





Friendswood High School College Preparation Night



April 26, 2018
FHS Counseling Team
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Agenda

1. College Search
2. Naviance
3. College Admissions
4. Testing: SAT & ACT
5. Completing college applications
6. Financial Aid

Post High School Plans

- 4 year college
- 2 year college (community and junior)
- Technical training programs
- Military
- Other- work, study abroad, etc.

Searching for Colleges

Know YOURSELF

- Distance from home
- Size of school and setting
- Academic opportunities
- Intended major
- Extracurricular activities
- **Graduation rates**/ career placement statistics and services
- Other factors important to you and your family

How to Research Colleges

1. Websites- Naviance, College Board, College Scorecard, specific college
2. Blogs and articles
3. Tours- #1 way how students determine their plans are through campus visits
4. College & military representatives- on high school campus, email, attend sessions (all show “demonstrated interest”)
5. College fairs- fall and National fairs
6. Twitter- @fwoodcounselors

Naviance

1. College Search- SuperMatch, FHS Data, average scores, links directly to college
2. Interest Inventories- possible careers, learning styles
3. Resume Builder & Senior Brag Sheet- start recording everything early
4. Transcript request- starts on Naviance
5. Scholarship list- updated regularly
6. Recommendations- for Common Application (not Apply Texas)

* Wait for Naviance to update for teacher/ counselor rec letters
(August 2018)

* How-To Instructions posted on Counseling Website

College Admissions

1. Transcript *
2. Test Scores: SAT, ACT *
3. Involvement: resume, extracurricular, leadership, work history, volunteering
4. Essays
5. Recommendation letters- colleges can be specific
6. Supplemental: portfolio, interviews, demonstrated interest
7. Online application *

* Required for MOST four-year colleges

Types of admissions

(Other than Regular Admissions)

Early Decision

- Can only ED to 1 college
- Binding contract
- If accepted, must withdraw all other applications

Early Action

- No limit
- You are just being proactive
- Early action for college-specific scholarship deadline (TAMU and UT)

SAT and ACT Testing

Junior year

- Take both tests to determine which test you prefer
- Colleges will take highest score of either test
- Khan Academy via College Board- free online test prep based on PSAT/SAT scores
- End of year & summer- retest

Senior year

- Retest if necessary depending on your college deadline
- Takes about 4-6 weeks from test date for colleges to receive, so be mindful of application deadlines

Online Applications

Apply Texas

- www.applytexas.org
- Opens August 2018 (Texas A&M July 1, 2018)
- Public and some private

*You may be using more than 1 online application; please record login information

Common Application

- www.commonapp.org
- Opens August 2018
- Typically out of state and private

Other applications

- California colleges
- College specific

Completing Online Applications

1. Stay organized- excel, graph, list, write down passwords
2. Email- colleges communicate this way, spam folder, portal setup
3. DEADLINES- please write down, track, and don't miss them
4. Supplemental items needed that you will send
 - Transcript
 - Test scores
 - Rec letters (Naviance for Common App, mail for Apply Texas)

Financial Aid

- Scholarships and Grants- don't pay back
- Loans- parent or student loans
- FAFSA- opens October 2018 for seniors
- Scholarship search tools- Naviance, College Greenlight, local searches, Twitter @fwoodcounselors

Tasks for Rising Seniors

- Update resume
- Complete senior brag sheet on Naviance after the update (August 2018)
- Wrap up SAT & ACT testing
- Complete career interest inventories on Naviance
- Write college essays (on Apply Texas and/or Common App)
- Take challenging classes your senior year
- Begin your online applications

Tasks for Rising Juniors

- Take challenging classes
- Get involved in extracurricular activities
- Volunteer
- Start researching colleges and programs
- Complete career interest inventories
- Start/update your resume on Naviance
- Begin preparation and registering for SAT/ACT in the Spring
- Start chatting with your parents about college

Please be sure to use the
FHS Counseling Center
Website for all of your
college preparation needs.

<http://myfisd.com/hs/support-teams/counseling-center/>

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