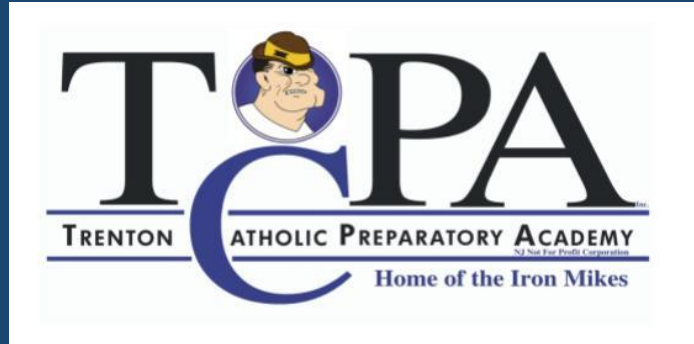# Welcome Senior Parents!

Senior Year & The College Application Process

September 28, 2023
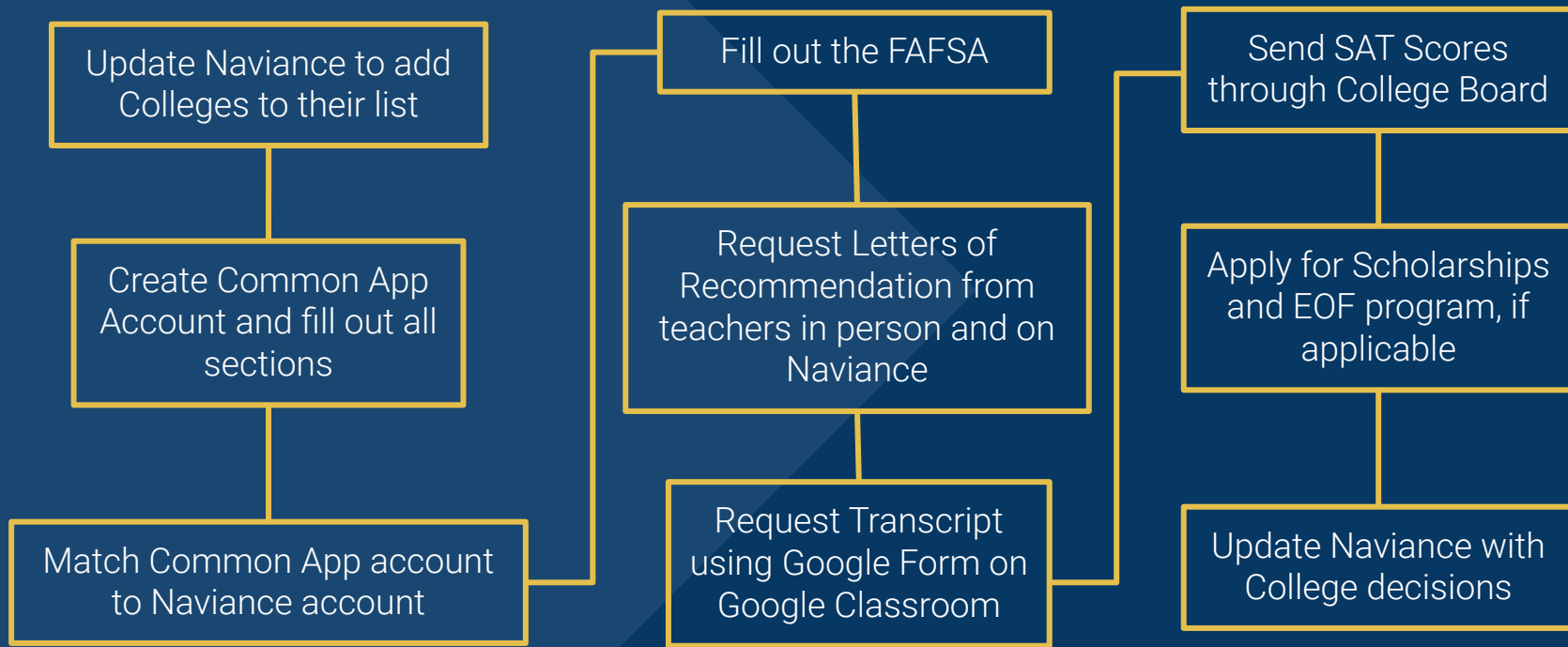
Overview

- Application Process Timeline

- College Visits

- Admission Types

- Naviance

- Common Application

- Mercer County Community College

- College Board & SATs

- FAFSA

- Scholarships

- Educational Opportunity Fund

- National Decision Day

- Resources

Important Dates

- October 5th - NHS Ceremony for New Inductees
- November 8th - College and Career Fair
- November 17th - Diploma Forms Due
- December - FAFSA Opens (this year only)
- May 1st - National Decision Day
- May 10th - Senior Retreat*
- May 17th, 20th, 21st, and 22nd - Senior Exam Days
- May 21st - Senior Awards Night
- May 23rd - Junior/Senior Prom
- May 28th - Graduation Practice*
- May 29th - Baccalaureate Mass* and Graduation*

TIMELINE

Application Process Timeline

Update Naviance to add Colleges to their list

Create Common App Account and fill out all sections

Match Common App account to Naviance account

Fill out the FAFSA

Request Letters of Recommendation from teachers in person and on Naviance

Request Transcript using Google Form on Google Classroom

Send SAT Scores through College Board

Apply for Scholarships and EOF program, if applicable

Update Naviance with College decisions

TIMELINE

College Visits

- ❏ Schedule a campus tour
    - ❏ Weekday campus tours are an excused absence with note

- ❏ Attend an open house
    - ❏ Typically on weekends
    - ❏ Register through College's website

- ❏ College and Career Fair November 8th

- ❏ Shows Demonstrated Interest to College
    - ❏ Considered during application review by admissions representatives

Admission Types

01

Early Action

- ❏ Deadline typically November 1st or 15th
- ❏ Receive a response quicker
- ❏ Non-Binding

02

Early Decision

- ❏ Deadline typically November 1st or 15th
- ❏ **Binding** Agreement
- ❏ Must attend the school if accepted
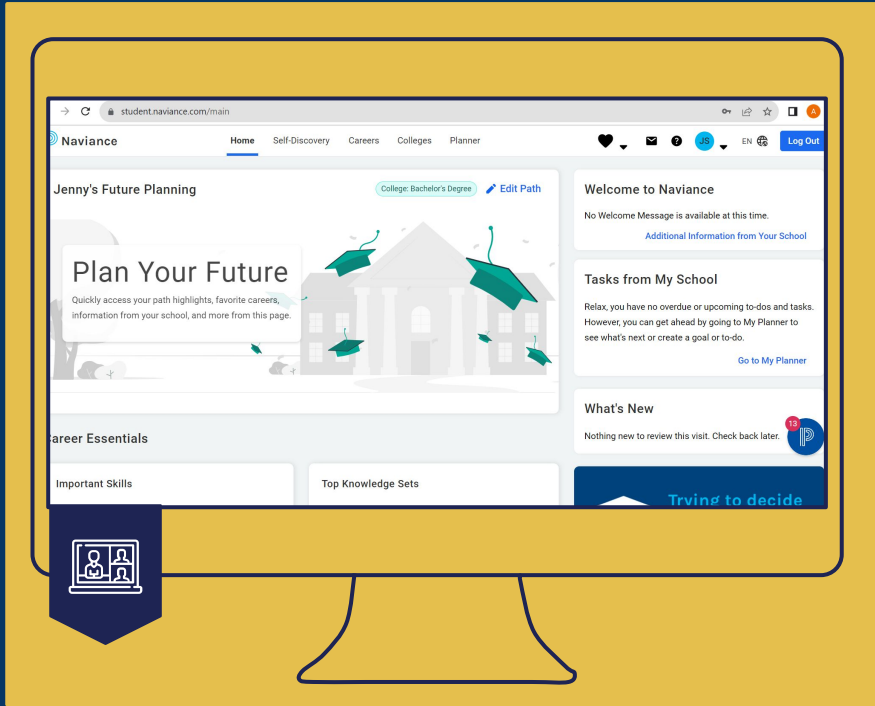
03

Regular Decision

- ❏ Typically between January and February
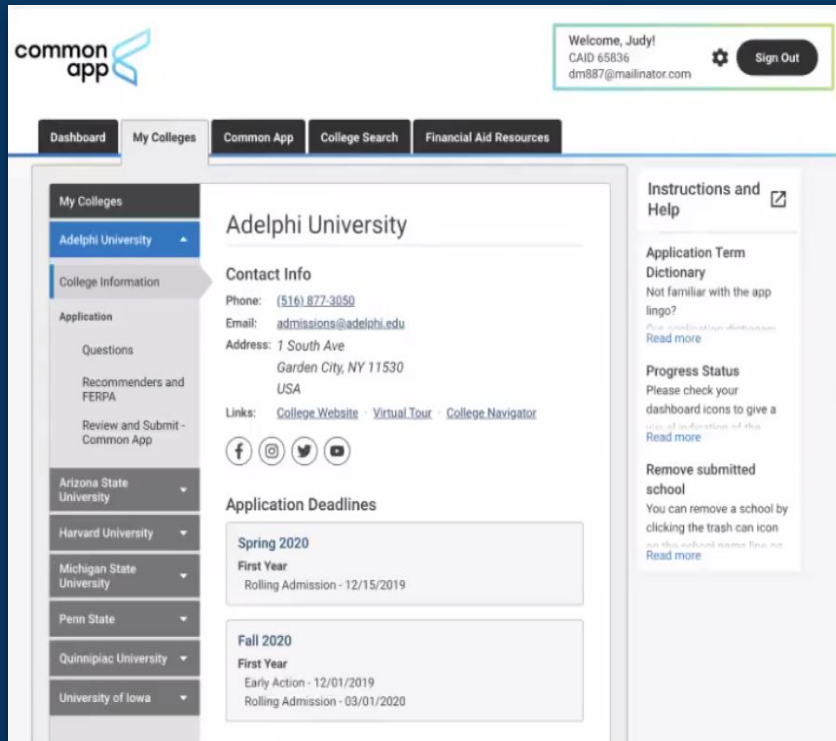- ❏ Responses take longer
- ❏ Non-Binding

04

Rolling Admission

- ❏ Can apply on a rolling bases - no deadline
- ❏ Receive a response as soon as admissions review application
- ❏ Non-Binding

**Note: Deadlines may vary by individual institutions

Naviance

- Resource for students to plan for post-secondary options
- Browse colleges, take interest and skills inventories, update their application status
- Link with Common App so I can send school, teacher, and counselor documents
  - Letters of Recommendation
  - Transcripts
  - School Reports
- Must complete Brag Sheet on Class of 2024 Google Classroom for my letter
- Parents/guardians must sign record release form in packet

Common Application

- ❏ Application platform accepted by most colleges
- ❏ Fill out personal and academic information once and send to multiple colleges
- ❏ Separate set of questions for each college
- ❏ Links to Naviance
  - ❏ Where transcripts, school reports, and letters of recommendation are sent through
- ❏ Sign FERPA Waiver
  - ❏ Allows for academic information to be shared, such as transcripts
- ❏ Fee Waiver for students who are eligible
- ❏ Do not request letters of recommendation through Common App

Mercer County Community College

❏ Can complete courses towards an Associate's Degree or transfer credits to another institution

❏ Affordable option for completing standard courses before moving on to 4-year institution

❏ Many grants and scholarships for MCCC as well as for students who attend a 4-year institution after completing associates at Mercer

❏ Apply right through their website - no Common App required

❏ This applies to all Community Colleges in New Jersey, not just Mercer

College Board & SATs

- Upcoming SAT dates:
  - October 7
  - November 4
  - December 2
  - March 9 - Digital
  - May 4 - Digital
  - June 1 - Digital
- Many colleges are still test optional
  - Only send them if you believe they will be beneficial to application
- SAT practice and preparation available through Khan Academy
- BigFuture College Planning Tools
  - College Search
  - Scholarship Search
  - Explore Careers and take quizzes

SAT Test Date*	Registration Deadline	Deadline for Regular Cancellation
Aug 26, 2023	**Domestic:** Jul 28, 2023 **International:** Aug 11, 2023	Aug 15, 2023
Oct 7, 2023	**Domestic:** Sept 8, 2023 **International:** Sept 22, 2023	Sept 26, 2023
Nov 4, 2023	**Domestic:** Oct 6, 2023 **International:** Oct 20, 2023	Oct 24, 2023
Dec 2, 2023	**Domestic:** Nov 3, 2023 **International:** Nov 17, 2023	Nov 21, 2023
Mar 9, 2024	Feb 23, 2024	Feb 27, 2024**
May 4, 2024	Apr 19, 2024	Apr 23, 2024**
June 1, 2024	May 17, 2024	May 21, 2024**

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- ❏ Commonly known as the FAFSA
- ❏ Typically opens October 1st, delayed this year until December
- ❏ FREE Application that determines your child's eligibility for loans, grants, scholarships, work study, and aid for military families
- ❏ Subsidized Loans
  - ❏ Government pays the interest
  - ❏ Based on financial need
- ❏ Unsubsidized Loans
  - ❏ Interest paid by borrower
  - ❏ Not based on financial need
- ❏ Grants and Scholarships
  - ❏ Typically do not have to be paid back
  - ❏ Based on merit, talent, area of study, etc.
- ❏ Work Study Jobs
  - ❏ Student can earn money to pay for school by working at least half-time
  - ❏ Jobs typically on campus - front desk jobs, cafeteria, dorms, etc.
- ❏ Apply by school's deadline or June 30th at the latest
- ❏ Start repaying loans after graduation

Do The FAFSA
THE EARLIER THE BETTER

Scholarships

- ❏ Can be given to students from colleges they apply to
  - ❏ Colleges use FAFSA information to provide need-based scholarships
  - ❏ Many offer merit-based scholarships based on student's GPA and coursework
- ❏ Find independent scholarships
  - ❏ Community or culturally based
- ❏ BigFuture Scholarship Search on College Board
  - ❏ Win scholarships by completing tasks on College Board's site
  - ❏ Scholarship Directory
  - ❏ Additional Scholarship Partners
- ❏ RaiseMe micro-scholarships
- ❏ Going Merry Scholarships

🌰 **BigFuture**®

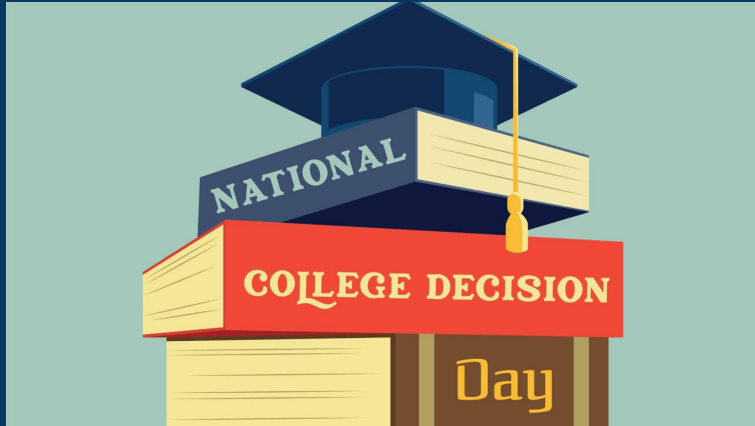Prepare for college and explore careers

Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF)

- ❏ New Jersey Program that provides financial assistance and support services to students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds
- ❏ Have to meet certain criteria*
    - ❏ NJ criteria as well as individual college
- ❏ Limited number of spots at each college
- ❏ Student can apply for program by checking the EOF box while filling out the Common App
- ❏ FAFSA has to be submitted for college to receive financial information
- ❏ Offered at Kean, Montclair, NJIT, Rowan, Rutgers, TCNJ, Stockton, Ramapo, William Paterson, Mercer County Community College, Seton Hall, Stevens, Monmouth, Rider, Georgian Court, Felician, and more

*Criteria link on Resources Page

National Decision Day

- May 1, 2024
- National deadline for responding to College acceptances and registering to become a student at desired College
- Day to celebrate!!!!
- Schools with rolling admissions will have their own acceptance deadlines
- Remind students we will send mid-year and final grades
  - Failing a class can result in a college rescinding their acceptance
  - Avoid Senioritis!!

Guidance Communications

- ❏ Post regularly on Class of 2024 Google Classroom
- ❏ Under Classwork -> Guidance tab on Google Classroom are a variety of forms and resources
  - ❏ Brag Sheet
  - ❏ Transcript Request Form
  - ❏ Links to Naviance, Common App, College Board, Big Future, Raise Me, etc.
- ❏ College Visits posted on Naviance
- ❏ Available by email or phone
  - ❏ ascarpulla@trentoncatholicprep.org
  - ❏ 609-586-3507 ext 126

Questions?

Resources

- ❏ SAT Registration: https://satsuite.collegeboard.org
- ❏ BigFuture Scholarships: https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/bigfuture-scholarships?navId=satsuite-cbos
- ❏ Naviance Student: https://student.naviance.com/auth/fclookup
- ❏ Common App: https://www.commonapp.org
- ❏ FAFSA Form: https://studentaid.gov/fafsa-app/ROLES
- ❏ FAFSA Deadlines: https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/fafsa-deadlines
- ❏ Review and Correct the FAFSA Form: https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/review-and-correct
- ❏ Parent PLUS Loan Information: https://studentaid.gov/plus-app/parent/landing
- ❏ How Financial Aid Works: https://studentaid.gov/h/understand-aid/how-aid-works
- ❏ Types of Financial Aid: https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types
- ❏ Financial Aid Checklist: https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/financial-aid-basics/advice/financial-aid-checklist

Resources Continued

- Filling Out the FAFSA Form: https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out
- Federal Student Aid Resources: https://studentaid.gov/resources#fafsa
- Going Merry Scholarships: https://www.goingmerry.com/
- College Board Scholarship Partners: https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt/scholarships-recognition/scholarship-partners
- College Board Scholarship Directory: https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/scholarship-directory
- Financial Aid Checklist: https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/financial-aid-basics/advice/financial-aid-checklist
- EOF Program Criteria: https://www.nj.gov/highereducation/EOF/EOF_Eligibility.shtml
- EOF Colleges and Universities: https://www.state.nj.us/highereducation/EOF/EOF_PRU_Programs.shtml
- Mercer Application: https://mccc.elluciancrmrecruit.com/Apply/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fApply