

A hand holding a pencil, with a tray of colored pencils and a sketchbook in the background.

*Welcome Senior
Families!*

Senior Parent Night
Colchester High School
2018-2019

Who is my senior's counselor?
Your last name begins with...



- A-E → Bob Hall
- F-M → Julie Pastore
- N-Z → Katie Moran



What we've covered/ will cover this fall in AT

College Application Checklist

- The transcript release form aka Pink Form. (Must be handed in at least 3-4 wks before deadlines).
- Linking Common Application and Naviance Accounts.
- ALL the schools you are applying to via The Common Application are listed in BOTH Naviance (under "colleges I'm applying to") AND in Common App.
- "Request Transcripts" on Naviance for EACH college at least 3 wks before deadline.
- Officially requesting SAT/ACT scores be sent to colleges (if required) at least 4 wks before deadline.
- Requesting Teacher Letters of Recommendation in person & on Naviance at least 3-4 wks before deadline.
- Requesting Counselor Letter of Recommendation (if need/want one) at least 3-4 wks before deadline.
- Importance of finishing ALL sections & proofreading Common Application and/or other Applications.
- Introduction to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid aka The FAFSA, The VT State Grant, (and if necessary The CSS Profile).
- Applying for Scholarships

Important Heads up

What We've Learned from Senior Surveys...

- AT
- Individual appointments
- Help sessions



*What to do if your counselor is busy...

Beyond AT Lessons

How can your counselor help?

- Students are always welcome to make one-on-one appointments with their counselors to discuss applying OR they can attend a help session during AT on one of the following dates. Students should pre-book with their counselor to ensure a space.
- **October: 2,3,4,5,23,24,25 & 26**
- **December: 18,19,20, & 21**
- **January: 3 & 4**





Senior Timeline

What your senior will need to do and when

September / NOW

Register for SATs and ACTs

- Register for SAT Subject exams if needed.
- Make sure to have your scores sent directly from College Board and ACT to the colleges you wish to apply to (you get four free reports when you register).
 - collegeboard.org or act.org

*See following slides for testing dates...



SAT dates and deadlines

register on collegeboard.org

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Deadline
October 6	September 7	September 26
November 3	October 5	October 24
December 1	November 2	November 20
March 9	February 8	February 27
May 4	April 5	April 24
June 1	May 3	May 22

ACT

Register online via act.org

ACT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
September 8, 2018	August 12, 2018	August 26, 2018
October 27, 2018	September 28, 2018	October 14, 2018
December 8, 2018	November 2, 2018	November 19, 2018
February 9, 2019*	January 11, 2019	January 18, 2019
April 13, 2019	March 8, 2019	March 25, 2019
June 8, 2019	May 3, 2019	May 20, 2019
July 13, 2019*	June 14, 2019	June 24, 2019

September continued...

- Create an account with the Common Application if any of the schools you apply to are using the Common Application. Begin to fill out if not fully complete.
- Link/match your Common Application account to your Naviance account.
- Fill out or request applications from colleges and universities that do not use the Common Application.



More to do in September...

- Meet with your school counselor to discuss post-secondary plans.
- Request letters of recommendation.
- Continue campus visits and interviews (if college allows).
- Create a chart of deadlines. Be particularly mindful of early decision or early action deadlines.
- Work on college essays.



October



- Take the SAT or ACT exam (if registered).
- Narrow your list of colleges you are applying to (roughly 6–8). This list should consist of schools that are reach, good fit, and safety schools.
- Take advantage of college fairs, campus tours, and virtual tours.
- Complete your applications for early decision or early action deadlines.

October continued...

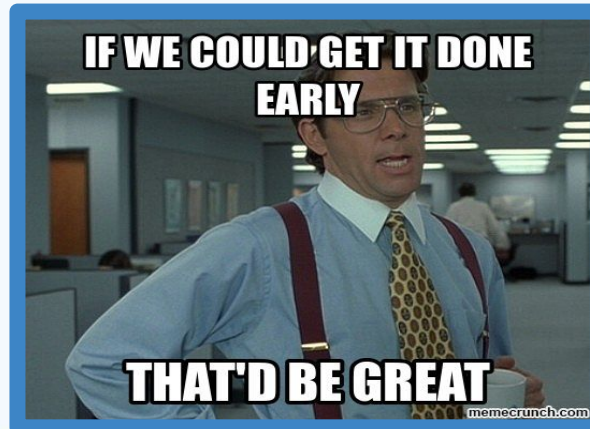
- Research financial aid and scholarships.
 - Naviance
 - CHS website
 - Local organizations
 - Parent/guardian employers

*We will be discussing this again during AT in January
- Get your college essay(s) in shape. Edit and gather feedback from teachers, Literacy Lab (formerly writer's workshop) and/or counselors.
- Keep track of all application components: application, test scores, letters of recommendation, deadlines, and financial aid material. **An incomplete application can ruin your chances of admission.**

October

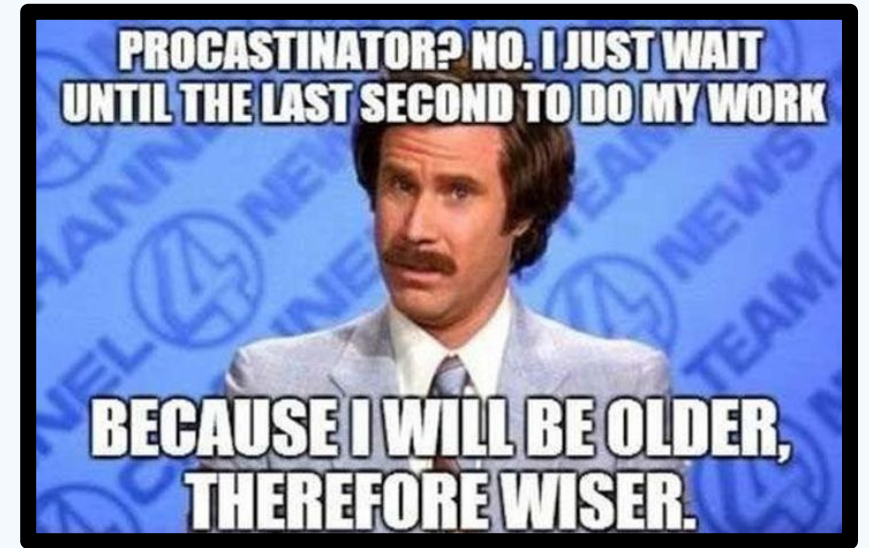
- Submit the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). The deadlines for filing the FAFSA depends on the college so check with each college for specific deadlines.

When a Student Is Attending College (School Year)	When a Student Can Submit a FAFSA
July 1, 2019–June 30, 2020	October 1, 2018–June 30, 2019



November

- Register for the December SAT by Nov. 2 or ACT by Nov. 3 (if appropriate)
- Take the November SAT if you were registered.
- **DON'T** let your grades slide. It's easy to get distracted from school work while working on applications so keep your eye on the prize! Senior slump can be disastrous for your admission chances (and Latin Honors status for graduation)!



November continued...

- Make sure you've submitted all of your application materials to the colleges in which you are applying early decision, early action, or preferred.
- Finalize your application essay(s).
- Make sure to give a "thank you" card/note to any teacher, coach, employer, counselor, etc. who wrote you a letter of recommendation. ★ ★ ★

December – January



- Complete and submit your applications for regular admissions.
- Make sure you had your **OFFICIAL** test scores sent to all the colleges that require them. (collegeboard.org or actstudent.org)
- Confirm that your letters of recommendation have been sent. You are responsible for making sure these were sent.
- If you are accepted to a school through early decision, be sure to follow directions carefully. Submit required forms and notify the other schools to which you applied of your decision.

More to do through December–January...

- Continue to keep track of all deadlines and application components. This includes deadlines for scholarships as well.
- Apply for scholarships well in advance of the deadlines.



Ongoing Monthly Tasks

- Strengthen your academic record. Stay focused on your grades.
- Research Scholarships.
- Try to assume leadership positions in an extracurricular activity.
- Try something new!



Be mindful of your social media accounts

What would a college admissions counselor think if they saw your social media accounts?





College Admissions Options

240

248

256

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Early Action

- You can get an admissions decision earlier than the regular notification date. (UVM Early Action deadline is Nov. 1, Jan. 15 is regular)
- However, Early Action is usually not binding.
 - You may apply to other colleges.
 - You do not have to commit to a college to which you have applied Early Action.
 - You have a longer period to notify the college of your decision.



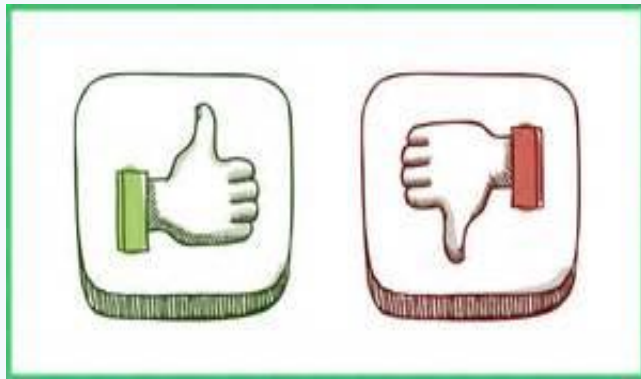
Early Decision

- Allows you to apply early, usually November, to get an admission decision well in advance of the regular admission notification date.
- *However*, Early Decision plans are **binding**.
 - That is, you agree to attend that college if they accept you and offer you an adequate financial aid package.
 - You can apply Early Decision to only one college.
 - You must withdraw all your other applications if you are accepted Early Decision.

Pros and Cons of Applying Early Decision

Pros

- Bypass regular spring notification deadline.
- Reduce time waiting for a decision.



Cons

- Must make serious decision before exploring all options.
- Can only apply ED to one school.
- May not have time or opportunity to compare financial aid packages.

ETHICS: Do's and Dont's of Applying Early Decision

DO

- Withdraw all applications upon being accepted.
- Request a release from your contract only if the college is unable to work out appropriate financial aid.
- Take your ED decision seriously.
- Discuss the cost of the college before applying.
- Attend the college that accepts you.

DON'T DO

- Apply to ED programs at more than one college.
- Have your counselor send transcripts to more than one ED school or to any other schools once you are admitted.
- Try to get out of an ED acceptance because you've changed your mind.
- State an intended major you don't plan on pursuing because you think it might help you get admitted.

Regular Admission



- Deadlines vary by school.
- January 1, January 15, February 15 are *typically* regular admissions deadlines.
- UVM regular admissions deadline is January 15. St. Mike's regular admission deadline is February 1.
- Admissions decision notification is usually mid to late March.

Rolling Admission

- No set application deadline.
- However, once a program is full admission is closed.
- So, do not delay your application even with Rolling Admission.



What to Do if You're Waitlisted



- You are put on a waiting list if you meet the admissions requirements, but the school has already reached its acceptance target.
- You will be admitted only if space becomes available.
- Do not wait. Contact the admissions office and make your case why you are a good fit for the school. If this is your first choice, you can guarantee that you will accept admission if it is offered.

What to Do if You're Waitlisted Continued...

- Keep your grades up. You may be re-evaluated based on 3rd and 4th quarter grades.
- Request another (or a first) interview.
- Prepare to attend another school. Colleges do not pull from the waitlist until after the May 1 decision deadline. Therefore, you will need to commit to attending another school. If you are admitted from the waitlist and choose to attend, you will lose the deposit you made to your backup school and be required to send a deposit to the new school.



What is the Common Application?

How can it help to make the application process easier?

THE COMMON APPLICATION

- The Common Application is a not-for-profit organization that serves students and member institutions by providing an admission application – **online**– that students may submit to over 700 member schools.
- Fill out **ONE** application online and send to colleges. Less time doing busy work, more time on college research, essays, visits.

Local Colleges that accept the Common Application:

- ▶ UVM and all VT state schools
- ▶ Champlain College
- ▶ Saint Michael's College
- ▶ Middlebury
- ▶ UNH
- ▶ All SUNY Schools





Naviance

Naviance

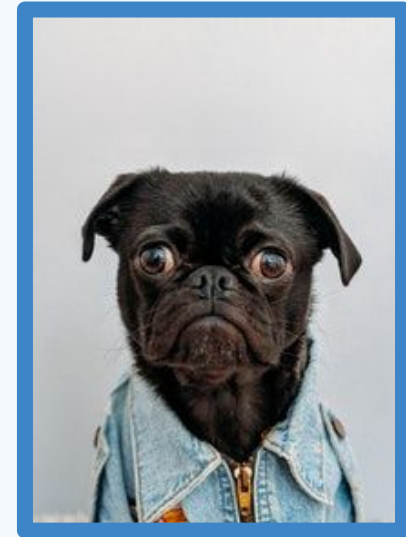
- Naviance is a web-based resource for students and parents that encourages and supports post high school career and college planning.
- Naviance is specific to our school.
- **Naviance will be the interface that students will be using for the college application process for most, if not all schools.**



How do Students Use Naviance?...

POST-SECONDARY PLANNING

- Learning Styles Inventory
- Interest Inventory
- Personality Inventory
- Write Resume
- Course, college, and career planning
- Scholarships and aid opportunities



How do Students Use Naviance? Continued...

- College selection research
- College Major Research
- College Profile Exploration
- National scholarships
- Other financial aid opportunities



ADDITIONAL REMINDERS:

- VSAC Financial Aid Night–Thursday Oct 4, 6:30–8:00.
- We will be offering help sessions for seniors through AT (students sign up through us)
- We will be offering AT sessions on Military and GAP year and “I Don’t Know”



ADDITIONAL REMINDERS (CONTINUED...)

- College representatives are **REGULARLY** visiting CHS. Sometimes they even offer fee waivers. Check Naviance for schools coming to visit and make sure to sign up for the ones you are interested in.



ADDITIONAL REMINDERS:



Burnham Library Practice Tests

SAT Bootcamp- Parks and Rec

New England Tuition Break- www.nebhe.org

Schedule once a week meetings at home between students and parents- very helpful so everyone knows what to expect and when to expect it

Net Price Calculator- on each college's website to estimate money



MEET OUR STAFF



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- Grade 10 - A-Con
- Grade 11 - A-Ca
- Grade 12 - A-E



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INFORMATION

Resources and Remind
Make sure to check out
Counseling Page on the CHS

Don't miss out on this membership opportunity

****Disclaimer:** These resources are provided by the school, but are available for personal use only.

MEET OUR STAFF

ACADEMIC PLANNING

ACADEMIC SUPPORTS

REGISTRAR

COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER

FINANCIAL AID

PRESENTATIONS

TESTING

