



COLLEGE & CAREER BULLETIN

November 17, 2020

SENIOR CLASS:

Reminders:

* After you've applied, **check to make sure that your applications are complete.** Most colleges will send you an email with instructions to set up an applicant portal. Be sure to open the email and set it up. (If you have to create a username/password, jot these down in safe place). Here, you'll be able to see what documents they have received.

* If you'd like your first quarter grades to be sent to colleges, fill out [this form](#) and send it back to your counselor. The form is due by November 30.

* Make sure that your recommendation requests are in Naviance. Students are responsible for following up with their teachers to ensure that their recommendations have been submitted.

* You must submit the [Transcript Request Form](#) to your counselor **at least 3 weeks before** your first college deadline. If your deadline falls between December 15 - January 10, this form is due by November 30.

* Reminder: You must submit the [FAFSA](#) if you are applying for need-based financial aid. Some colleges also require applicants to complete the [CSS Profile](#). See the Financial Aid section on page 3 for more information.

* Seniors, here are some of the things that Mrs. Nicholson can assist you with:

- Finalizing an appropriate list of colleges
- Preparing for interviews
- Brainstorming, reviewing, and revising college essays
- Reviewing and editing applications

UPCOMING MLHS EVENTS:

December 7: *Senior Parent Coffee (Virtual)* at 9:30am. The Counseling Department will discuss how parents can help support their children as Early Decision and Early Action decisions begin to roll in. This session will be recorded for parents who are unable to attend.

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89020365973>

December 15: *Navigating Naviance for Sophomore & Junior Parents* at 7pm. This training will address navigating Naviance Student and go over frequently used tabs and sections. A Zoom link will be provided in the next Bulletin. This session will be recorded for parents who are unable to attend.

VIRTUAL COLLEGE VISITS:

* Fall college visits are almost over! Register for the remaining visits on Naviance:

[Goldey-Beacom College](#)
[Universal Technical Institute - Bloomfield](#)
[Louisiana State University](#)
[New Jersey City University](#)

* Missed a college visit? You can find notes from the session on each college page in Naviance. Look for the "Counselor Comments" section.

HIGHLIGHTED VIRTUAL EVENTS:

November 18: Join NYU's Admission staff for *Navigating Your College Application*. NYU Admissions Counselors share their tips for listing out your activities, answering the essay questions, and rounding up those letters of recommendations. Register [here](#).

November 18: *Understanding the Liberal Arts* webinar, by *Colgate University*. Colleges offer many approaches to an undergraduate education. From a residential community to undergraduate research and scholarship to global leadership, learn about the value of a liberal arts education from members of the Colgate community. Registration is available [here](#).

November 19: *An Inside Look: Deans + Directors Panel*, featuring *Claremont McKenna College*, *Tufts University*, *UC San Diego*, and *Vanderbilt*. Register [here](#).

November 19: Attend *Applying to College in 2020*, by *Lafayette Admissions*. Learn how to navigate this unique year as you apply to college. Register [here](#).

November 19: Attend the webinar *College as a First-Generation College Student*. The *Coalition for College* is sponsoring a panel discussion featuring admissions counselors from four member schools who will share their insights on preparing for and succeeding in college. Registration is available [here](#).

November 19: Join *UChicago's* Financial Aid staff for *The FAFSA: A Step by Step Guide*. Topics will include a detailed walk-through of the FAFSA, working with the IRS data retrieval tool, and creating an FSA (Federal Student Aid) ID. This session is great for students and parents who are new to the college aid process. Registration is available [here](#).

November 21: Attend the *College Access Fair* for African-American/Black and Hispanic/Latinx students and families. The virtual college fair will include the opportunity to connect with representatives from 50+ private colleges from across New York as well as workshops, offered in English and Spanish, on the college process and financial aid. Registration is available [here](#).

November 22-24: Explore Jewish life on more than 150 campuses in the U.S. and Canada at Hillel's first-ever virtual college fair! Meet with current students and Hillel staff from schools that you're considering. Register [here](#).

December 8: Attend *Financing a College Education*, hosted by *Drexel University*. This session will guide you through information about types of aid, how to apply for grants and scholarships and resources to find

outside scholarships through various organizations. Register [here](#).

December 9: Attend *Johns Hopkins Supplemental Essay Workshop*. This is your chance to get an inside view on the role of the supplemental essay within the college application. Learn how to strengthen your own writing in the college process. Registration is available [here](#).

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES & FEE WAIVERS:

Equitable Excellence Scholarship: For high school seniors who demonstrate courage, strength and wisdom as shown by community impact through volunteer service. [Apply by](#) December 15.

GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program: Rewards college-bound students who demonstrate exemplary leadership, drive, integrity, and citizenship with financial assistance to pursue higher education. The program selects recipients to receive a \$10,000 scholarship renewable for up to an additional three years. [Apply by](#) January 5.

Hispanic Heritage Youth Awards: Honors Latino high school seniors who excel in the classroom and community and for their excellence in various categories including: Business & Finance, Engineering, Entrepreneurship, Education, Healthcare & Science, Media & Entertainment, Social Justice and Technology. [Apply by](#) December 6.

Profile in Courage Essay Contest: Challenges students to write an original and creative essay that demonstrates an understanding of political courage as described by John F. Kennedy in *Profiles in Courage*. Multiple awards are offered; the first-place winner will receive a \$10,000 award. [Apply by](#) January 15.

Science Ambassador Scholarship: A full-tuition scholarship for a woman in science, technology, engineering, or math. You must be a high school senior or an undergraduate college student to apply. Film a 3 minute educational video of yourself explaining a STEM topic you're passionate about. [Apply by](#) December 14th.

Stephen J. Brady Stop Hunger Scholarship: A program that recognizes students who are driving awareness and mobilizing youth to be catalysts for innovative models

that provide solutions to eliminate hunger in the U.S. Scholarship winners receive a \$5,000 scholarship and a \$5,000 grant for their hunger-related charity. [Apply by](#) December 5.

Washington Crossing Foundation Scholarship: Competition open to all high school seniors who are planning careers of service to the United States in local, state, or federal government. Scholarships range from \$500 to \$5,000. [Apply by](#) January 15.

Fee waivers for MLHS applicants:

Bloomfield College: use code **BCVIP**

Dominican College: use code **waive2021**

Drew University: use code **DREW25**

New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT): use code **NJ21**

Savannah College of Art and Design: use code **EDU2021**

Stockton University: use code **STOCKTONU2021** when applying through their web application. If applying via the Common App, indicate that you are requesting a fee waiver and they will approve it.

University of Alabama: Their “Free App Week” is running November 16-20. DO NOT mark the fee waiver box at the beginning of the application. At the end of the application, type the code **AL20** into the 'Staff Only Use' box above the submit button. Students have until 11:59 p.m. on 11/20 to apply with the free code. Please contact Mrs. Nicholson if you have questions.

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION:

* The [FAFSA](#) must be completed if you are applying for need-based financial aid. Review these resources for help on preparing for, completing, and submitting the FAFSA: [FAFSA Help](#), [FAFSA Process](#).

* Remember the first word of FAFSA: FREE. If you are asked for payment at any point while filling out the FAFSA, you are not on the correct website.

* Check to see if your colleges also require the [CSS Profile](#) (review their financial aid website). See [this guide](#) for help on completing the CSS Profile.

* [Financial Aid in Seven Easy Steps](#)

* Missed the Financial Aid event? A link to the presentation can be found [HERE](#).

* **Please be aware of your college’s financial aid deadlines.** These deadlines are typically not flexible - you may miss out on potential aid if you do not submit these documents in time.

COMMON APP QUESTIONS:

Have questions about the Courses & Grades section? Review [this video](#) for instructions on how to complete the section. *Our grading scale is A-F. Our GPA is on a 4.0 weighted scale. For class rank, enter “none.”*

OTHER RESOURCES:

[14 Things Better Left Unsaid](#), by Tulane University

[80 Questions to Ask on a College Campus Tour](#), by Bucknell University

[Does a College Application Essay have to be Unique?](#), by UVA

[Fact-Checking College Admissions](#), by Forbes

[Ten Things to Do As a Junior](#), by Tulane University (good for Juniors who are beginning to think about the college search!)

[Thursday Night Live](#) – Check out recordings of Thursday Night Live, where the Derryfield Director of College Counseling talks with College Admission leaders from around the country (everywhere from Tufts University to Elon University and UCLA).

[UC for You / UC for Everyone](#) – Check out recordings of these sessions, designed for students and families to learn more about the 9 undergraduate University of California campuses.

TESTING INFORMATION:

Below, you’ll find the links to register for SAT and ACT exams:

[SAT Registration](#)

[ACT Registration](#)

WINTER PRE-COLLEGE PROGRAMS:

Cornell University: As a high school student, you may request approval to take online Cornell courses during their Winter Session. Current high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors are eligible. Learn more about their Winter Pre-College Programs [here](#).

UMass Amherst is offering online pre-college programs in several popular topics. Programs run from 1-4 weeks in length, depending on the topic. High school students in grades 9 - 12 are welcome to apply. Admissions are rolling now through December. Learn more [here](#).

I will begin to share summer program and internship opportunities in the next Bulletin.

If you have any questions or want to schedule an appointment, please contact Mrs. Nicholson at cnicholson@mlschools.org or (973) 334-8580 ext. 5243.