

CHS Senior Parent Night

Presented by CHS School Counselors
— Sarah Newton and Madison Smith

How your senior should prepare

- Develop either workforce or educational goals
 - Determine what sort of training/action is necessary to attain goal(s)
 - Get feedback from significant adults regarding future plans
 - Complete interest inventories
 - Posted on their Canvas page
- Make a college choice
 - Meet with college representatives
 - Complete college application process
 - Visit college(s) to find the right one
 - Find the best schools for your desired major

Completing the College Application

- Application
 - Common App or their own website
- Application fee (usually between \$25 and \$50)
- Counselor form/secondary school report (eSSR)
- Letter(s) of recommendation
- ACT/SAT scores
- Transcript
- Personal statement/essay

Not all schools will require all of these pieces, however many do.

Completing the College Application

- Take necessary entrance exams ACT or SAT for college(s) of choice
 - Most will accept both but some do not require either
 - On transcript when printed
 - If not required, be prepared to write an essay on why you are not submitting test scores
- Apply to more than one college
 - Reach
 - Target
 - Safety
- Get applications in early
 - Allows for maximum scholarship consideration
 - Typically leads to students having more choice in housing options
 - Many schools have a November 1st PRIORITY DEADLINE

Admission options

Depending on when an application is “complete” students can opt to be considered in different ways, depending on the college(s) to which they apply.

- Early Decision
- Early Action
- Priority
- Rolling Admission

How colleges “judge” applicants

- “Holistic” approach
- Considered factors:
 - High school cumulative GPA
 - Difficulty of chosen class load
 - Number of advanced and/or AP classes
 - Foreign language
 - Level of math completed
 - Class rank
 - SAT and/or ACT scores
 - Letter(s) of recommendation/counselor form
 - Personal statement

Types of financial aid

- Scholarships
- Loans
- Grants
- Work/study
- The main type of aid accessed through CHS will be scholarships
 - “Scholarship Scoop”
 - Morning announcements
 - Many come through Mont. County Comm. Foundation
- Additionally, look for scholarships through your employers.

How the FAFSA works (the basics)

- Must complete by April 15th
 - Easiest if taxes have already been completed
 - This is NOT a flexible deadline
- Must be completed every year
- Will link with schools to which students apply
 - Financial aid package will be based on “results” of FAFSA
 - Compare financial aid packages with student to ensure they make the best college choice
- Complete at [FAFSA.gov](https://fafsa.gov), not FAFSA.com
- You should NEVER pay to file

College Application Timeline

- Fall:
 - Take SAT or ACT at least 3 weeks before first college application is due (usually a Sept. or Oct. test date)
 - College visit(s)
 - Complete application by priority deadline if possible (often Nov. 1st)
- Spring
 - Begin search for financial aid
 - File FAFSA by April 14th deadline
 - Compare financial aid packages
 - Commit to college of choice and closely follow their directions for “next steps”

Non-College options

- 4-year college isn't for everyone.
- It's important that students don't attend college without a plan, just because they think that's what they're *supposed* to do.
- Other post-secondary options include:
 - Workforce
 - Apprenticeship programs
 - Certificate or Associate's Degree
 - Military
- CHS has partnered with some local business, like Lakepress and Nucor to work with our students

Questions?

- We will stick around after the InvestED presentation to answer any questions.
- Email us!
 - Sarah - snewton@cville.k12.in.us
 - Madison - masmith@cville.k12.in.us
- Call us!
 - 765-362-2340
- Visit us!
 - Call CHS to set up an appointment.
 - Hours are 8AM - 4PM
- Visit the CHS Website
- Students information posted on the senior class canvas page.