

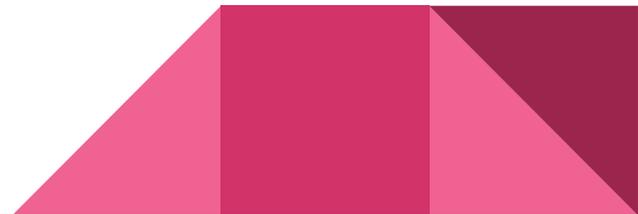


DePaul Catholic High School College Guidance Presentation for Juniors

March 3, 2022 @7:00pm

Our Staff

- Mrs. Anne Gregory, Director of School Counseling
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- Ms. Kelsey Hall, School Counselor
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Tonight's Goals

- How will DePaul Catholic High School help your student throughout the college search and application process?

 - What roles do the following have in the process?
 1. DePaul Catholic
 2. The Student
 3. The Parents
 4. The Colleges/Universities
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DePaul Catholic High School Guidance Department Philosophy

- Our ultimate goal is to help our students find the college that is right for them (Academically, Socially, Athletically, ect.)
 - We provide structure and focus in order to ensure that all aspects of the college search, application, and selection process are completed in a timely fashion
 - We assure that all component of the college search application procedure (including standardized tests, course selections, recommendations, and essays) are explained details and checked upon request.
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Important Questions to Ask...

Students Must Know Who They Are

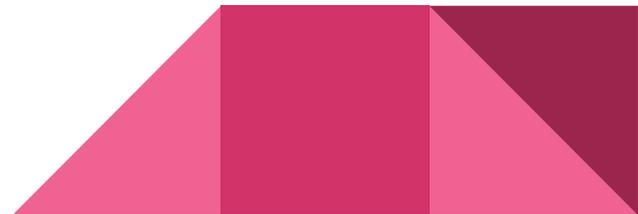
- What are my strengths and weaknesses?
- What type of school do I see myself attending?
- What have I done? Activities, sports, volunteer, work?
- How do I measure up to the admissions criteria that the school I want to apply to has established?
- Am I being realistic?

WHAT IS YOUR WHY???



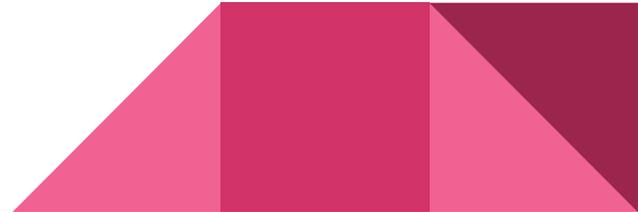
Role Of The Student

- **The most important piece!** The students need to be proactive and responsible. This is a critical time and critical decision.
- Must understand the college process and timelines...Time Management!
- Must understand himself/herself and make informed decisions.
- Needs to be prepared for all possible decisions from a college.



Role Of The Counselor

- Counselor = Your #1 Resource
- We are your main advocate! Trust us!
- Help students make tough decisions
- We work with the student, but do not do the work for them!
- Run workshops (Essays, Naviance, Common Application)
- Be wary of “other advice” (college coaches, tutors)



Role Of The Parent

- Offer support and advice
- Worry, but encourage them to work for themselves
- Be patient and supportive. Listen.
- TRUST YOUR COUNSELOR!

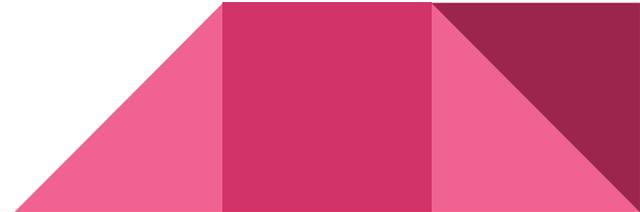
“It is not what you do for your children, but what you have taught them to do for themselves that will make them successful human beings.” - Ann Landers



TWO-YEAR COLLEGES

Community College

- Application directly to the Institution
- Transfer
- NJ STARS



TECHNICAL COLLEGES

Not all students want to or have to attend college. Students can attend technical colleges for the following careers

- [Automotive and Welding](#)
- CADD
- Construction
- [Cosmetology](#)
- [Medical Services](#)
- [Electrical](#)



College In School Programs

Junior Year Programs

- Two In-School Programs on College Process and Naviance (February/March)
 - College Search and Naviance training
 - College Essay and Letters of Recommendation
- Initial Individual College Meeting with each student (February- April)

Senior Year Programs

- Individual College Meeting with each senior student in September/October 2021
- [The College Essay Guy](#) workshop and resources
- Common Application Workshop (August date TBD)
- Parent College Meeting (September 2022)
- Financial Aid Night (Sept. or Oct. 2022)
- College Representative Visits to DP (October-January)

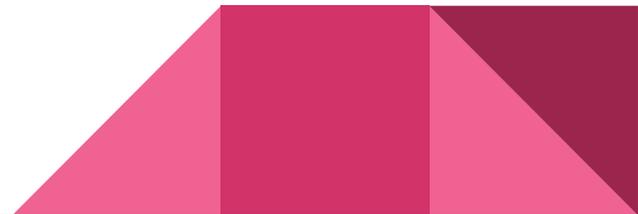
Transcript

- Initial Transcript sent with college application contains:
 1. All courses with final grade
 2. GPA through Junior year
 3. List of Senior Year courses
- Consider rigor of courses for senior year (Honors, AP, additional core subjects)
- Quarter 1 grades are often requested by a college or can be voluntarily sent to show progress
- Mid Year Transcript: Semester 1 grades are available in early February. Transcript shows recalculated cumulative GPA
- Final Transcript: Electronically sent through Naviance or mailed, if necessary to the college that the student will be attending.
- School Profile: school specific information sheet that is sent with the transcript; describes school characteristics like school size, grading scale and courses offered

COLLEGE VISITS

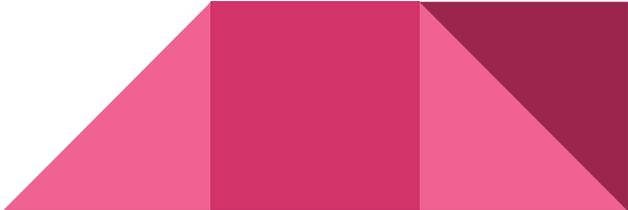
Visiting a school is a key component of the overall process

- In-person visits: many are open for small group tours and have self- guided tours through an app
- Virtual Events
- DePaul admission representative visits. Student must make [appointments](#) in Naviance



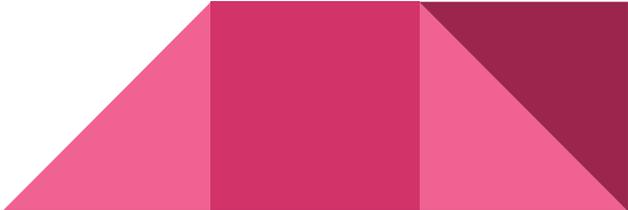
College Counseling Time Frame

February

- Attend group guidance meetings and then schedule individual meeting with counselor and develop a preliminary college list for exploration
 - Research and visit colleges on your preliminary list
 - Prepare for the March, May, and June SAT and/or the April or June ACT
 - School Day SAT: April 13, 2022 Registration deadline March 7
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College Counseling Time-Frame cont...

March, April, and May

- Discuss senior year course selection and curriculum
 - Schedule a student meeting with your counselor.
 - Write first draft of college essay (English class)
 - Take necessary standardized testing. Also, consider June SAT subject tests if necessary.
 - Visit additional colleges (spring and summer)
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Standardized Testing

Have you taken a test yet?

- The SAT and ACT?
 - SAT - December, March, May, June, August
 - ACT - December, February, April, June, July
 - The SAT II Subject Tests
 - Extending-time testing
- Test Optional Schools
 - www.fairtest.org
- Test Prep?
 - SAT prep course at DPCHS, Khan Academy, or outside companies

When should a student take the test?

- Sign up now. Depending on current math course student should sign up for December or the winter tests.
- Start testing during the winter/spring of Junior year to allow time to retake tests for students that wish to improve scores
- Register at [College Board](#) or [ACT](#)
- 4 score reports are free, if requested at registration
- Request score reports early

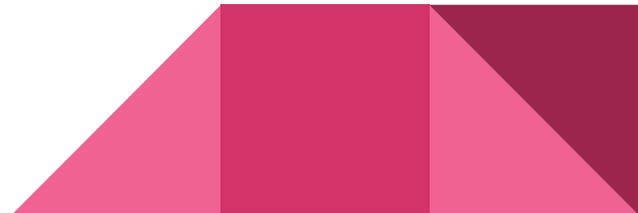
MORE ON STANDARDIZED TESTING

Score Choice & Superscore

- Score choice means you can send a specific score to a school. Some schools require all scores to be sent.
- Superscore is combining best Math and EBRW

[SAT Fee Waiver eligibility requirements](#)

[ACT Fee Waiver eligibility requirements](#)



TEST OPTIONAL

This means that standardized test scores are not required for the college to make an admission decision. BUT:

- Does your major require testing?
- Will you be required to take placement tests?
- Do certain scholarships require test scores?

We recommend taking the SAT and ACT at least once.



Recommendation Letters

- Letters of Recommendation can support student's application to college
- They can be beneficial and are usually required as part of the college application
- Letters can carry significant importance by colleges that do a "holistic review" process

Types of Recommendation Letters

1. Teacher Letters: We recommend requesting letters from 2 core teachers. Request in person and then in [Naviance](#). If student adds a new college they must make a request on Naviance again.
2. Counselor Letter: your counselor will automatically write this letter
3. Outside Recommendation: *Optional*
Advisor, coach, employer etc.
 - a. Common App has a link
 - b. Mail hard copy or provide recommender email address to each college admissions office

Forms to Fill out Spring of Junior Year

Senior Questionnaire

The senior questionnaire are questions that help your school counselor write an excellent letter of recommendation. You need to tell us what makes you special and or different. We need to know your volunteer activities, honors, employment, and awards. We will distribute this form to students in March.

Parent Brag Sheet

These questions allow a parent to brag about their child and share stories that make their child stand out. Please provide details. This is your chance as a parent to write things that you want included in their counselor letter of recommendation. We will distribute this form to the students in March.

Naviance

What is Naviance?

- College Search application; student and parent have a login
- Way to research schools and see student fit based upon prior DP student acceptance data (Scattergrams)
- Tool used to manage college applications and letters
- Students list ALL college applications in Naviance when applying; student updates list when an application is submitted
- This is **required** to communicate application submissions to College Counselor

Naviance

College Search:

- Click on College Tab
- Click Find Your Fit
- Click Advanced College Search
- Fill in the search and click submit

For now, start adding schools to “Colleges I’m Thinking About” List

- Naviance gives DePaul Information about our students that have been accepted to those schools
- Admissions information
- Scatter Grams

Application Basics

College Applications

- Common Application: More than 900 member schools will accept this application
- Coalition Application: Similar to Common App but used by more than 150 schools
- Direct to the Institution:

Majors

- Different majors may have different entrance requirements: required courses, GPA minimums, even application deadlines
- Students that already have an intended major should choose senior courses accordingly
- Some majors are more difficult to get accepted into at schools highly rated for specific degrees. E.g. engineering, nursing, business or PT/OT programs

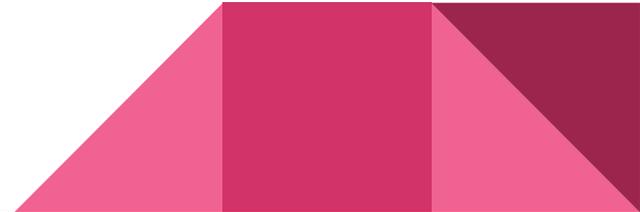
MEDICAL ACCOMMODATION (504) PLANS & SERVICE PLANS (IEPs)

It is your choice to share your Medical Accommodation plan or Service Plan with a college.

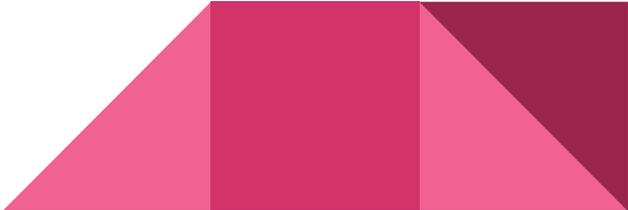
However, if you wish to have your services and accommodations continued you will be required to submit the necessary documentation. When you decide on a school, you should reach out to them to view the types of services and requirements for their program.

Example:

[Rowan University](#)



Other Admissions Factors to Consider in Admissions

- Athletic recruiting
 - Legacies
 - Special talents
 - Development /VIP cases
 - Faculty and trustee recommendations
 - Minority recruiting
 - Geographic diversity
 - Gender
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Financial Aid

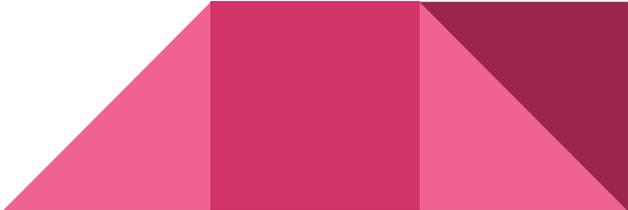
- Attend DPCHS fall workshop
- FAFSA (free application for Federal Student Aid)
- CSS/Financial Aid Profile
- Scholarships
- Don't always let finances discourage your from applying/attending...
 - [Fastweb.com](https://www.fastweb.com)
 - [Finaid.org](https://www.finaid.org)
 - [Naviance](https://www.naviance.com)
 - [Scholarships.com](https://www.scholarships.com)
 - Community Resources



Guidance Guidelines...

- In order to get into the college of your choice you must be working hard in school and getting good grades.
 - We all must be positive and encouraging, but also realistic!
 - Avoid comparisons with peers. Focus on YOU!
 - The name of the school doesn't make it the right school.
 - Do your homework and communicate with your counselor.
 - Stay relaxed and focused throughout the college process!
 - Remember DePaul will always support and advocate for you.
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Types of College Applications

- **EARLY DECISION:** This is BINDING! If accepted, students must attend. Only apply if student is 100% positive they want to attend. Student can only apply to one school early decision and it can help improve chances of a student getting admitted into the school. Contract must be signed by student, parent and counselor. Early Decision I: Application deadline is early, typically **November 1**, and the student is typically notified of decision in **December**. Typically, you can apply to regular decision or early action schools on your list but if you are admitted ED, you will withdraw your remaining applications. Early Decision II: If offered, the application Deadline is usually **January 1 or January 15**. This means you must apply Regular Decision to the rest of the schools on your list. If you're admitted Early Decision 2, usually around **February 15**, you will withdraw your remaining applications.
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Type of College Applications

- **EARLY ACTION:** Not binding, but student applies early and get an admission decision earlier than regular decision. Can usually apply to multiple schools early action. Some schools have restrictive early action where they can apply only to one school early action. Shows commitment, but is not binding. Application is typically due November 1st, November 15th, or December 1st.
 - **REGULAR DECISION:** Most common. Student applies by the deadline, typically January 1st and receives a decision by mid March or April.
 - **ROLLING DECISION:** No true deadline, however, they are reviewing applications and making the decisions ongoing. Some schools that use rolling decision fill up early so do not wait last minute.
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Dates to Remember

- SAT Test Dates
<https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/sat/registration/dates-deadlines>
- ACT Test Dates
<https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/registration.html>
- NJ National College Fair [In Person NACAC College Fair](#) April 20, 2022
[Virtual College Fair April 3, 2022](#)
- Common Application opens August 1, 2022
- FAFSA application October 1, 2022
- DePaul Catholic College Essay Workshop Date
- DePaul Catholic Common Application Workshop Date August 2022

What Now?

End of Junior Year

- Keep up Grades!
- Request Teacher Recommendations
- Take/retake SAT and or ACT to improve score;
- Sign up for challenging courses that student qualifies to take senior year
- Start developing list of colleges to visit and apply to attend
- College Essay -4th quarter in English class

Ideas for the Summer

- Get a job or volunteer
- Participate in a summer program
- Look for opportunities to get leadership experience, internship, or fill a gap on your resume
- After August 1st start the common application
- Write college essay
- If you apply to college in the summertime contact your college advisor

THANK YOU!!!

