

Junior & Senior Year Consultation Plan (2 years)

Begins August of Junior year and concludes after graduation or high school.

Services:

Initial Consultation

Families will be given an overview of the counseling process and advised on the philosophy of the consulting program. Student and family needs will be determined to develop an individualized consultation plan.

Academic Planning

Academic and extracurricular performance will be assessed after a thorough review of documentation:

Transcript

Standardized Test Scores

Expanded academic and extracurricular resume

Upcoming course choices for the following year

Preliminary list of colleges to assess goals

High School profile

Students will be advised on course choices to reflect an academic plan that highlights interests and competencies appropriately, showing rigor as well as achievement.

College Admission Process Overview

From a review of credentials, this meeting will be devoted to detailing the application process. Emphasis will be placed on explaining how colleges will review student based on current admit rates and metrics. A preliminary list of colleges will be developed at the beginning of junior year based on family preference and student performance. Recommendations based on research will be made for additional colleges to consider.

Resume Building

The expanded activities resume is a list of activities that shows seriousness and quality of involvement. Suggestions on activities and programs which will appropriately emphasize strengths and contribution will be recommended early in junior year to allow time for proper planning and skill development. Through the two years of consultation, students will also receive assistance with formatting and organizing a resume to reflect the application theme. Resumes will be edited to reflect the depth and impact. Resumes may be modified for each individual college (if necessary) so that it reflects the appropriate concentration with the declared major. Activity Resume sections will include:

- Extracurricular Activities
- Honors and Awards
- Community Service
- Summer Enrichment/Activities

National Testing Schedule

A strategic plan will be recommended in the fall of the junior year which will include standardized test dates, test preparation, registration procedures, and strategies on which test to take and when to take them.

College Visit Planning

Once the students and parents establish an appropriate list of schools, visiting the college campuses will be an invaluable source of information to help determine fit and further refine choices. Families will be advised on how to go about setting up a campus tour, class visits, meetings with advisors, and overnight stays.

Summer Enrichment Plan

Summer is the time to get a head start on building a resume or nurturing an interest. During the summer of the junior year, students will be given guidance on how to maximize their free time to strengthen an application on all levels of involvement from holding an office, organizing an activity, heading up a project, attending an academic or enrichment camp, nurturing an interest or serving the community.

Construction of Essay

In an application file, the essay or personal statement is the third most important document, ranked only after the transcript and test scores. Starting the spring semester of the junior year, a huge portion of time will be devoted to this very important step of the process.

Obtaining Letters of Recommendation

Strong letters of recommendation may serve as the deciding factor when colleges review two similar students. Letters of recommendation must be submitted by writers who can add to a student's already strong academic portfolio by speaking to student's lively exchange in class or evident potential inside and outside of the classroom.

Building a College List

In the spring of the junior year, a preliminary list of colleges will be built based on student preferences, academic interest and family preferences. A list of appropriate, viable colleges will be compiled to include 3-4 likely; 3-4 possible; and 3-4 reach colleges. This list will be continually refined from the spring of the junior year through the fall of senior year.

Developing a Personal Timeline for Application Completion and Submission

Students will be given guidance to help navigate the array of application options: Early Decision, Early Decision I and II; Single Choice Early Action; Early Action; Rolling Admissions; Regular Admission. A personal calendar of target deadlines will be developed with end goal to submit all admission applications by January of the senior year. To keep true to deadlines, students will be given a list of TO DO items at the conclusion of every meeting. Methodical follow up of all assigned task items will take place prior to proceeding to subsequent tasks.

Completing Admission Applications

Every line item of each application will be reviewed prior to submission to ensure that questions are addressed adequately. Services will include:

- All short answer questions will be treated with the same care and scrutiny as a main essay; each answer will undergo multiple edits and revisions before submissions
- Students will be given assistance with sending required standard test scores (SAT, SAT Subject Tests, ACT, AP)
- Students with dual credit or college credit will be given detailed steps on how to submit official transcript requests.
- After the submission of the application, students will be prompted throughout the process to follow up with application components that are the responsibility of the high school:

- A) Official transcript sent to colleges
- B) High School Profile
- C) Letters of Recommendation
- D) TSI Verification

Completing Scholarship Applications

Qualifying students will be encouraged to submit applications to all college-based scholarship programs and other local or national scholarship programs. All components of every scholarship application will be reviewed prior to submission, to include a review of application questions, edits of personal statements and resumes.

Mock Interviews

For students who will apply to colleges that recommend interviews as part of the admission process, steps will be taken to help familiarize students with potential interview questions, prepare strong talking points and prepare insightful questions that will engage the interviewer. When necessary, assistance will be given in scheduling an interview with the campus admission representative or university alumni.

Students with Learning Differences

Students with learning differences will be given assistance on researching colleges that will provide educational and learning services to maximize potential and further achievement. Additional services will include:

- Advise families on when to seek psychological and educational evaluation for purposes of applying for extended time on national standardized exams as well as taking the proper tests to meet requirements necessary to apply to accommodations/modifications at the college level
- Assist families in completing required paperwork to transition into college and seek accommodations
- Advise families on the process of the college intake interview in order to obtain accommodations at the college level

Housing/Residential Life Considerations

Students will be given assistance with completion of all applicable applications for on-campus residential housing and meal options.

Students Applying for Federal Aid through FAFSA or the CSS Profile

Students seeking federal student aid or need-based scholarships are required to submit the CSS and the FAFSA. Students will be given assistance how and when to complete aid applications as required by the financial aid and scholarship offices of each college. Parents will be involved in this step as personal financial information will be required to complete the application.

Application Appeals/Waitlist Option

When given the option, waitlisted or denied students may submit decision appeals. Assistance will be given to students in writing compelling letters, collect additional letters of recommendations, and update existing résumés to strengthen an existing application and to show interest.

Accepting College Admission Offers and Further Preparation

- Expedite paperwork necessary to confirm attendance and accept scholarship offers
- Expedite the registration of student orientation and registration
- Assist students in making an appointment with a College Advisor at the matriculating college to determine summer and fall courses as it relates to a degree plan
- Academic planning: help students who plan to take courses at a local college select and complete registration for the proper courses that will go toward the stated degree plan.
 - Prepare a folder of information to take to registration/orientation