

## Important information about college applications from the Guidance Office

Seniors! This is a critical time in your application process and there's lots of information to keep track of. Here are some important reminders:

- Please remember to provide an envelope to Ms. Marte for colleges that require documents to be mailed at least two weeks before the deadline. In order to identify these colleges, please refer to the Submissions Column. These colleges will have a stamp. Each college will need an individual envelope. Please write the address of the college and print your name on the inside of the flap. In addition, provide envelopes to teachers who will need to send their recommendation letters to those colleges as well.
- **EARLY APPLICANTS:** All of the early application deadlines have been processed. If you have a November 15th – December 1<sup>st</sup> deadline, your counselor may still be working on those. Nevertheless, congratulations on all the hard work, and if you have even been accepted early already!
- **REGULAR APPLICANTS:** Your guidance counselor is now available to process college applications with 12/1 and beyond deadlines. Please set up a senior college meeting with your counselor if you have not already done so. Please ensure your 'All About Me' survey and your raves are completed prior to meeting with your counselor. We would like to meet all of our students by Friday December 8<sup>th</sup> as this will give us two weeks before we break for the winter holiday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- **PLEASE NOTE: On December 1<sup>st</sup>, you will be locked out of Naviance and will not be able to add colleges unless you see your guidance counselor. Please add all of your colleges to the "Colleges I am applying to" list by December 1<sup>st</sup>.**
- **TRACKING SUBMITTED DOCUMENTS:** Please note that colleges can take several weeks to post documents that they

receive and frequently send out automated emails with inaccurate statuses of your application. Colleges receive documents from multiple sources (student, school, testing center, etc.) which arrive at the schools at different times, so please be patient with this process. If you have any concerns about your paperwork, please double check with the college admissions office for accuracy first. If needed, email your guidance counselor next.

**Other reminders:** Please request to send your SAT scores and ACT scores directly from the College Board or ACT. We do not send and this can take several weeks to deliver.

- Please ask your teachers to upload and send their rec letters on Naviance.
- If you have a school that we need to mail to, please bring in addressed envelopes and give to Ms. Marte in the records room AND your teachers to send other documents at least 2 weeks before the deadline.

**NOVEMBER IS FINANCIAL AID AWARENESS MONTH:** Paying for college is frequently the last subject of discussion; however, it's important that families talk about the various expenses to guide the application process. Annual costs for tuition and room & board can range from \$20,000 at a SUNY or CUNY to over \$50,000 for private colleges. Extras include travel, computer, books, and other educational expenses. Affordability and financial planning is a critical consideration for every family. For federal financial aid, file the FAFSA. For NYS aid, file the TAP form. For many private schools, you may need to file the CSS Profile which may have a fall deadline. They require this for scholarships and merit aid.

- IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, DON'T HESITATE TO REACH OUT TO YOUR GUIDANCE COUNSELOR!

### **Attention Parents of Seniors:**

The FAFSA form is open. All families with seniors attending college in the fall of 2018 and applying for need-based aid and/or loans from the

federal government, need to submit the FAFSA. Many colleges also require the CSS Profile application for Financial Aid.

As you're preparing this, be sure to read Ms. Christine Scott's recent newsletter: [08 FAFSA Mistakes 10 24 2017 .pdf](#)