
Junior Post-Secondary Planning

Spring 2023

MHS School Counseling Department

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Looking for important counseling information, resources, and dates? [Check out our website!](#)

Agenda

- Review of graduation requirements
- Application Requirements
- The College Search
- College Research
- What you can get started on between now and next fall
- Q&A

MHS Graduation Requirements

English	20 credits
Math	20 credits
Science	15 credits
History	15 credits (5 credits US History)
World Language	10 credits (of same language)
PE	3.75 credits (PE 9 & 10)
Fine Arts (includes art, music, communications)	5 credits
Senior Project	5 credits

You must earn 110 credits to graduate Pass MCAS Science, ELA, & Math

General Application Requirements

- **Application**-CommonApp, CoalitionApp, Institution's Application-includes Essay
- **Official Transcript**-must be sent from our office
- **Letters of Recommendation**- No more than 2 from teachers and 1 from your School Counselor
- **Information from your Resume**- extracurriculars, community service, awards/recognitions, leadership
- **Application fee**-fee waivers available
- ***Standardized test scores***-many schools are not requiring these for Fall 2024
- Interviews, portfolios, Honors Programs, recommended or optional=do it!

Making your College List

- Academic programs - majors and minors
 - If you considering a few different majors, make sure that the college you choose offers all of them!
- Size - 2,000 students is considered a small college, but that is 5 times bigger than MHS!-this is hard to imagine
- Location - how far from home? Keep transportation in mind! (additional \$)
- Setting - rural, suburban, urban
- Residential vs commuter campus
- Activities & Student Life - intramural sports, clubs, honors societies, etc.
- Cost-Public schools in MA are usually most affordable

My College List

1. Log in to MEFA Pathway (you created an account 9th grade in Intro to Capstone)
2. Click on the ***Search Colleges*** Tab
3. Click on ***Get Started***
4. In the left hand column you are going to be selecting search options to create a list
5. Click on ***Save to List*** on the right to add them to *My College List*

Please save at least 10 colleges that your are considering to *My College List*

Researching Schools

- Research schools before applying-How
 - Create a list to narrow down where you need to research-select Safety, Target, Reach schools-consider academics & financials
 - Visit the schools' websites
 - College Search websites-MEFA Pathway and College Board BigFuture
 - Participate in virtual visits, webinars, live chat with admissions; follow on social media
 - Visit in person-April vacation great time
 - College fairs- May 2nd and 3rd NACAC in Boston, NEACAC May 16th at Assumption University
- How many will you apply to? 6-8, family decision

What to research?-Is this a good fit for me?

- Application Deadlines
- Cost of Attendance including Room & Board before financial aid
- Average Financial Aid Package of students who attend
- Your program/major
- Student Life
- Disability services
- Experience of the students who go there
- What interests me about this school? What makes it unique?
- Admission Requirements/criteria
- What is the school looking for? GPA, Rigor, test scores, etc?

Testing

- Many colleges are still test-optional for the Class of 2024 admissions cycle - find the list [here](#)
- Upcoming SAT dates - May 6-**April 7th deadline to register**, June 3, late August, early Oct., early Nov., early Dec.
- Upcoming ACT dates - June 10, July 15, Sept. 9, Oct. 28, Dec. 9
- Difference between SAT and ACT
- Fee waivers available

What can you do now?

- Meet with your School Counselor (parents are invited!)
- Get started on your Counselor Brag Sheet, Teacher Recommendation Forms
- Continue your college search
 - <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/>
 - Peterson's, Princeton Review, etc.
- Research schools you are interested in and find out:
 - Deadlines; type of application (Common App, Coalition, school); app requirements; testing requirements, # of recs, etc.
 - Financial Aid deadline and requirements (FAFSA, CSS Profile)
 - Cost of Attendance=Tuition, Fees, Room & Board
- Get started on your essay
- Think about teachers for your recommendations

Stay in Touch

- Check the Colleges and Universities websites regularly for updated information (or get on their mailing lists)
- Check [our website](#) and the Class of 2024 Google Classroom for updated information, opportunities, scholarships, and events
- Stay in touch with your counselor

Post-secondary Planning Timeline

