SPRING 2020

Important Dates & Deadlines

<u>March 2 - June 12</u>: Junior College Club - mandatory weekly clubs from 2:30 - 3:15 p.m.

<u>Wed, March 4</u>: School Day SAT - All juniors take the SAT for free in school, no registration required

<u>April 9 - 17</u>: Spring Break - Visit colleges in the city, nearby or out of town

<u>Sat, May 2</u>: SAT date that the CSS SAT Prep Class leads up to, register at www.collegeboard.org

<u>May-June</u>: One-on-one meetings with students and family meetings in person or by phone with college counselors; individual essay consultation with college office staff

Tasks

❏ Check your emails <u>daily</u> to stay on top of opportunities, programs, and upcoming events.

❏ Keep your grades up! Your academic performance this semester is incredibly important for college admissions.

❏ Attend mandatory weekly College Club meetings and complete assignments.

❏ Prepare for standardized testing by studying and registering for standardized testing dates in May or June. Testing should be completed prior to senior year.

❏ Research potential colleges by attending college fairs, visiting college campuses and via Naviance, virtual tours, websites, and using the resources available in the college office.

❏ Update Naviance with colleges in which you are interested by adding them to the "Colleges I'm Thinking About" list.

❏ Apply for summer programs, classes, and jobs to develop your interests and show colleges that you've been involved in enriching extracurricular experiences.

❏ Meet with an essay counselor for brainstorming session of essay/personal statement ideas.

❏ Begin your college essay/personal statement in College Club.

❏ Identify & request teacher recommendation letters.

❏ Schedule individual & family meetings with your college counselor in May and June.

❏ Make sure 2019 taxes have been filed & all associated documents are in order. Your financial aid and opportunity program eligibility is based on your family's 2019 tax documents.

❏ Determine your financial eligibility for New York state Opportunity Programs (SEEK, EOP & HEOP), based on your family's 2019 finances. If you are financially eligible, determine which schools are an academic fit.

SUMMER 2020

Tasks

❏ Participate in meaningful activities - work, internship, academic enrichment or volunteering.

❏ Revise College essay/personal Statement - polished draft of college essay due first day of school.

❏ Continue to research colleges by visiting, exploring online and attending college fairs and events.

❏ Create a well-researched and balanced college list due the first day of school (in addition to CUNYs and SUNYs, we recommend no more than 8 private institutions).

❏ Study for the SAT/ACT if you plan to retake (we recommend you complete testing by summer 2020).

❏ Begin supplemental essays for top choice colleges. Supplemental essay prompts become available on August 1.

❏ Make personalized list of fall college deadlines including merit scholarship deadlines & public out-of-state deadlines (for example, California public colleges have November 30 deadlines)

SENIOR YEAR, FALL 2020

Important Dates & Deadlines

<u>September - December:</u> Attend weekly Senior College Readiness class & meet with your counselor to make sure you are on top of all tasks (completing college essay, finalizing college list, etc.).

<u>Friday, September 25:</u> Turn in signed CSS Early Decision/Early Action Contract, if applicable.

<u>Early October:</u> Attend CSS FAFSA/Financial Aid Completion Night (student and parent with 2019 tax returns).

<u>Friday, October 23:</u> All applications complete & ready for final review for Early Decision, Early Action, and priority admissions deadlines**

<u>Wednesday, November 4:</u> CSS CUNY Application Deadline**

<u>Wednesday, November 25</u>: Personal Essay complete and Common Application filled out**

<u>Wednesday, December 2:</u> CSS SUNY Application Deadline**

<u>Friday, December 11:</u> CSS Private & Out-of-state Public College Applications ready for review**

<u>Friday, December 18</u>: All applications submitted**

**These are CSS internal deadlines to guarantee that college counselors can review all applications prior to final submission and provide the College Office time to submit necessary materials.

TASKS - Getting Ready to Apply & Applying to Colleges

❏ Check your emails <u>daily</u> to stay on top of opportunities, programs, and upcoming events.
❏ Keep your grades up! All colleges will see your first semester grades in January, and many will ask to see your first marking period grades.
❏ Attend Rep Visits at CSS, particularly for schools you are applying to. This is important for demonstrated interest.
❏ Finalize strong-fit, balanced college list of CUNY, SUNY, and private colleges (no more than 8 private institutions) & update your list on Naviance.
❏ Confirm eligibility for New York State opportunity programs.
❏ Show "demonstrated interest" by visiting campus, interviewing, and staying in contact with admissions representatives.
❏ Finalize college essay/personal statement.
❏ Complete supplemental essays for individual colleges.
❏ Decide if you will apply to any schools Early Decision or Early Action.
❏ Fill out Common Application.
❏ Complete and submit CUNY application.
❏ Complete and submit applications to SUNY, private and out-of-state public institutions.
❏ Send official SAT or ACT scores to colleges if applicable. Discuss with your counselor which scores to send to schools that require them, and whether or not to send scores to test-optional schools. REMEMBER THE STUDENT/FAMILY is responsible for sending out SAT or ACT scores to colleges.

TASKS - Preparing for & Applying for Financial Aid

❏ Have all 2019 tax & financial documents in order by the beginning of the school year, in preparation for completing the FAFSA and CSS Profile in early October.
❏ Attend FAFSA completion night in early October.
❏ Begin filling out CSS Profile, if required, and upload documents via IDOC or financial aid portal.
❏ Submit additional financial documentation to individual institutions, as requested.