

# SENIOR PLANNING GUIDE

CEEB Code: 201075

**Check what courses/credits you need in order to graduate!**

## Options for after High School

\*2 or 4 year college and 2+@ programs

\* Military

\* Technical programs

\* Work, travel, Gap year options

## What goes into choosing a school that's right for you?

- Size, location, programs, diversity, sports, music and other interests, finances, admissibility.

## Things to pay attention to:

- SAT Reasoning and SAT Subject Test dates: Oct 7th, Nov 4th and Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>. We are a test center for all of these testing dates
- ACT dates: Sept 9<sup>th</sup>, Oct 28<sup>th</sup>, and Dec 9th
- Essay writing - To be determined
- Post-Secondary Planning Night – To be determined
- Financial Aid Night – To be determined
- The FAFSA can be completed right after the Financial Aid Presentation
- DEADLINES! Application, financial aid and scholarship.
- Early decision/early action/regular/rolling
- ASVAB and Selective Services
- Admissions and military reps. In guidance
- College Open Houses
- Check guidance bulletin boards, scholarship board, office files and guidance website
- NCAA—must register online
- Ask for recommendations early! Provide addressed, stamped envelopes
- Thank you notes
- Essays
- Interviews for colleges that require them. BE PREPARED!
- Campus visits—what you look for, what to ask, etc.
- You must arrange to have your ACT and/or SAT scores sent to the colleges from the test centers
- If you want your applications sent out before Christmas vacation, all the paperwork must be in the Guidance office by **Friday, December 8th**.
- **Counselors are not here during the December break. Pay attention if you have January 1<sup>st</sup> deadlines—they must go out by December 8<sup>th</sup>.**

## Forms:

- Guidance forms in your packet
- Most applications can be done online. Make sure you keep a copy and bring your counselor and teachers the application forms they have to complete.
- If you use the Common Application, be sure you download the forms for the counselor and teachers to complete. You only need to complete one. We can make extra copies. Also, many colleges require that you complete a supplemental form. Save copies of everything you submit online!

- If you do a paper copy: BE NEAT and USE PEN! Keep COPIES!
- CSS Profile—complete online at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
- FAFSA—you and parents should get your FSA ID number now!
- You mail out your part of the application, the fee, your essay and sometimes teacher recommendations. The guidance office mails out the counselor letter of recommendation, teacher recommendations, application forms and transcripts.
- You should create a resume. Many college applications want one, as do scholarship applications. Helpful to give your counselor as well! We've included a sample one in this packet.

### **What colleges use to make the decision about acceptance:**

- Review of transcript, class rank, GPA, classes taken, test scores, community service, work history, extra curricular activities, recommendations, attendance record, etc.
- Colleges will receive a copy of your transcript at the end of the first semester and at the end of the year. **If they are concerned about the grades they see, they can rescind their acceptance or place your application on probation for acceptance.**

### **Other things to consider:**

- Consider job shadowing
- Volunteer and provide some community service
- Apply to at least five schools

### **Guidance Office Resources:**

- Various books in the guidance office include: The College Handbook, Book of Majors, Colleges that Changes Lives, Rugg's Recommendations, Writing Essays, Campus Visits and College Essays, Studying Abroad and more. Please check them out.
- College catalogs and viewbooks
- [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) is a wealth of information; find schools, programs, information about money and much more!
- Your guidance counselor

### **Helpful websites:**

- The guidance page of the school's website—[www.wshs.wtvl.k12.me.us](http://www.wshs.wtvl.k12.me.us). Lots of information for you there.
- [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
- [www.petersons.com](http://www.petersons.com)
- [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)
- [www.review.com](http://www.review.com)
- [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
- [www.famemaine.com](http://www.famemaine.com)
- [www.fafsa.edu.gov](http://www.fafsa.edu.gov)
- [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)