

SENIOR COLLEGE & ACTIVITIES ASSEMBLY

Welcome to the Class of 2024!

September 19, 2023



Who We Are

- ❖ **Ms. Lustig – Assistant Principal** Slustig2@schools.nyc.gov
- ❖ **Ms. Byrd – School Counselor A-K (General Education)** lbyrd2@schools.nyc.gov
- ❖ **Ms. Lockhart – School Counselor L-Z (General Education)** Slockhart@schools.nyc.gov
- ❖ **Ms. Payne– School Counselor A-Z (Students with an IEP)** Mpayne3@schools.nyc.gov
- ❖ **Ms. Lewis - 12th Grade Dean** klewis3@schools.nyc.gov
- ❖ **Mr. Edmond– Senior Advisor** Ledmond@schools.nyc.gov

FIRST STEPS FOR SENIORS

- Your school counselor will begin scheduling meetings with each of you 1:1 in regards to your post-secondary plans. (Look out for an email coming soon with more information)
- Check google classroom regularly for updates on upcoming activities, college fairs, links to important documents, ex: College One Stop Shop, Scholarships etc....
- Complete the Counselor Brag sheet and Senior college profiles promptly once these links are share with you.
- Many colleges have remained Test Optional- however you may still wish to register for an upcoming SAT or ACT to improve your score- always do your research so you are aware which schools require the submission of an SAT / ACT result. **(email your counselor to check if you qualify for a fee waiver)**
- Any student planning to apply **Early Decision** or **Early Action** deadline 11/01 or 11/15 must notify their counselor ASAP
- Any student who is completing the **Questbridge Application** or is moving forward in the **POSSE Scholarship** process must notify their counselor ASAP
- Complete the income inquiry form- <https://www.myschoolapps.com/Home/PickDistrict> This form is what determines fee waivers!

Managing your Time & Stress-Level:



- ❑ Utilize a planner or actively use your google calendar
- ❑ Always input important dates, class schedule time, deadlines on your planner/calendar
- ❑ Create a To-Do List to figure out what's the most important and due the soonest
- ❑ Create and set up a daily schedule that may include; study time, homework time, personal time and break time (Yes, we all need a little break (10-15 minutes) to practice Self-Care)
- ❑ Set alarms and reminders (you don't want to be late) for school and/or deadlines.



How far along should your child be with his/her college planning?

- Did your child take the SAT or ACT?
 - If not, are they SURE none of the schools they are interested in require it?
- Are they satisfied with their score?
 - Retake exams ASAP if wanted
 - Next **SAT Exam – October 7th (registration deadline is Sept. 7th, late registration is Sept. 26th)**
 - Next **ACT Exam – October 28th (registration deadline is Sept. 22nd, late registration is Oct. 6th)**
- What colleges are they considering applying to?
 - Have they looked into the requirements?
 - Do they have a range of schools? Target, Reach, Likely
- Have you discussed what you are comfortable with i.e. location, cost, etc.
- Will they need to use the Common App, CUNY app, SUNY app?
- Have they begun to think about getting letters of recommendation?
- Our goal is for all college applications to be submitted by **Thanksgiving**
- PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF DEADLINES!!!!!!

How Do You Define College?

- Two year vs. four year
- Public, Private, SUNY, CUNY, HBCU
- Location
- Setting - urban, suburban, rural
- Size – small, medium, large
- Distance from home – commute or dorm



You do:

- Decide what's best for you
- Research colleges
- Speak as a family about where to apply
- Fill out college applications and track deadlines
- Request SAT/ACT scores to be sent
- Request and handle teacher recommendations
- Read **ALL** of the college office emails!
- Attend scheduled meetings with college advisors

We do:

- Help you consider your options
- Offer college suggestions
- Send transcripts and school profiles when requested
- Write your counselor recommendation (if required)
- Keep you informed about the application and financial aid process
- Support and aid you through the process (and congratulate you when you get in!)

1:1 Post-Secondary Meetings

- Individual Post-Secondary Planning Meetings will begin soon. Make sure your child has completed the Student College Profile:
 - [Ms. Byrd's Student College Profile](#)
 - [Ms. Lockhart's Student College Profile](#)
 - [Ms. Payne's Student College Profile](#)
- **STUDENTS WHO WILL APPLY EARLY ACTION OR EARLY DECISION MUST INFORM THEIR COUNSELOR ASAP**
- Bring list of schools they are interested in
- Bring their questions
- College applications require an email; please make sure your child has an [appropriate email address](#) and checks it regularly (not the @nycstudents.net)

The Application Process

Admissions

- Early Action/Early Decision
 - Early Decision: binding, you are saying that if you get in you will go
 - Early Action: non-binding
- Regular Decision
 - Apply by the deadline, and the college will let you know by a specified date
- Rolling Admissions
 - Schools review applications as they are submitted
 - Apply early: classes will fill up!
- Opportunity Programs
 - EOP/HEOP/SEEK/College Discovery



Academic Profile

Finding Your Best Fit

Reach

Students' GPA and Test Scores are *lower* than the average for admitted students.

Appropriate Reach College/University Selectivity

Target

Students' GPA & Test Scores *match* the average for admitted students.

Is financially feasible based on average aid package given to accepted students

Likely

Students' GPA and Test Scores are *higher* than the average for admitted students.

Is financially feasible.
Have a few back up schools you would be happy attending and can afford to attend.

We recommend that students apply to 7-12 schools ** This year you may want to apply to more

1-2 Reach Schools

Approximately 4-5 Target Schools

3-4 Likely Schools

College Visits

- How/when to schedule?
 - Utilize virtual tours (Ex: youvisit.com)
 - Visit when classes are in session
 - If possible, try to schedule visits in the spring once you are accepted



Ask yourself if you can see yourself going to that college?

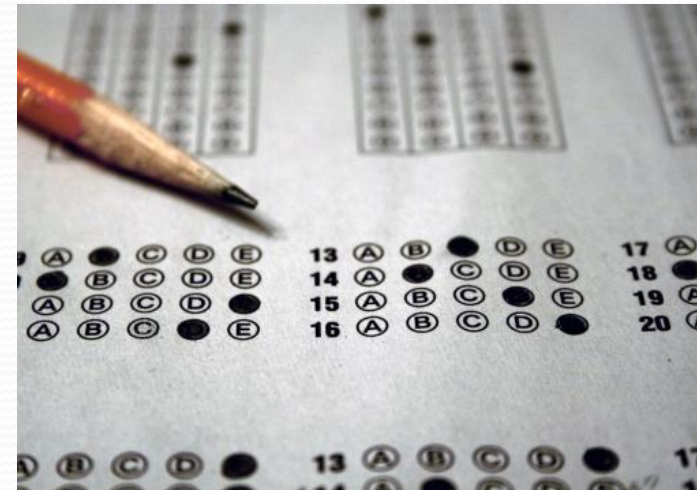


Upcoming Events:

- **SUNY Assembly - Wednesday, September 20th**
- **Individual College Visits from Colgate University, Grinnell College and University of Maryland (*Please see flyer for dates and times and how to sign up, it will also be sent to google classroom*)**
- **CUNY Assembly - Wednesday, October 4th (*CUNY applications are free from October 1- October 31st*)**
- **College Fair - Wednesday, October 18th**
- **Postsecondary Planning Session (*for eligible students*)- Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 6:30 PM**

What are Colleges Looking For?

- Transcripts
 - ◆ Types and rigor of classes
- Standardized Test Scores
(if you have them)
 - ◆ SAT
 - ◆ ACT
 - ◆ Test optional
- Personal Essay



What are Colleges Looking For? Continued...

→ In School Extracurricular Activities

- ◆ Position
- ◆ Time participated

→ Sports

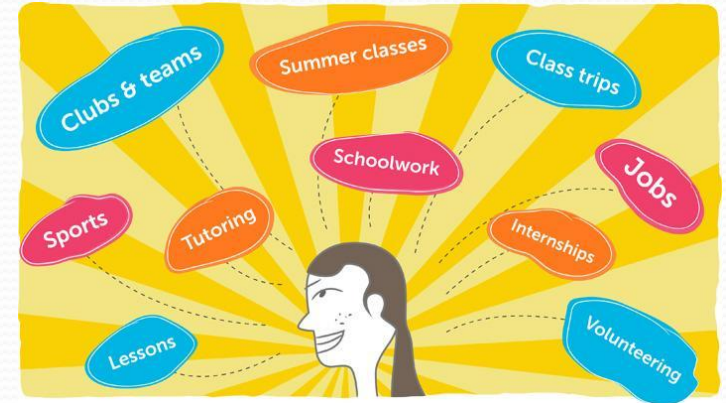
→ Recognitions

- ◆ Achievements/Awards/Honors

→ Outside of School Activities

- ◆ Clubs/Organizations
- ◆ Internships
- ◆ Volunteer Experience

→ Work Experience



Test Scores

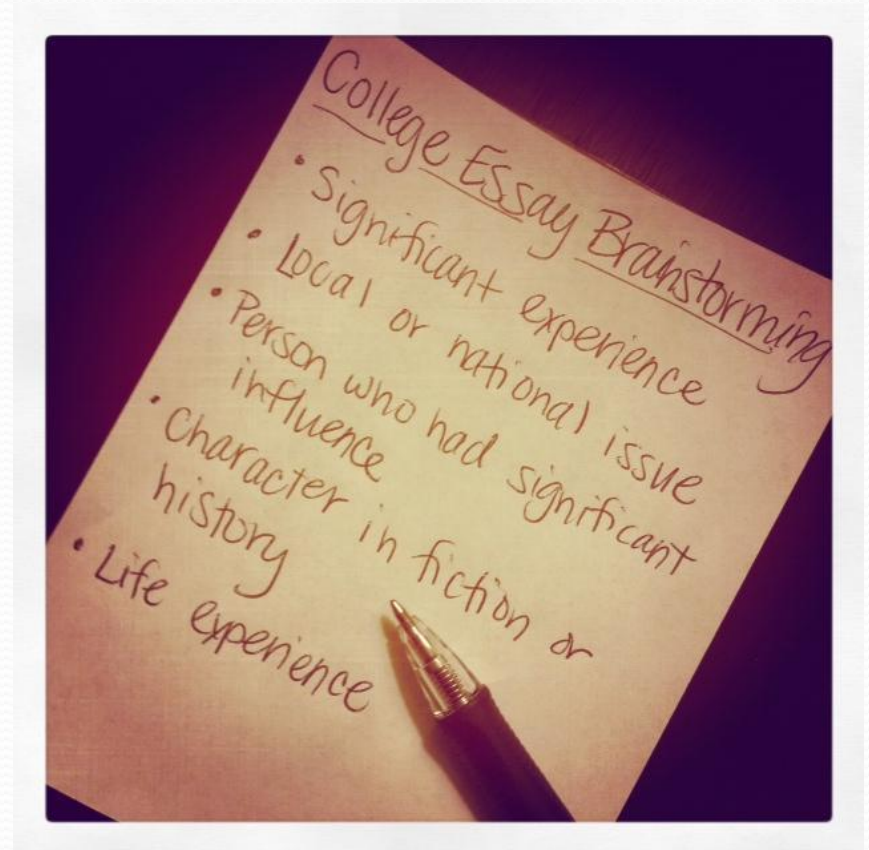


- **CUNYs= Test Optional** (it is not required to submit your SAT/ACT scores but if you scored fairly well, consider sending them in for scholarship opportunities)
- **SUNYs= Test Optional** (it is not required to submit your SAT/ACT scores but if you scored fairly well, consider sending them in for scholarship opportunities)
- **Private College/Universities= most are test optional**
 - To check colleges that are test optional by state go to <https://fairtest.org/test-optional-list/>

The Application Process

Personal Essay

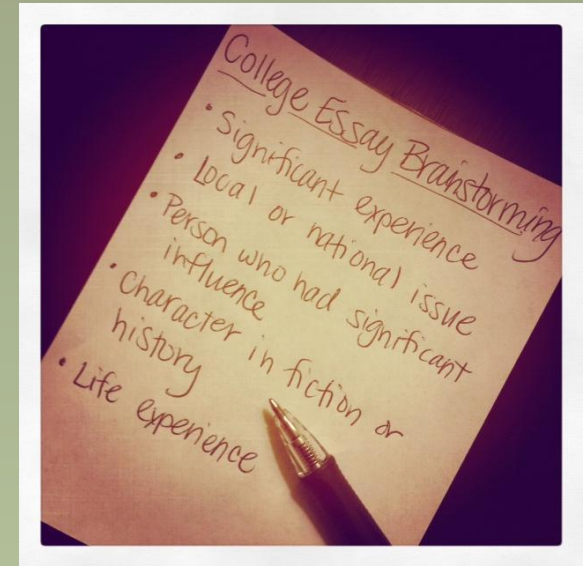
- Where do I start?
 - Positive characteristics
 - Best qualities
 - Overcoming adversity
- Tips
 - Start early
 - Be honest
 - Proofread
 - Get feedback
 - Edit, Edit, Edit!



THIS YEAR MANY SCHOOLS ARE REQUIRING ADDITIONAL SCHOOL SPECIFIC "SUPPLEMENTAL" ESSAYS BECAUSE THEY ARE TEST OPTIONAL

WRITE ESSAYS

- Your essay is your chance to show who you are *and* how well you write
- Speak honestly and let your personality shine through
- Write in your own voice—don't try to sound impressive, don't overuse a thesaurus!
- Submit polished and thoroughly edited essays
- Essays don't always have to be school- or arts-related
- Consider writing school-specific essays for reach schools



RECOMMENDATION LETTERS

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- Which schools need them? How many? From whom?
- Most schools require one from your School Counselor. Make sure to invite your School Counselor on the college application and complete the “Brag Sheet”
- Not sure if a teacher feels comfortable writing a strong letter for you? Ask!
- Always give teacher *at least 2* weeks to complete
- Most are electronic, make sure you “invite” the teacher using the correct email address
- Teachers put lots of time into these—send a Thank You note!

*****Take a look at template on One Stop Shop*****





- **Save time on your college applications!!**
- **CommonApp used by over 900 colleges/universities**
- **Coalition App used by 150+ schools**
- **Applications are completed entirely online**
- **Fill it out once and send to all of the colleges using that platform**
 - **Note: There are often supplements for individual schools**
- **Each college has a different fee**
- ***Keep in mind: Fee waivers are available for the CommonApp provided that you are eligible***
- **<https://www.commonapp.org/>**
- **<https://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/>**

Applying to CUNY and SUNY schools



The City University of New York

- Completed entirely online
- Apply for up to 6 schools on one application
- Pay ONE \$65 fee (*Fee waivers will be available based on Income Verification Form.*)
- Include OSIS #

<https://www.cuny.edu/>



The State University of New York

- Apply through SUNY website (if students are applying to both SUNYs and Private colleges, it is recommended to use the Common App)
- Apply to multiple campuses with same application (supplements often required)
- Pay \$50 fee per school (*fee waivers cover up to 7 schools*)

<https://www.suny.edu/>

Applying to CUNY for FREE!



The City University of New York

Beginning October 1st - October 31st, students can apply to CUNY for free.

What Should The Student Be Doing?

- Complete the Student College Profile (if you haven't already)
- Prepare and register for upcoming SAT/ACT exams
 - School code: 330938
 - Email your School Counselor for a Fee Waiver (if you qualify)
- Research colleges and careers using www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search
- Complete the Student Brag Sheet and list activities and accomplishments
- Request recommendation letters
- Begin/finalize writing your personal statement
- **Read the College One Stop Shop carefully**
- Create FSA ID (if you haven't already)
- Apply to Scholarships



Financial Aid

We have scheduled a Financial Aid presentation, here on 01/09/24



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- **The FAFSA application will open December 31st, 2023.**
 - Students are to complete the 2024-2025 application
 - You will need your parent(s)/guardian(s) 2022 taxes, and yours if you filed taxes
 - Following the FAFSA, you will apply for **TAP which is New York State Aid**
 - Complete the **CSS Profile** *if it is required*
 - **Apply to scholarships!** (check out our Scholarships & Opportunities Book!)

One-Stop-Shop



Hello, Class of 2024! 🎓

Welcome to your One-Stop-Shop document! Here you will find plenty of information, timelines, links, and tutorials to help you begin working on your post-secondary planning including; the college process, trade programs, workforce, etc. Please continue to refer to this document for some guidance and support as you prepare for your very exciting next steps.

Please create your own Professional Email to use during your college process, do not use your NYCStudents.Net account.



Please complete the Student College Profile that was emailed by your Counselor! This is how you will be scheduled for your 1-on-1 Meeting with your Counselor.



Always refer to the [College-One-Stop-Shop!](#)

Senior Dues & Activities

Senior Dues for the Current Class of 2024:

- **\$350 (3 Installments of \$125, \$125, \$100)**
 - Cap, Gown, Diploma Case
 - Yearbook
 - Senior Spirit Items
 - Two T-Shirts
 - Senior Hoodie
 - Second Item (PJs, Blanket, etc.)
 - Graduation Facility Rental & Decorations
 - Senior Portrait Sitting Fee
 - Senior Awards
 - Senior Spirit Days
 - Triple C Activities
 - Senior Breakfast
 - Decision Day
 - Yearbook Day

Optional Items/Events:

- Senior Pictures - prices vary depending on package selection
- Senior Dinner - \$50
- Senior Prom - \$175
- Senior Day Trip - \$75
- Senior Overnight Trip (2 Days) - \$300
 - Hershey Park & Dorney Park
 - or
 - One-Day Grad Trip (\$75)
- Senior Ring - prices vary depending on ring selection (\$350 - \$1,000)

Fundraising

- World's Finest Chocolate
- 60 Bars in a Box
 - \$35 goes to the company
 - \$25 goes to the student's account
- Accounts can be used to pay all school related expenses
 - Dues
 - Trips
 - Exams

Senior Portraits:



October 23, 2023
Cap & Gown Set
Plain Clothes Set

- By appointment
- Prepare NOW!!

Links:

- [One-Stop-Shop](#)
 - [Income Verification Form](#)
(used for fee waiver eligibility)
 - Student College Profiles:
 - [Ms. Byrd](#)
 - [Ms. Lockhart](#)
 - [Ms. Payne](#)
 - Brag Sheets:
 - [Ms. Byrd](#)
 - [Ms. Lockhart](#)
 - [Ms. Payne](#)
 - [Common Application Companion](#)
- [CUNY Tutorial](#)
 - [SUNY Tutorial](#)
 - [Common App Video Tutorial](#)
 - [FSA ID Tutorial](#)
 - [CUNY Test-Optional](#)
 - [SUNY Test-Optional](#)
 - [Scholarships & Opportunities Book](#)
 - [RKA Student Opportunities Page](#)
 - [Questions to Ask College Reps](#)

Questions?



If you think of questions after the meeting, please email us