



POST SECONDARY PLANNING

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NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YNBSYQR>

PRE-TEST

1. What does 'Early Decision' mean in relation to college applications?
 - a) Students have a binding commitment to a first-choice institution
 - b) Students receive an early decision from a school they applied to with restrictions about where else they can apply
 - c) Students receive an early decision from a school they applied to with no restrictions about where else they can apply
 - d) During their junior year, students decide not to apply to college
2. What is the score range for the ACT?
 - a) 0-5
 - b) 1-36
 - c) 0-100
 - d) 600-1200

PRE TEST

3. What is the score range for the SAT?
 - a. 1-100
 - b. 0-1200
 - c. 600-2400
 - d. 0-2400
4. Are your Foreign Language grades calculated into your HOPE GPA?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
5. You can only get a fee-waiver for the SAT/ACT and college admissions fees if you qualify for free or reduced lunch.
 - a. True
 - b. False

WE HAVE LOTS TO DISCUSS...

- Comparing colleges
- ACT & SAT
- Application process
- Scholarships
- Military
- Work

APPLICATION PROCESS: OVERVIEW

✓ GET ORGANIZED!

1. Investigate your college options
2. Choose your colleges/universities/programs
3. Register and retake SAT and ACT tests (no later than December).
4. <https://www.ga411.com/>
5. Apply using GAcollege411
6. Ask teachers for letters of recommendation
7. Request transcripts from home school counselors

WHAT YOU SHOULD CONSIDER...

- Size and diversity of student body
- Location
- Academic programs
- Campus life — athletics, activities, housing
- Graduation and retention rates
- Financial aid and scholarship opportunities

Above all, think about where you will be the most happy and successful in your college life!!!

WHAT COLLEGES CONSIDER...

Primary Factors

- Quality/Rigor of Academic Courses
- Academic Performance/ Grades (upward trend)
- Test Scores (ACT, SAT, SAT Subject Tests)

Additional Factors

- Extracurricular Activities/Leadership
- Essay(s)
- Letters of Recommendation
- Demonstrated Interest
- Honors/Awards



ACT OR SAT???

ACT

- Score range 1-36
- Science section
- Directly related to what you learn at school
- NO penalty for guessing
- Accepted by every 4 year college in US
- Must register for the optional writing portion!

SAT

- Score range 600-2400
- NO science
- More vocabulary and reasoning
- Guessing penalty
- Accepted by every 4 year college in US

ACT & SAT DEADLINES

ACT

Test Date	Registration deadline
September 21	August 23
October 26	September 27

SAT

Test Date	Registration deadline
October 5	September 6
November 2	October 3

You are responsible for requesting your test scores to be sent to each school directly from act.org and collegeboard.org (SAT)!!!

Make sure to list up to 5 schools when you register for the tests – they will send these for free! After that, you have to pay for each one.

FEE WAIVERS

- If you qualify for free or reduced lunch you are eligible for 2 fee waivers each for both the SAT and ACT
- You are also eligible for up to 4 college application fee waivers
- Homeschool counselors have all fee waivers

PARTS OF THE APPLICATION



- ✓ Demographic Information
- ✓ Activities List
- ✓ Essay
- ✓ Send Test Scores
- ✓ Transcript
- ✓ Secondary School Report/
College Prep Form
- ✓ Recommendations
- ✓ Fee

COMMON MIS-STEPS ON COLLEGE APPLICATIONS...

- Missing the deadline!!!
- Weak senior course schedule
- Forgetting to request transcripts
- Copying essays from the internet
- Having a parent fill out the application
- Typos, spelling, grammatical errors



MAKE SURE TO...

- Proofread your application out loud!
- Review your essays- make sure you answered every part of the question!
- Confirm that your recommendation letters have been submitted
- Keep in touch with your connections (faculty, admissions reps, etc.) and keep them updated on your progress!
- Request transcripts
- Send official test scores



GACOLLEGE411

- Make sure you keep your account updated at gacollege411.org so you can:
 - Send your transcript to colleges
 - Explore your career interests
 - Find out what kind of schools are best for you
 - Calculate your HOPE GPA
 - And much more!

HOW MANY SHOULD YOU APPLY TO?

Apply to at least one safety school!!!

A safety school is a school whose requirements you exceed.

Apply to at least one school that is a good fit in terms of your GPA, courses, test scores, majors offered, etc.

What if you don't meet all the requirements for your dream school?

Apply anyway if you can! As long as you apply to other schools that are within your reach, as well as a safety school, you might as well apply for your reach school! You never know...

RECOMMENDATIONS

- ✓ **Teacher (past and present)**
 - ✓ **Counselor**
 - ✓ **Administrator**
 - ✓ **Boss, coach, mentor**
-
- ✓ **Make sure you choose people who know you well and who can write about more than just what grade you got in a class!**



HOPE

- You must have a 3.0! (2.99 does not qualify)
- GPA is determined by averaging ALL core coursework (English, Math, Science, Social Science, Foreign language)

HOPE ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

[https://dl-
web.dropbox.com/get/RCA%20Counseling%20Website/HOPE%2
0eligible%20schools.pdf?w=AADOSDt6ZEilzdisfulxxGL7_q2Pa2E
wicLXS7kuRaSNTg](https://dl-web.dropbox.com/get/RCA%20Counseling%20Website/HOPE%20eligible%20schools.pdf?w=AADOSDt6ZEilzdisfulxxGL7_q2Pa2EwicLXS7kuRaSNTg)

OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS

- www.fastweb.com
- www.GACollege411.org
- www.collegeboard.com
- www.hsf.net (Hispanic Scholarship Fund)
- www.gmsp.org (Gates Millennium Scholars)

- Financial aid and scholarships webpages for the specific schools you are applying to

NCAA

If you plan on participating in athletics at a NCAA Division I or II institution, you need to register with the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse!

www.ncaaclearinghouse.net

When taking the ACT or SAT, you need to enter **9999** as one of your school codes for the scores to be sent to NCAA.

IMPORTANT NEXT STEPS

- Check your transcript and make sure you have the requirements needed for the colleges you are looking at
- Retake the ACT/SAT and have scores sent to schools
- Decide on your final list of colleges and know all of their deadlines!
- Ask teachers for letters of recommendation.....NOW!!!
- Get started writing application essays!
- Research scholarship opportunities
- Begin submitting applications!

WEBSITE

<https://rcacounseling.wikispaces.com/>

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ACTIVITY

- Who is your counselor at RCA?
- What is the late registration deadline for the November 2nd SAT?
- What is the schedule change deadline at RCA?
- What is one ACT/SAT essay strategy listed on our website?
- What is one question you can ask a college representative listed on our website?

QUESTIONS?

