

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS PROCESS



Roslyn High School

Components of the Admissions Folder:



- High School Transcript
- SAT and/or ACT Scores
- Activities Resume
- College Essay
- Recommendation Letters

High School Transcript

What are colleges looking for....



- Three-year cumulative weighted and/or unweighted Grade Point Average
- Academic growth over entire high school career
- Level of rigor in course disciplines
- Consistency in grades
- Senior-year course selections
- Mid-year senior grades
- Final Grade Point Average upon graduation

SAT/ACT Tests



- SAT and ACT scores are sent to colleges by the student. Roslyn does not report any standardized test scores.
- Most colleges, not all, pull highest SAT subcomponent score from different test dates.
- Most colleges, not all, use single ACT test date score for admission.
- Score Choice is available for both SAT and ACT. Roslyn recommends sending all scores.
- Some colleges are Test Optional. View fairtest.org for participating colleges.
- Some colleges accept the ACT (w/writing) as Subject Test requirement.
- Triple check admissions requirements, including subject-based testing (i.e. Engineering majors) and whether schools will permit [self-reporting](#).
- College Board Score Choice List: <http://professionals.collegeboard.com/profdownload/sat-score-use-practices-list.pdf>

Activities



- Extracurricular Activities:
(In school and outside of school)
- Community Service
- Athletics/Musical Talents, etc.
- Awards and Recognitions
- Work/Summer Experiences
- Educational Programs
- Leadership

****List them on the Common App in order of most important to you****

College Essay



- Essay provides opportunity for student voice and creativity
- Writing piece must be engaging
- Essay **MUST** be proofread!!
- Be careful of asking for too much advice
- Watch for supplemental essays on the common application and/or if you are applying to special programs or scholarships.
- Do not be too generic on supplements, if they ask why you are applying to their college give a specific answer for each school.

** If you need support with your college essay, you can make an appointment with Ms. Grgas in the English Study Center**

Mrs. Grgas' Essay Support



- All SENIORS interested in having their college essay reviewed can do so by seeing Ms. Grgas. Sign up for a 20 minute appointment during periods 2, 3, 5, or 7. Look for the White Binder on the desk in the English Study Center.
- Period 2: Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays
- Period 3: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays
- Period 5: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays
- Period 7: Fridays

Letters of Recommendation



- **School Counselor:**

Letter written highlights overall high school career. Students and parents are encouraged to share any personal information deemed significant to their lives and its impact on high school career.

- **School Teacher(s):**

Letter written highlights the student during the duration of the course. Students should also provide teacher(s) with a history of outside activities and an unofficial high school transcript.

- Students are encouraged to sign all waiver forms waiving access to recommendation letters. College admissions representatives deem these letters more credible in the admissions process.

Application Terminology



- **Early Decision:**
Binding agreement with college stating student must attend if accepted. Decision made on or about December 15.
- **Early Action:**
Non-binding application. Decisions usually made by mid-December.
- **Rolling Admissions:**
First come, first serve. Applications are processed as they ‘roll’ in and decision is quickly ‘rolled’ back to student.
- **Regular Decision:**
Decisions are made after deadline date has lapsed. Most decisions letters are mailed in early April.
- **Single Choice Early Action/Restrictive Early Action:**
A few of the most competitive colleges offer this non-binding admission policy. Students may apply to a single choice college, however they are not permitted to apply to other schools using the EA/ED option during this period.

Apply Appropriately!



Counseling Office Recommends

- Schools with acceptance rates of 30% or higher
- Does not include special programs or majors with stricter admission
 - Combined Medical Programs, Business Schools, etc.
- Guidance is recommending that students have **AT LEAST 3** of these schools on their college list
- These are schools that students will be happy to attend if accepted.
- If you are applying to a large number of schools, you may want to consider adding more safer options instead of more competitive ones.
- Hail Mary applications.....

Coalition vs Common App



- **Common Application**

- Over 800 Colleges accept the Common App
- Supplemental applications – sometimes multi-step essays
- Links directly to Naviance

- **Coalition Application**

- 139 Colleges accept the Coalition Application
- University of Florida, University of Maryland and University of Washington are all Coalition **exclusive**
- More time consuming to complete as you are required to self report all high school grades
- Essay sizes vary by institution

Scholarships & Financial Aid



- **Naviance Account:** List of available national and school-specific scholarships.
- **Fastweb.com, Scholarship.com, Collegeboard.com:** Websites that post various scholarships based on personal questionnaire.
- **Student Initiated VS. Student Nominated Scholarships**
- **Financial Aid Night:** October 15, 2018
- **Fafsa:** Free Application for Student Aid – Calculates Family Expected Contribution.
- **CSS Profile:** College Scholarship Service from College Board. Over 600 colleges require this online document.
 - ✦ Email notifications will be sent to each senior
 - ✦ Updated information will appear in monthly Newsletters

Submitting Applications to Guidance Office



- College paperwork must be handed in directly to the Counseling Center
- It will take up to 15 school days for all college paperwork requests to be processed. Do not wait until the last minute
- Naviance and Common Application must be matched and teacher recommendations must be made through Naviance
- Transcript request form must be submitted with student and parent signatures.
- Completed Activity Sheet/Resume must be submitted with first college paperwork request or updated in Naviance.

Things to Remember...



- Seek out your school counselor for advice...and read all emails from Guidance.
- View your Naviance account for the list of colleges visiting Roslyn! – still being updated
- Attend Open Houses and/or visit colleges of interest. Make certain to register for each school visit – many colleges track interest.
- Apply to appropriate colleges
- **Prioritize the ‘right fit’ over the ‘right name’**
- Watch Deadlines!!
- Visit chosen college before depositing
- Share your admissions decisions/results with your counselor

Dates to Remember



- **September 24th – period 2 – College Application meeting with counselors**
- **September 17th & 24th - College Application workshop – 2:40 p.m. in Room 113 – Please sign up in Guidance**
- **October 1st - FAFSA forms can be submitted**
- **October 15th - Financial Aid Night**
- **November 1st - Early Admissions Deadline for most colleges**
- **December 1st - All Applications submitted to Guidance**
- **May 1st - Deposit Due to College of choice**

Upcoming College Info Sessions and Fairs



- **Yale Science and Engineering Forum - 9/12 at 7pm at Roslyn High School**
- **SUNY College Fair - 9/13 at 6pm at Nassau Community College**
- **Fall College Expo – 9/16 at 12pm at SUNY Old Westbury**
- **Long Island National College Fair - 9/23 at 11am at NYCB Live (Nassau Coliseum)**
- **Duke University College Night - 10/17 at 7pm at Roslyn High School**
- **Binghamton University College Night - 10/24 at 7pm at Roslyn High School**