OPHS Senior Family College Meeting





September 5, 2024





Meet the OPHS counselors



Mrs. Caity Katz 10-12 Grade School Counselor Last Name: A-Go



Ms. Andrea Lanter 10-12 Grade School Counselor Last Name: Gp-Nh



Ms. Jenny Charrett 10-12 Grade School Counselor

Last Name: Ni-Z

Wellness Counselor

Ms. Fatima Hernandez



College & Career Counselor Ms. Amanda Fitts



College & Career Advisor Mrs. Ambyr Preston

Topics

- Creating the College/Technical School List
- How we use Naviance
- College Applications and Deadlines
- Letter of Recommendation Request Process
- Transcript Request Process
- Counselor 1:1 Meeting
- Scholarships/Financial Aid
- ⁺ Upcoming Workshops

Parent/Guardian Role

- Manage expectations
- Monitor tasks and deadlines; let your child lead
- Validate information directly through the colleges
- Support and encourage
- Complete the optional Naviance Parent Questionnaire

Student Wellness

- Reserve time for playtime, downtime, and family time (PDF)
- Assist your student in prioritizing adequate sleep and nutrition
- Encourage your student to use positive coping strategies, e.g. breathing exercises, movement or exercise, talk to a trusted adult, journaling, etc.
- Remind students it's okay to talk to their counselor about their struggles! It won't change our letter of recommendation.
- Learn More! Georgia Tech Admission Blog by Rick Clark (Assistant Vice Provost and Executive Director of Undergraduate Admission at Georgia Tech) <u>College</u>
 Admission: Give Your Full 75%



Private College Consultants

- Private college consultants can be a helpful resource to assist with college research and organization.
- Colleges do NOT accept letters of recommendation, transcripts, or other application materials from private college consultants..
- College admission offices will contact Oak Park High School counselors, not private college consultants, with any questions about a student's application or candidacy.
- It is imperative that students work productively with the OPHS Counseling Office throughout the application process.
- Many students successfully navigate the college process without a private consultant.

Form a well-rounded college list

2-3 Reach Schools
3-4 Target/Match/50-50 Schools
2-3 Likely Schools (at least one financial aid "likely" school)
*Multiple UC and CSU campuses count as one application each.

Students should only apply to colleges they would be happy to attend!

CA Community College = free tuition for up to two years!



A guide to developing a balanced list of 8-10 schools, plus how to decide whether or not to apply early

How to Develop a Great College List

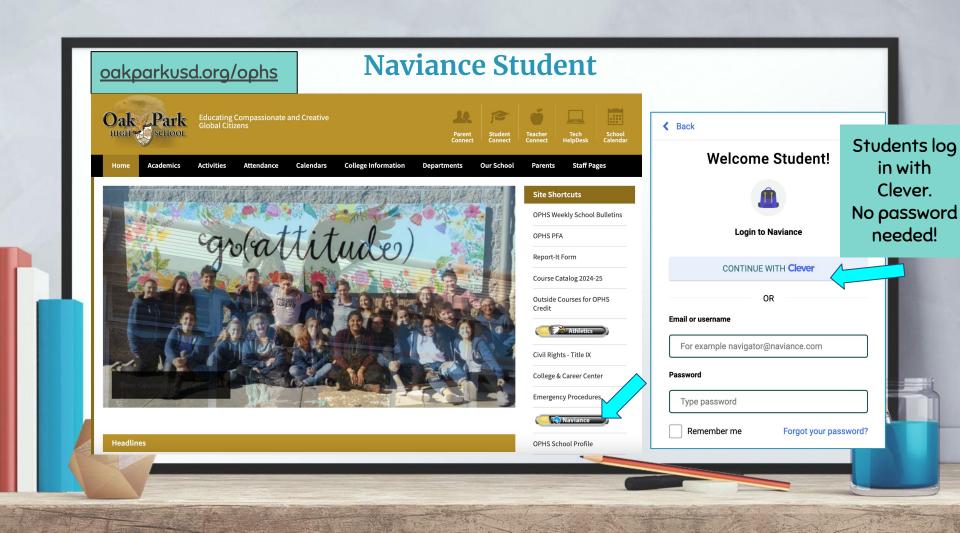
College Application & Admissions Timeline

How to Research Colleges (Without Visiting a Campus)

How to Decide Whether to Apply Early Action (EA) or Early Decision (ED)



<u>https://www.collegeessayguy.com/blog/how-to-choose-a-college</u> – Use this guide to help determine reach, target, and likely colleges.



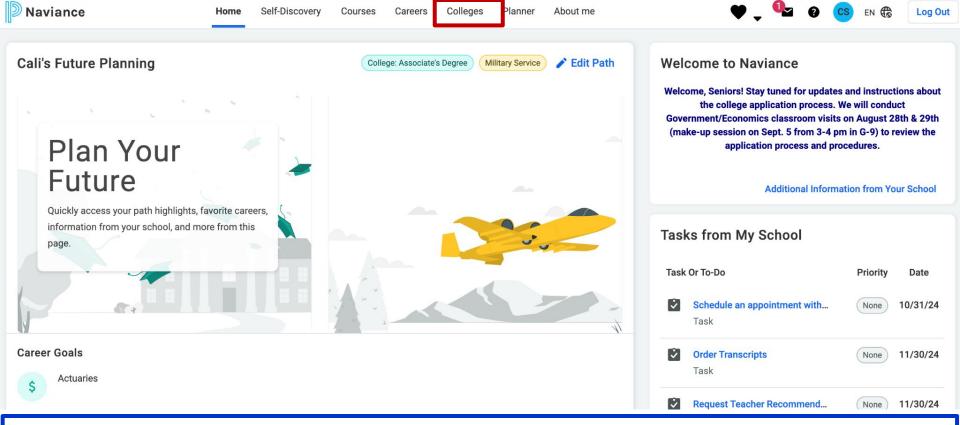
Naviance: Parent/Guardian Access Oak Park oakparkusd.org/ophs Parents/Guardians: Tech HelpDesk School Calendar Connect Check tonight's email for login Academics Activities Attendance Calendars **College Information** Departments Our School Parents Staff Pages instructions Site Shortcuts **OPHS Weekly School Bulletins** OPHS PFA to Naviance Student. Welcom Oak LPark Report-It Form Course Catalog 2024-25 Please choose user type. Outside Courses for OPHS Credit This allows Navia o help you log in the way your school and district prefers. Athletics Civil Rights - Title IX Student Parent or Alumni College & Career Center Guardian Emergency Procedure I'm new and need to register!

OPHS School Profile

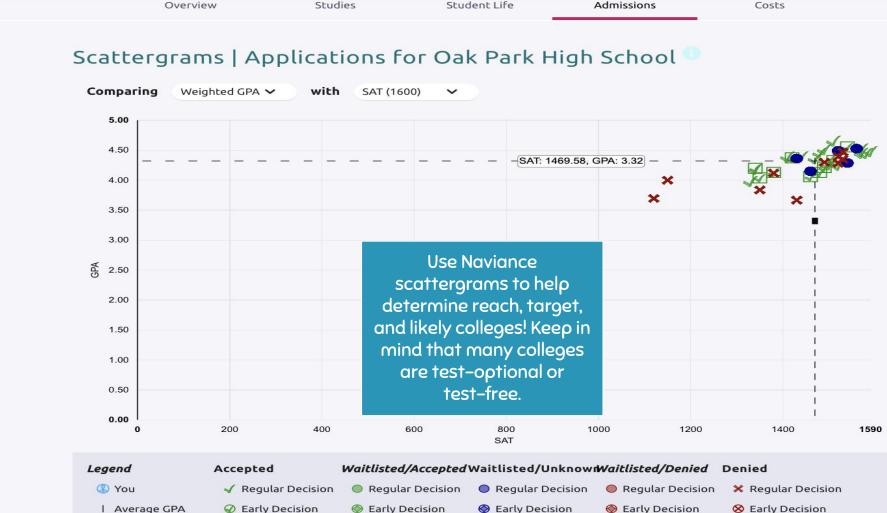
😞 Naviance

Guest

Headlines



- 1. Find Your Fit: Use tools like SuperMatch and Scattergrams to identify your best-fit colleges.
- 2. Research Colleges: Dig deeper into colleges of interest using tools like Acceptance History.
- 3. Apply to Colleges: Manage college applications and corresponding documentation.
- 4. Scholarships & Money: Search for and keep track of scholarships.
- 5. College Visits: Check out and sign up for colleges visiting the school.



Average Score

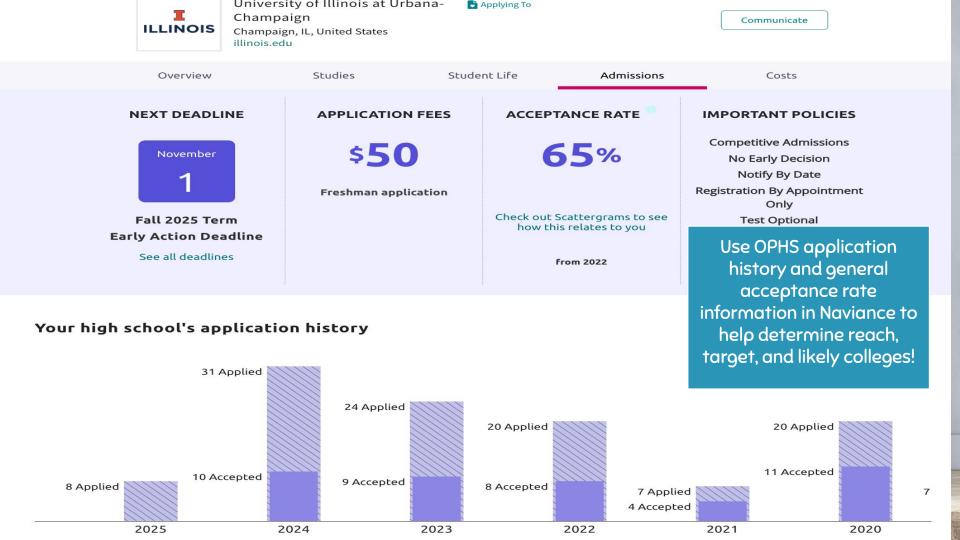
Early Action

Early Action

Early Action

Early Action

Early Action



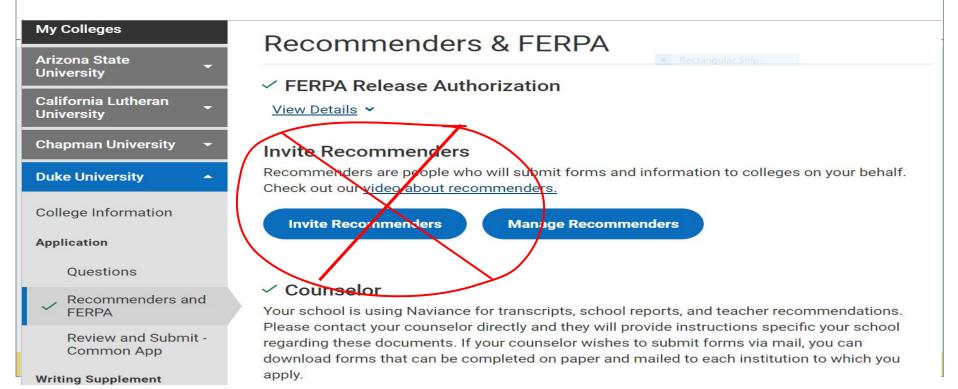
What to do in Naviance - Next Steps

- + Review tasks assigned on Naviance home page
- + Match Common App to Naviance (if using)
- + Add Colleges To "Colleges I'm Applying To"
 - + Confirm App Type (refers to app deadline)
 - + Confirm App Submission (refers to app you use)
- Request Teacher Letters of Recommendation
 (if applicable and once teacher gives ok)
 - + Note: Counselor Recs are requested through 1:1 counselor meeting, not Naviance

Home Self-Disco	overy Courses Careers Colleges Planner	About me 🔍 🗸	💁 🧿 🙁 EN 🛞 🛛 Log Out
College Visits			Search for colleges
AUGUST Mon 26 12:15PM	Simmons University © College & Career Center (Room C-6); Virtual Visit (Link available at visit time)		Register Now View Details
AUGUST Mon 26 02:45PM	University of Wisconsin-Madison • College & Career Center (Room C-6)	College rep visits to OPHS -	Register Now View Details
AUGUST Tue 27 12:15PM	Chapman University © College & Career Center (Room C-6)	Sign up on Naviance home page or under "Colleges"	Register Now View Details
AUGUST Tue 27 02:45PM	University of the Pacific © College & Career Center (Room C-6)		Register Now View Details
AUGUST Wed 28 02:45PM	University of Oklahoma-Norman Campus • College & Career Center (Room C-6)		Register Now View Details
AUGUST Thu 29 02:45PM	Hampden-Sydney College • College & Career Center (Room C-6)		Register Now View Details

Common App - FERPA

- Once one school is added, sign FERPA release; it then applies to all schools in student's "My Colleges" list
- Remember: Do <u>NOT</u> invite teacher recommendations here!



Naviance: Post SAT or ACT scores (*if applicable*)

- Posting scores in Naviance gives students comparison admission decision data with past OPHS applicants
- Test-Optional means Test-Optional
- Check college websites for requirements, both for admission and merit aid consideration
- Many colleges are test-optional: Visit <u>https://fairtest.org/</u> for the list of colleges.

Application Materials

Student Responsibility

- Submits application (e.g. UC, CSU, Common App, Coalition, Other)
 - * May include school-specific supplement
- + Application fee payment/Fee waiver
- + Test Scores if student has them or chooses to send them
 - + Many colleges are <u>test-optional or test-free.</u>
 - Ordered by student from testing agency for a fee (ACT or College Board – fee waivers available)

Application Materials

School Will Send

- + Transcript
- + Letters of Recommendation
 - NOT for UC/CSU/Community college (unless requested separately)

Once materials are submitted, colleges will send confirmation emails or communicate through applicant portals
 May take 2-3 weeks for the college to process materials

Application Materials cont.

- Some colleges encourage
 Interview

 - **Demonstrated** interest
 - In-person/virtual rep visits to OPHS
 - Admission Programs (College websites)
 - In-person/Virtual college tours
 Emails from the college

Naviance: Application Plans

STUDENTS: WHICH COLLEGE ADMISSION PROCESS BEST SUITS YOU?

and the second second second	Rolling	and the second se	Early Decision	Restrictive Early	
Regular Decision	Admission	Early Action (EA)	(ED)	Action (REA)	
DEFINITION:	DEFINITION:	DEFINITION:	DEFINITION:	DEFINITION:	
Students submit an application by a specified date and receive a decision in a clearly stated period of time.	Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render admis- sion decisions throughout the admission cycle.	Students apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular response date.	Students make a commitment to a first-choice in- stitution where, if admitted they definitely will en- roll. The applica- tion deadline and decision deadline occur early.	Students apply to an institution of preference and receive a decision early. They may be restricted from ap plying ED or EA o REA to other insti- tutions. If offered enrollment, they have until May 1 to confirm.	
COMMITMENT:	COMMITMENT:	COMMITMENT:	COMMITMENT:	COMMITMENT	
NON-BINDING	NON-BINDING	NON-BINDING	BINDING	NON-BINDING	

and following restrictions.

Students are not restricted from applying to other institutions and have until May 1 to consider their options and confirm enrollment.

Early Decision (ED) Important to Understand

- 1. Students may only apply to 1 ED college!
 - + Students <u>may be able to</u> apply Early Action (EA) to other schools but not Restrictive EA. <u>Check each college's ED policy</u>, as they vary.
 - + Student, parents and your OPHS counselor sign an ED acknowledgment agreement!
- 2. ED is binding. If accepted, student agrees to attend this school.
- 3. Consider finances before applying check the college website's <u>net price calculator</u>.
- 4. Students must withdraw applications from all other colleges if accepted ED.
- 5. Mid-year transcripts will not be sent to other colleges if student is accepted ED.
- 6. If a college does not offer the financial package within your means, you *must speak* to the admissions office and financial aid office to discuss your ED.

Types of College Applications

- + University of California
- + California State University
- Common Application
- Coalition Application (please use Common App if you have that choice)
- + Other some universities have their own application on their website

University of California

- + Comprehensive Review
- + 4 of 8 personal insight questions (350 words each)
- Application submission timeline: Oct 1 Dec 2 (opened August 1)
- + To apply:

https://apply.universityofcalifornia.edu/my-application/login

- + What is not sent with the application
 - + NO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION
 - NO INITIAL TRANSCRIPTS: Self-report grades
 - + NO SAT or ACT scores

California State University

- + To apply, go to: <u>https://www2.calstate.edu/apply</u>
- Once applied, student sets up a CSU portal and checks admission status
- Application Submission Timeline: Oct 1 Dec 2
 What is not sent with the application:
 - + NO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION
 - + NO INITIAL TRANSCRIPTS: Self-report grades
 - NO SAT or ACT scores

Common Application

- <u>Account Rollover</u> If student opened account prior to August 1st, roll over to the 2024–25 school year.
- + <u>School Report</u> Counselor will send with transcript automatically when requested
- * <u>Recommenders</u> Note "Required" and "Optional"
- + <u>Essays</u> One required, but each school may have additional supplemental essays and/or short answer questions
- Official Test Scores Sent by student separately
- Transcripts Initial, Mid-year, and Final
- <u>Deadlines</u> These vary, check by school



Coalition Application

- + <u>https://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/</u>
- Students do <u>NOT</u> request teacher/counselor LORs through the Coalition App, use Naviance.
- If using the Coalition App, OPHS uses Naviance for document submission.

Information for Apps OPHS School CEEB code: 050006 Counselor's phone: (818) 735-3310 Senior Class Size: 328 Graduation Date: May 22, 2025 GPA Scale: 4.0

GPA: Students can self report either weighted or unweighted cumulative GPA (GPAs are found in Q--use most recent semester of grades)

Course Scheduling System: Semester Ranking: We DO NOT rank.

Letters of Recommendation

- Confirm types of recommendations colleges will accept (e.g. teacher, counselor, other) on the college websites.
- + Students do not request a letter unless required
 - + Not all colleges ask for letters of recommendation
 - + Counselors will write a letter if at least one college in student's list <u>requires</u> one

Letters of Recommendation cont.

Requesting from Teachers:

- Politely ask teacher(s) for a letter
- Once a clear YES is received AND once schools are added to "Colleges I'm Applying To" list, formally request a teacher recommendation by adding the teacher to Naviance.
- ⁺ Teachers will receive the Naviance requests via email. <u>For "Other" Recommenders (Outside of OPUSD):</u>
 - Request any outside recommenders through the Common Application or other application portal (not through Naviance), or have them send directly to the college by email or mail.

Counselor Recommendation Request Process

Steps to Complete for a Counselor Recommendation (in Naviance Tasks):

- 1. Add colleges to "Colleges I'm Applying to"
- 2. Counselor Questionnaire
- 3. Resume: Upload a resume in the "Journal" section of Naviance or create a resume in Naviance.
- 4. Parent Questionnaire (strongly recommended)
- 5. Request 1:1 Counselor Meeting through the Counseling website. ALL steps above MUST be completed prior to meeting date
- 6. Complete "<u>Initial Transcript & Counselor LOR Request for College</u> <u>Applications</u>" form.

Counselor 1:1 Meeting

Students sign up on the Counseling Dept website for a 1:1 meeting. Meetings available starting 9/4.

Meetings are for students only.

- Schedule the 1:1 meeting according to the counselor recommendation deadlines found on the "Applying to College Naviance Instructions" (see next slide)
- A counselor letter of recommendation will not be written without a 1:1 counselor meeting
- Students sign up for a meeting with Mrs. Preston if they do NOT require a counselor letter of recommendation.

Note: Please reserve earlier meeting dates for early deadlines

	unselors will begin me	eting with students Sep	t. 4th.
	Application Due Date	Deadline to Request Letter	
	Before October 1st	Week of Sept. 2	
	October 15th	September 20	
	November 1st	October 9	
	November 15th	October 23	
	December 1st - January 15th	November 4	
	After January 15th	At least 3 weeks before deadline	

Ordering Transcripts

- Add college(s) in Naviance under "Colleges I'm Applying To"
- Make sure deadline and delivery type are correct in Naviance
- Complete "<u>Initial Transcript & Counselor LOR Request for</u> <u>College Applications</u>" form.
- Schedule a meeting with Mrs. Preston if the colleges require a transcript but no counselor letter of recommendation.
- The above form should be completed and the colleges should be in Naviance at least 5 school days before a deadline to ensure all school materials are sent by the deadline. Students' requests will be processed by the application deadline.

nd Naviance						
Colleges I'm Applying To College	Арр Тур🚯	Deadline	Transcripts	Office Materials	Submissic() Type	Application
✦ American University	Early Action - Fall 2025	Nov 1	Ni st	Initial materials submitted	CA	Accepted 🗸 🖋 E
Arizona State University-Tempe	Priority	Nov 1	Nc	Initial materials submitted	H	Unknown 🗸 🏿 🖋 E
★ Bentley University	Regular Decision - Fall 2025	Jan 15	No Request	Initial materials submitted	CA	Unknown 🗸 🖋 E
← Boston University	Regular Decision - September	Jan 6	No Request	Initial materials submitted	CA	Submitted 🗸 🖋 E
✦ Bradley University	Early Action	Nov 1	No Request	Initial materials submitted	CA	Accepted 🗸 🖋 E
California Institute of Technology	Regular Decision - Fall 2025	Jan 3	No Request	Pending	CA	Unknown 🗸 🥒 E
✦ California Lutheran University	Farly Action - Fall 2025	Nov 15	No Request	Initial materials	CA	Accepted 🗸 🖋 E

eDocs Delivery Type Icons



Mail Only: documents can only be sent by mail

Electronic: documents can be sent through eDocs.

Electronic, Common App, and Common App via Electronic icons mean we can send electronically via Naviance.



Common App: Common App docs can be sent through eDocs



Common App via Electronic: documents can be accepted through eDocs -

you submit your application directly to the institution (e.g. Coalition App,

SendEdu, college website).



Senior checklist & timeline on the <u>College & Career website</u>



SENIORS

APPLYING TO COLLEGE

GUIDE FOR

RESOURCES

Oak Park High School 899 N. Kanan Road Oak Park, CA 91377 818-735-3300 https://www.oakparkusd.org/ophs

School Code 050006

Naviance student.naviance.com/oakparkhs

Counselors www.oakparkusd.org/page/1174

College & Career Center www.oakparkusd.org/Page/1079

Counselor & Naviance Tasks to Complete

Complete Applying to College Checklist. Colleges - Move "Colleges I'm Thinking About "to "Colleges I'm Applying To." Select college application deadlines for each college. Select application type in Naviance for each college. Complete Counselor Questionnaire in Naviance. Ask Parent/Guardian to complete Parent Questionnaire (use student Naviance log in). Resume - complete Naviance resume or unload a PDF to the "Journal" section.

Senior Year Events to Attend College Rep Visits - College & Career Center Counselor Senior Year Meeting Counselor 1:1 Meeting Application Workshops Essay Workshops



SENIOR YEAR TIMELINE

Financial Aid Workshops

August/September

- Solidify college list.
- Research application requirements and deadlines on college websites.
- Complete Applying to College Checklist.
- Ask for letter of recommendation (deadline is usually mid November).
- Start college essays and applications.
- Schedule college interviews, if offered.
- Attend college rep visits in the C&CC. Sign up on Naviance.
- Check portfolio/audition deadlines.
 - Register for SAT/ACT. Many colleges are test-optional or test-free but we recommend taking the SAT or ACT for admission and scholarship opportunities.
- UC Application available August 1st.
- Common Application available August 1st.
- Sign FERPA and match Common App with Naviance.
- Request official transcripts.
- Complete Naviance "tasks."
- Athletes: Register for NCAA or NAIA Eligibility Center and send transcript.
- Attend Financial Aid workshop, Part 1.

October/November

- Submit Rolling Applications as soon as possible.
- Check college portals for missing information.
- CSU application available October 1st. Submit between Oct. 1 and Dec. 2, 2024.
- UC application Submit between Oct. 1 and Dec. 2, 2024 (open Aug. 1).
- Attend Financial Aid Workshop, Part 2.
- CSS Profile (if required by college) is available October 1st.
- Continue to attend college rep visits. Sign up on Naviance.
- Submit test scores from testing agencies (if applicable).
- Apply for scholarships.
- Submit ED/EA/REA applications with November deadlines.

Email

- Students should check their email often!
- Open spam folder too.
- Colleges and counselors will send important communication to students via email and/or ask them to log into their account.

Professional Interactions

- Social media
- Voicemail
- 🗕 Email
- Students, not parents, need to communicate with colleges
 - Phone calls
 - Emails
 - Essays and applications



Etiquette

- Students should keep their college process to themselves.
- Don't make negative comments about others' lists/college choices.
- Students shouldn't apply to schools they haven't researched.
- Students must write thank you notes to the teachers and counselors who write their recommendation letters!



College Acceptances - Be Aware

- Every acceptance you receive is <u>PROVISIONAL</u>. This means the college has the right to rescind an admission offer.
- If the student's GPA drops significantly, if they earn a D, if they have a disciplinary infraction, or if they drop a planned class second semester, they could lose their offer of admission.

Unofficial Transcripts

- + Distributed last week.
- + Students should review prior to counselor 1:1 meeting.
- + Ensure all information is accurate.
- Students use the transcript to complete applications which require self-reported courses and grades (e.g. UC, CSU, community college, some others).

Resources

- + Email communications from counseling department
- + College rep visits to CCC during lunch/after school
- + OPHS College & Career Center Website
- + Workshops
 - + Thursday, September 5: Senior Family College Meeting
 - Saturday, September 7: College Financial Aid Presentation, Part 1
 - Tuesday, September 10: Supplemental College Essay Workshop
 - ⁺ Tuesday, September 17: Senior Parent Coffee
 - Wednesday, October 16: Career Fair
 - Monday, October 21: College Mini-Fair
 - Wednesday, October 30: College Financial Aid Presentation, Part 2
 - ⁺ Thursday, December 12: College Financial Aid Presentation, Part 3
 - Community College workshops: Monthly, starting in December Career Chats and additional workshops – TBA

Financial Aid Information + FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid & **CA Dream Act Application** + Available December 1, 2024 + Colleges set due dates + Estimate your need-based aid with Student Aid Index (SAI) Calculator BEFORE applying + CSS Profile (Collegeboard.com)- Additional financial information required by some colleges

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Apply for scholarships throughout the year
 - College & Career Center website
 - Weekly bulletin
 - Naviance
 - College/technical school websites
 - Fastweb.com, scholarships.com

Student To Do List

- + Finalize college list
- Add Colleges/Technical Schools To "Colleges I'm Applying To" in Naviance
 - Confirm App Type (refers to app deadline)
 - Confirm App Submission (refers to app you use)
- Match Common App to Naviance (if using)
- Request a Teacher and Counselor Letter of Recommendation (if needed)

Student To Do List (cont.)

- Request a Transcript (if needed)
- + Schedule counselor 1:1 meeting
 - Students meet with their counselor if counselor letter of rec required
 - Meet with Mrs. Preston if no counselor letter of rec required but transcript is required (not for UC/CSU/CC)
- Research Scholarships/Financial Aid resources on College/Career Center website, college/technical school websites

