for, U of M, do NOT require a letter of recommendation.

Additional Important Info

******IMPORTANT! ****ACT/SAT TEST SCORES:** you will need to send your scores from the testing agency if you haven't already. Due to the ONLINE transcript process we do not have the capability of sending your test scores.

Change in your senior schedule: If you make a change in your schedule once you have submitted your senior courses to the colleges, you **MUST** contact each college admission office to update them with your change.

Common Application Users: Apply online at www.commonapp.org. You will be asked to provide 2 teacher email addresses for an online teacher evaluation and recommendation and the counselors email address for an online secondary report and recommendation. Follow application steps 1, 2, and 3. When you are requesting transcripts at parchment.com you must click on the Common App tab to request a transcript. See Transcript Request Procedures for more details.

7th Semester Grade Request & Midyear Reports: If you receive a request for 7th semester grades or midyear report from your college you must submit a request at www.parchment.com

NCAA Eligibility: If you plan to participate in Division I or II sports in college you must register and send your ACT or SAT scores to the NCAA Clearinghouse; code 9999. Also it is very important make sure that your courses meet academic eligibility requirements; www.eligibilitycenter.org. (For example, Intro to films is NOT an approved English course and students should be taking another approved English course such as Myths, Strange/Mysterious, Poetry, and Exploring Lit)

Scholarships: Remember to check the "SCHOLARSHIPS FOLDER" on the counseling website often for scholarship opportunities. Be aware of deadlines and required materials.

FAFSA: Complete the FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. You may submit the financial aid forms starting January 1, 2012; however you may begin the process prior. Financial Aid night will explain the FAFSA process.

Additional College Application Tips:

1. Record your logins/passwords for each online application; organized neatly on one sheet of paper and keep by the computer.
2. Some students like to print out the paper application, fill it out and then input/transfer data to the online application.
3. Double/triple check the information you supplied before submitting your online application.
4. Track your online applications, if available, to make sure they received it and all its parts.
5. Create professional sounding email addresses for your college applications.
6. Get GREAT Grades, so you will not be in any danger of graduation AND your college admission is not withdrawn!!!!

This information and more helpful information can be found on the Mr. Carlin's Counseling webpage