

# The College Application Process



Presented by:  
The Scituate High School  
School Counseling  
Department

September 24, 2024

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## The Process

- This CAN be an anxiety-ridden time, tendency to avoid or procrastinate.
- Put everything on the table (\$, location, expectations).
- Communication among student, parent and counselor is essential!
- Organization is key!

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Narrowing The List

- Small, large, or in between?
- City or suburban?
- Public or Private?
- Close to home? Far away?
- Does it have what they want?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Range of Schools

Students should apply to a range of schools based on admissions criteria.

3-4 "Reach" schools

3-4 "Target" schools

4-5 "Safety" schools

(approx. 10 total)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## College Visits

- Tour the campus and attend an Open House.
- Talk to current students.
- Attend a college class. (if possible)
- Observe the student body ("Would I fit in here?").
- If they can't decide – do an overnight visit.(if possible)
- Utilize virtual tour resource on the college website.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Sept 24 University of Colorado Boulder  
Sept 24 SCAD  
Oct 1 Northwestern University  
Oct 1 UMASS Boston  
Oct 3 Quinnipiac University  
Oct 3 University of South Carolina  
Oct 8 Regis College  
Oct 8 St. Anselm College  
Oct 10 Dickinson College  
Oct 10 University of Vermont  
Oct 15 Eckerd College  
Oct 15 Salem State University  
Oct 17 College of Charleston  
Oct 17 Roger Williams University  
Oct 22 Mass Maritime Academy  
Oct 22 Merrimack College  
Oct 24 Providence College  
Oct 24 Stonehill College  
Oct 29 Suffolk University  
Oct 29 UMASS Lowell  
Oct 31 Miami University OHIO  
Oct 31 Fitchburg State  
Nov 7 Salve Regina University  
Nov 7 Sacred Heart University

## College Rep Visits @ SHS

Students can sign up for visits in Myflexlearning

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Interviews

- Go For It!**  
Interviews are encouraged.
- Go prepared!**  
Have questions ready  
Bring your transcript
- Make a good impression!**  
Body language  
Dress appropriately
- Show a genuine interest in the school!**  
Know *something* about the school
- Test Optional Schools!**  
They may want students to set up interviews.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# When to Apply?

- Early Decision – binding
- Early Action - non-binding
  - Restrictive Early Action - Students who apply REA to one school can't apply EA or ED to other private institutions, but they can apply to public universities.
- Regular Decision
- Rolling Admission - first come/first served
- Open Admission

---

---

---

---

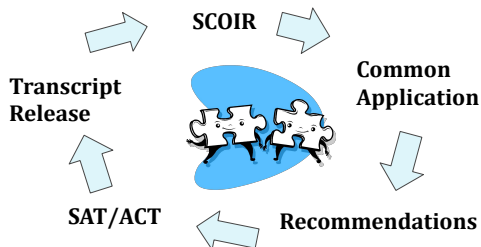
---

---

---

---

# Making the Puzzle Pieces Fit



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Student Responsibilities

Complete and Submit the college applications.

Move Colleges from “Following” to “Applying” to “Applied” in SCOIR

Secure Teacher & Counselor Recommendations.

Release Transcript by completing “Transcript Release”.

Send SAT/ACT Scores directly from collegeboard.org (SAT) or actstudent.org (ACT).

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## School Responsibilities

- Submit student’s transcript & SHS profile.
- Write and submit counselor recommendation letter.
- Complete Secondary School Report Forms.
- Submit Teacher Recommendations and Teacher Evaluation Forms.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## The Common Application

- The Common Application is used by nearly 900 colleges and universities.
- It enables students to complete one application online and submit it to multiple colleges.
- <https://www.commonapp.org/apply/first-time-students>

**www.commonapp.org**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## The Make-Up of the Application

- Profile
- Family
- Education
- Testing
- Activities
- Writing
- Supplemental* Application Questions
- Additional Information
- Application Fee \$\$

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## The Essay

- What makes them unique
- Be creative – open with an attention grabber
- Write about something they know well
- Have it proofread
- How well they write & communicate
- See Common App prompts



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## The Resume

Use template as a *guide*

Showcase special talents & qualities

Include:

- Awards and Honors
- Community Service
- Extra Curricular Activities
- Work Experience
- Special Interests

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Teacher Recommendations

- Choose 1-2 teachers who know them well
- After asking them in person/email, students should give teachers:
  - Teacher recommendation questionnaire & resume
  - Application deadlines
- Request recommendations through SCOIR
- Submitted to colleges directly through SCOIR

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Counselor Recommendation

- Counselor Recommendation Questionnaire & resume
- Student Brag Sheet for caregivers
- Each student receives a recommendation.
- Whole person, through the years, extenuating circumstances, etc.
- Secondary school report forms.
- Submitted dire

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Transcript Guidelines

- 1. Complete "Transcript Consent Form" and submit to counselor.
- 2. Student must move colleges from "Following" to "Applying" then to "Applied" in Scoir.

**Common App ID # must be entered correctly to sync with the student's Scoir account!!!!**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Requesting Transcripts

- Transcript Release Consent form - 3 weeks to process!!!!
- Class rank is OPTIONAL.
- Mid-year grades & final grades are automatically sent.
- First quarter grades – Note on transcript form if a student does not want them sent.
- Discipline disclosure

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Transcript Deadlines

College Application Deadlines	Transcript Release Form Due
October 1	September 17 (Tuesday)
October 15	September 24 (Tuesday)
November 1	October 11 (Friday)
November 15	October 25 (Friday)
December 1	November 8 (Monday)
December 15	November 25 (Monday)
January 3	December 13 (Friday)
January 14	December 20 (Friday)
February 1	January 10 (Friday)
March 1	February 7 (Friday)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### *A Note about October Deadlines*

Some schools may have an early application deadline in October.

If your student is applying to any school with an October deadline, please notify your school counselor at once!

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## SATs & ACT

- ❑ Students send SAT scores directly from CollegeBoard @ [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org).
- ❑ Students send ACT scores directly from ACT @ [actstudent.org](http://actstudent.org)
- ❑ Students may utilize score choice
- ❑ Allow 3-4 weeks - watch deadlines!
- ❑ <http://fairtest.org/university/optional>
- ❑ Don't forget to send to the NCAA clearinghouse (if Div 1 or 2!)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## *Just a few more things...*

- ❑ Students are encouraged to follow up with colleges to ensure they have received the application.
- ❑ Be open to schools you haven't heard of.
- ❑ Drop in grades or course load? Watch out!
- ❑ No guarantees - have a back-up plan.
- ❑ Students must enter the decisions into SCOIR (and tell their counselor! 😊)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## *Your student could be at any one of these steps...*

- Meeting with their counselor
- Narrowing down or finalizing their list
- Researching schools/interviewing
- Requesting teacher recommendations
- Writing their essay
- Completing their resume
- Taking the SAT or ACT
- Filling out applications
- Returning completed counselor questionnaire
- Requesting transcripts
- Submitting applications

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



## Financial Aid Process

Check individual college websites for specific requirements and resources. Be mindful of priority filing deadlines for each school and program.

Link to FAFSA (required by all colleges):

<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>

□ help with FAFSA via zoom at

<https://masfaa.org/fafsaday/>

Link to CSS/Profile (some private colleges use):

<https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/>

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Financial Aid Night!!!

**Financial Aid 101 with MEFA  
October 8th @ 6:30 pm  
SHS Library**



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**We want your feedback!**



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---