

Updated Junior College Planning Timeline

In response to the evolving situation around the coronavirus (COVID-19), we are updating the timeline with virtual resources and ongoing school counseling support.

- Meet with your school counselor to discuss your progress in the college search process. (These sessions can be set up via call and/or zoom when students are ready, please email your counselor).
- Review the School Counseling, College Information page for ongoing updated resources and forms: <https://sites.google.com/a/sau41.org/hbhsguidance/Guidance/college-information>
- Utilize Naviance <https://student.naviance.com/HollisBrookline>
 - Explore campuses with or without physically visiting. From virtual campus tour, to virtual open houses, and/or emailing admissions counselor(s)-there is an array of methods to discover campuses.
- Attend events such as STRIVE VIRTUAL COLLEGE EXPLORATION WEEK!!!
Monday, April 20 – Thursday, April 23, 2020 <https://www.strivescan.com/virtual/>
Four full days of virtual presentations for juniors to explore college opportunities.
- Familiarize yourself with colleges: majors, geographic location, size, admission criteria (average GPA of college, SAT score range, percent of students accepted)- Naviance Account.
- Prepare for the SAT, review PSAT scores through Collegeboard Account via www.collegeboard.org -set up KHAN Academy Account Practice.
- Complete Class of 2021 Counselor Recommendation Request Form (Naviance-About Me).
- Parent(s) to complete Class of 2021 Parent Information Request Form (Naviance- About Me).
- Ask for (2) Teacher letters of recommendations and EMAIL Teachers to Confirm. (Teacher Recommendation Request Form-found on School Counseling website, College Information Link, senior Forms. Teacher Reference/Student Info Worksheet: when completed please provide to teachers via email.[TeacherRecommendationRequest_2015_final.pdf](#).
- Refine your college search – enter colleges into Naviance – Colleges I'm Thinking About Tab.
- Student athletes: start the NCAA process online www.ncaa.org.
- Create a Common Application account (most commonly used) www.commonapp.org
- If applicable--Create Coalition Application account. <http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/>
- Begin working on your essay (see page 2).
- Interested in a Military Academy/ROTC - meet with your counselor to begin process.
- Make a list of all Standardized Test(s) needed SAT, ACT and/or SAT II (subject tests) and register to take appropriate exams-via Collegeboard or ACT online.
(Updated testing dates can be found on www.collegeboard.org & www.act.org).
- Be advised Early Decision/Early Action deadlines are typically October 1st, 15th & November 1st
**Special Note, these admissions deadline dates could vary as well as typical admissions criteria such as Standardized Test Requirements. Admissions criteria will be updated by each college and university. Students are strongly encouraged to email admissions representatives regarding their specific questions relating to the admissions process for the entering Class of 2021.*

2020-2021 Common Application Essay Prompts

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from *obstacles we encounter* can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a *challenge, setback, or failure*. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you *questioned* or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your *thinking*? What was the *outcome*?
4. Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma - anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or *realization* that *sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others*.
6. Describe a *topic, idea, or concept* you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.