



DEPAUL COLLEGE PREP
FR. GORDON CAMPUS

College Kick-Off Night

Ms. Katie Hassberger

August 22, 2018

faith faith faith faith faith faith faith faith
respect respect respect respect respect
excellence excellence excellence
service service service service service

Timeline for Senior Year -- Fall

- Finalize list of schools
- Finalize Common App essay
- Ask for letters of recommendation
- Re-take ACT and/or SAT if needed
- Attend college visits at DePaul Prep
- Complete FAFSA (becomes available on October 1st)
- Visit as many schools as possible in-person
- Apply to colleges!



Timeline for Senior Year -- Spring

- Continue to visit schools
- Apply for scholarships
- Review college decisions
- Review financial aid packages from each school
- Make a decision by *May 1st!* (National Decision Day)
- Graduate on *May 18th!*



How many schools should I apply to?

- Between 5–8
 - 1–3 Reach Schools
 - 2–3 Target Schools
 - 2 Safety Schools

- Naviance Super Match



Naviance Super Match

family connection

home courses colleges careers about me my planner

search for colleges:
 Go
MORE SEARCH OPTIONS >>

resources
> [test scores](#)

my colleges

- > [colleges I'm thinking about](#)
- > [colleges I'm applying to](#)

Upcoming college visits
No upcoming visits.

college research

- > [SuperMatch™ college search](#)
- > [college match](#)
- > [college maps](#)
- > [scattergrams](#)



Naviance Super Match

The screenshot displays the Naviance Super Match interface. At the top, it says "College Search (4,647 schools available)" and "a SuperMatch™ search". On the left, there are search options: "MY SEARCH OPTIONS" with buttons for "Start Over", "Save", and "Try Searchless"; "FIND & PIN A SCHOOL BY NAME" with a text input field; and "FIND YOUR BEST FIT" with a list of criteria: Location, Majors, My Scores, Tuition and Fees, Ethnicity, School Type, School Size, On Campus Housing, Campus Setting, Public or Private, Gender Mix, Historically Black, and Getting In. The main content area features a photo of a young man and a whiteboard with the text "We'll help you find your ACADEMIC HAPPY PLACE!". Below this are four sections: "GET MATCHED" (percentage icon) describing using 20 search criteria; "PIN YOUR FAVORITE" (pushpin icon) describing pinning schools; "COMPARE" (bar chart icon) describing comparing schools; and "SAVE" (minus sign icon).



Common App Essay

- 1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.**
- 2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?**
- 3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?**
- 4. Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma - anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.**
- 5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.**
- 6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?**
- 7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.**



Common App Essay

- Personal Narrative
- Minimum of 250 words, maximum of 650 words (1–2.5 pages typed and double spaced)
- Should convey something about the student as an individual that other pieces of the application do not



Common App Essay

- **Teacher Help:** Senior teachers will be working with students on the college essay in class over the next few weeks.
- **Counselor Help:** Students should send their essays to Ms. Hassberger for feedback as they are working on them.



Letters of Recommendation

Counselor Recommendation

- One is needed for Common App applications
- Ms. Hassberger or another counselor

Teacher Recommendations

- Make sure school(s) require them
- Ask for two: one “left brained” and one “right brained”
- Ask 2–3 weeks in advance of the deadline and send a thank you!



ACT and SAT Test Information

ACT: www.act.org

SAT:
www.collegeboard.org

Upcoming Test Dates:

- September 8
- October 27
- December 8

Upcoming Test Dates:

- August 25
- October 6
- November 3
- December 1



College Visits at DePaul Prep

When and Where?

- During Lunches
- Room 503
- September–October
- Sign up via a Google Form sent out weekly!

Why?

- Learn more about different schools and programs
- Meet admissions reps
- Express your interest in a school



Complete FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

- Available starting October 1st
- Complete ASAP once available
- FAFSA completion workshop at DePaul Prep Tues. October 23rd
- www.fafsa.ed.gov

What is needed?

- Social Security or Alien Registration Number
- 2017 tax returns and W2s
- Records of investments or untaxed income (if applicable)
- An FSA ID to sign electronically



Apply to College!

How?

- Common App
- Coalition App
- Individual College Websites

When?

Now through
Thanksgiving!



Types of Deadlines

- **Early Action:** An earlier deadline for submitting an application to a school. You will receive an admission decision sooner– usually in December.
- **Early Decision:** If admitted, you are bound to go to this school and must withdraw all other applications from other universities. THIS OPTION SHOULD BE AVOIDED UNLESS DISCUSSED WITH YOUR COUNSELOR.
- **Regular Decision:** The standard application deadline, typically between November and January.
- **Rolling Admissions:** Students can apply any time during an admission period (usually September–July).



Scholarships

School Specific

- **Merit-Based:** Automatic tuition reduction based on GPA and/or test scores.
- Search a school's website for scholarships admitted students can apply for.

General Scholarships

- Can be athletic, academic, related to extracurricular involvement, leadership, service, etc.

Search Engines

- bigfuture.collegeboard.org
- petersons.com
- unigo.com
- fastweb.com
- niche.com
- scholarships.com



DePaul College Prep College Series

Fall Semester

Wed. August 22: College Kick-Off Night

Wed. September 26: Demystifying the College Application Process

Tues. October 23: FAFSA Application Workshop (Senior Students and Parents Only)

Spring Semester

Wed. January 30: Making Sure Your Student is On Track for College (Freshman-Junior Parents)

Tues. April 9: Transitioning from High School to College (Senior Parents)

