

College Application Processing at IHA

Guidance Counselor vs. College Counselor

Your Guidance Counselor will...

- Write your recommendation letter
- Assist with course questions/changes
- Assist with any social/emotional concerns

Your College Counselor will...

- Meet with you to do a final review of your college list
- Submit all documents to the colleges to which you apply
- Receive your pumpkin sheet when completed
- Answer all college-related questions
- Assist with issues related to the Common App or Naviance
- Assist with any questions relating to the SAT/ACT

EA vs. ED

Early Action...

1. Non-binding
2. You can apply to multiple schools
3. Do not assume it is always best to apply EA - sometimes it can be more competitive

Early Decision...

1. Binding agreement; contract
2. You may only apply to ONE school
3. You need to be sure this is your TOP choice; if admitted, you must attend.

Early Decision Stats/Pros & Cons

- ED admit rates are higher
- Sometimes don't get as much aid
- **MUST** be your 1st choice
- Process is completed in November/
December
- Not the right choice for everyone and/or
all schools

Sampling of ED Admit Rates

Vanderbilt University

- ½ class filled from Early Decision
- 10.9% admit rate overall
- 23.6% admit rate for ED

Colgate University

- 47% class filled from Early Decision
- 28% overall admit rate
- 44% admit rate for ED

Duke University

- 8.4% admit rate overall
- 24% admit rate for ED

University of Pennsylvania

- 7% overall admit rate
- 22% admit rate for ED

American University

- 26% overall admit rate
- 85% admit rate for ED

** Most Early Decision schools are filling anywhere from 30-50% of their incoming class from ED, making it that much more competitive for those not applying ED*

Commonly Applied to Schools

There are more than 3,000 four-year colleges in the United States; you need to look beyond what you know! You are ALL APPLYING TO THE SAME SCHOOLS and it's HURTING YOU! Only apply if you can see yourself attending.

- Fordham
- Northeastern
- Providence
- Villanova
- Boston College
- University of Notre Dame
- University of South Carolina

Be Realistic

- Highly competitive schools like BC, Vanderbilt, Notre Dame, Northeastern, etc.
 - In order to be competitive you need the following:
 - 4.0 GPA
 - Mostly all honors/3-5 AP's
 - 1400+ SAT
 - 33+ ACT

*If you are not in these testing/GPA ranges, please be sure to have some target and “safer” schools

You Don't Deserve it...You EARN it

- Do not assume that just because you meet the GPA and testing requirements, you are a guarantee!
- You need to fight for your spot no matter what.
- Be genuine.
- Do not act like you deserve admission, especially in an interview!

Tips for Selecting the Right Colleges

1. Look beyond just the schools you know.
2. Be sure you are applying ONLY to schools you could see yourself attending.
3. Just because you haven't heard of the school doesn't mean it's not a great school.
4. Look beyond the “typical” schools in the Northeast; they are saturated with applicants from this area with similar profiles.

The Application Process

- IHA uses Naviance and the Common Application.
- You **MUST** apply through the Common App if a school uses it!!
- All applications can be tracked through Naviance and the Common App.
- If you **DO NOT** adhere to these policies and deadlines, your applications will be in jeopardy.
- Be sure that you have submitted **PART 2** of the teacher recommendation request to the teachers you have asked to write your letters of recommendation.

The Common Application

- www.commonapp.org
- Be sure that you use your full name that matches your official record at IHA (no nicknames!)
- You can use this application to submit to more than 600 schools.
- You must COMPLETE THE FERPA WAIVER.

Naviance

- Go to the COLLEGES tab and add all colleges to the COLLEGES I'M APPLYING TO list in the Favorites section on the right.
- You must complete the MATCHING process here (Common App + Naviance accounts must be matched).
- Once your college choices are showing on the screen, click on the EDIT button all the way to the right.
- You will EDIT this section for each school you list, answering: app type, division, and interest

Transcript Request Form

- This form **MUST** be submitted! No documents will be sent to a college without this form.
- This form is pumpkin colored and can be submitted for up to eight colleges that you are applying to at a time.
- In order for us to process all documents **ON TIME**, you **MUST** adhere to the deadline chart. **(Most deadlines are 2-3 weeks before a college's deadline).**
- **YOU DO NOT NEED TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS IN ORDER TO SUBMIT YOUR PUMPKIN SHEET!!**
- Parents and Students: please do not email us to request to send documents to a school. They will only be sent with this form!!
- Your College Counselor **MUST** sign off on this form before you submit it.

You're almost ready

- You should NOT submit anything UNTIL:
 - *your Naviance account is updated with the schools to which you are applying*
 - you completed the FERPA waiver & matching
 - You met with your College Counselor for final review

Once the above is done, you may hand in your TRANSCRIPT REQUEST FORM, complete the Common Application, and continue adding the schools to which you will be applying.

Now it's a WAITING GAME

- After you submit the transcript request form to Mrs. O'Sullivan you must trust that all your information will be sent out within the **COLLEGE's** deadline (providing you adhered to the deadline chart online). If your deadline is November 1st, your documents will arrive by November 1st.
- At this point, you can track in Naviance when your counselor *sends* your documents and when the school *receives* your documents.
- Under the "Colleges" tab, click on "Colleges I'm Applying to." Then click at the top "View Detailed Status."

Student Responsibilities

- Meet with your College Counselor BEFORE submitting any documents to colleges or submitting your pumpkin sheet.
- Submit a pumpkin sheet to your College Counselor.
- Complete & Submit the Common Application.
- Student Resumes should be uploaded into the common application or sent directly to the colleges/universities.
- Request that SAT/ACT scores be sent directly from College Board & ACT (this can take up to 5 weeks).
- Update Naviance with all the schools you are applying.
- Submit any non-IHA recommendation letters to each colleges.

College Counselors will submit:

1. Student official transcript
2. IHA School Profile
3. ALL teacher recommendation letters
4. Guidance Counselor recommendation letter
5. All required Common Application forms
 - If you receive a call, email, etc. from a college that documents are NOT received, call the college FIRST to double check before contacting your counselor!
 - Allow at least 2 weeks for your documents to be updated with the college and/or its portal.

Teacher Recommendation Reminders

- Be sure to give your teacher PART 2 of the recommendation form. (PART 1 should have been given to them before the summer).
- **DO NOT** add a teacher as a recommender in the Common App. If you have done this already, you must see your College Counselor ASAP.

The Essay

- All seniors will cover this as the first assignment in an every level English course.
- Utilize your English teachers for assistance with content, grammar.
- Be sure you are answering the question!
- Provide detail, layers, and depth.
- Have your College Counselor review your essay!
- Some colleges have supplements, typically much shorter but sometimes MORE important.
- If a supplement is optional, it's required!

When you Hear a Decision from a College, You Need to:

Update Naviance with the decision (Acceptance, Denial, Wait List, Spring Admit, etc.)

Scholarships

1. Naviance will be updated weekly with new scholarship opportunities (You can find this under the “Colleges” tab)
2. College/Universities have their own scholarships -- some require a separate application and some have earlier deadlines than the admission deadline!!
3. Fastweb.com
4. Myscholly.com
5. Raise.me
6. Parents’ Corporations/Businesses
7. Local town/high school

“First Quarter” Grades

- IHA is now on a semester system, no longer quarters
- IF a college requires First Quarter grades, we will use a “snapshot” of the grades on Nov. 7.
- Whatever grades are in Genesis up to and including Nov. 7 will be included in the report sent to colleges.

SENIORS: STAY ON TOP OF YOUR GRADES and know what they are so you are not caught off guard!

Additional Information

- Course changes are not recommended once your daughter's documents are sent to a college OR if a college already pre-reviewed her application for admission as an athlete.
- Snapshot/Semester Grades - your daughter needs to request that these are sent to the colleges that require them.
- Student Athletes - be sure to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center & request that her transcript be sent to the NCAA.
- Seniors - you are encouraged to meet with the college reps that visit IHA during locker break and lunch. They are all listed in Naviance.
- **OCTOBER 2 - IHA will be hosting our Financial Aid Evening at 7 p.m. in the PAC**

QUESTIONS? CONCERNS?
UNSURE ABOUT SOMETHING?
SOMETHING WENT WRONG?

SEE YOUR COUNSELOR!!!

BUT...

DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE
DEADLINE

Deadlines

If the College Deadline Is...	TRY to have the PUMPKIN COLORED SHEET in by...	The PUMPKIN COLORED SHEET MUST be in by...
All October Deadlines	September 14 th	September 18 th
November 1st	October 5 th	October 10 th
November 15th	October 19 th	October 25 th
December 1st	November 2 nd	November 9 th
December 15th	November 16 th	November 21 st
January 1st	November 23 rd	November 30 th
All other Deadlines	December 5 th	December 12 th

Any school with a rolling application you must provide a deadline that you want your counselor

to submit your documents