

*For Seniors & Families:*

# The College Application Process



**LOWER MERION SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SEPTEMBER 2015**





# This evening's program



As a large group, we will cover:

- ◇ a timeline for 12<sup>th</sup> grade
- ◇ types of admission & deadlines
- ◇ parts of an application
- ◇ the mechanics of submitting applications
- ◇ types of admission decisions
- ◇ next steps

... and then move into small groups for Q&A



# Timeline for the Fall



1. Carefully review your transcript
2. Discuss letters of recommendation with teachers and provide what they need
3. Decide if you will take any standardized tests in the fall:  
ACT - 9/12, 10/24, 12/12  
SAT & SAT Subject Tests –  
10/3, 11/7, 12/5
4. Athletes: Register with the NCAA at [EligibilityCenter.org](http://EligibilityCenter.org)
5. Research colleges: on your own; meet with college reps visiting school; college websites
6. Settle on a list of colleges and enter in Naviance, Common Application
7. Review deadlines, requirements for each application; begin to work on submissions
8. Consider meeting with your counselor or the college access counselor



# Types of Admission



## Non-Restrictive

- Rolling Admission
- Regular Decision
- Early Action (EA)

## Restrictive

- Restrictive Early Action (REA)  
*= only early application*
- Early Decision (ED)
- Early Decision II  
*= must attend if admitted*

## Deadlines

- *none (apply early!)*
  - *~ Jan. 1/15*
  - *~ Nov. 1*
- *~ Nov. 1*
- *~ Nov. 1*
- *~ Jan. 15/Feb.1*



# Application Components



## **Counselor**

Submits counselor recommendation; provides high school profile; advises student as needed

## **Registrar**

Submits transcripts and grade reports

## **College Board or ACT**

Submits test scores

## **STUDENT**

Sets up list of colleges in Naviance; requests transcripts and grade reports; requests letters of recommendation; requests test scores.

## **Teachers**

Mail or upload letter of recommendation





# Mechanics of the Process



- All students will use Naviance “Family Connection”
  - *www.naviance.com/harriton or /lowermerion*
  - *central clearinghouse for processing applications, transcripts, more*
- Many colleges use the Common Application
  - *Penn State University uses PSU Online*
  - *A few colleges still use paper forms-many of those are international*
- Most colleges accept school documents & letters electronically
  - *A few colleges want documents to be mailed in*

\* Each college’s process will appear in Naviance \*



# Mechanics of the Process



Lower Merion High School

Logged in as: Barbara Serratore (log out) Manage my account

## family connection

home courses colleges careers about me my planner

Search for colleges: **colleges I'm applying to**

MORE SEARCH OPTIONS >>

Use this page to tell your counselor about colleges to which you are definitely planning to apply. Click "lookup" to find the name of each college. If you are not sure about applying to certain colleges yet, you should add them to your [list of prospective colleges](#).

Type	College	I have submitted my application
Regular Decision	(click lookup) :: <a href="#">lookup</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular Decision	(click lookup) :: <a href="#">lookup</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular Decision	(click lookup) :: <a href="#">lookup</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular Decision	(click lookup) :: <a href="#">lookup</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular Decision	(click lookup) :: <a href="#">lookup</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular Decision	(click lookup) :: <a href="#">lookup</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular Decision	(click lookup) :: <a href="#">lookup</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular Decision	(click lookup) :: <a href="#">lookup</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular Decision	(click lookup) :: <a href="#">lookup</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular Decision	(click lookup) :: <a href="#">lookup</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**my colleges**

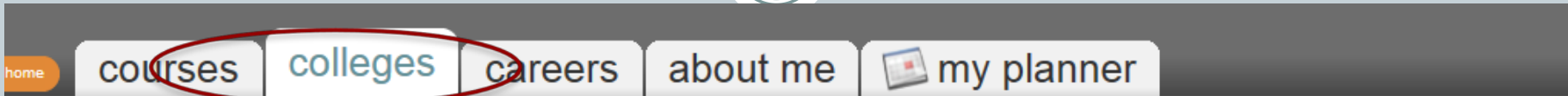
- > [colleges I'm thinking about](#)
- > [colleges I'm applying to](#)
- > [college visits](#)

**college research**

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



# Mechanics of the Process



search for colleges:

Go

colleges I'm applying to

[+ add to this list](#) | [view detailed status](#) | [compare me](#)

MORE SEARCH OPTIONS >>

## my colleges

- > [colleges I'm thinking about](#)
  - > [colleges I'm applying to](#)
  - > [college visits](#)
- ## college research
- > [SuperMatch™ college search](#)
  - > [college match](#)
  - > [college compare](#)
  - > [college lookup](#)
  - > [college search](#)
  - > [college resources](#)

College	Type	Applying via Common App?	Submissions	Expected Difficulty*	Deadline†	Office Status	My App	Results	Actions
<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">U of Delaware</a>	RD	<a href="#">Unknown</a>		N/A	1/15/11	Pending	<a href="#">have you applied?</a>	Unknown	
<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Pennsylvania State Univ</a>	RD	-		N/A	-	Pending	<a href="#">have you applied?</a>	Unknown	
<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">U of Pittsburgh</a>	RD	-		N/A	-	Pending	<a href="#">have you applied?</a>	Unknown	
<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Villanova Univ</a>	RD	<a href="#">Unknown</a>		N/A	1/7/11	Pending	<a href="#">have you applied?</a>	Unknown	
<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Widener Univ</a>	RD	-		N/A	-	Pending	<a href="#">have you applied?</a>	Unknown	

Delete Application

## College that I am attending

(no college selected)



Update





# Mechanics of the Process



Dashboard My Colleges **Common App** Recommenders College Search

**Common Application**

- Profile
- Family**
- Education
- Testing
- Activities
- Writing

**Household**

Parents marital status: (relative to each other)\*  
Married x ▾

With whom do you make your permanent home?\*

Select ▾

Do you have any children?

Yes

No

[Back](#) **Continue**

▶ Parent 1

▶ Parent 2

▶ Sibling

**Help Center** ➔

Search help 🔍

**Miss or Mrs.**  
Please select Ms. as your choice. This title can be used for a married or unmarried woman (like Mr ... [+]

**Half siblings**  
You may add siblings, half siblings, or step siblings only. For siblings who have not yet earned a ... [+]


**more than five siblings**  
You are limited to entering only five siblings. If you have more than five, you can list them in th ... [+]



# Mechanics of the Process



Please write an essay (250-650 words) on the topic selected.\*

 Add 173 or more words to meet the 250 word minimum.

**B** / **U**

The Common Application is a not-for-profit membership organization that, since its founding over 35 years ago, has been committed to providing reliable services that promote equity, access, and integrity in the college application process. We serve students, member institutions, and secondary schools by providing applications that students and school officials may submit to any of our nearly 500 members. Membership is

Words entered: **77**

[Back](#)

**Continue**



# Mechanics of the Process



THE COMMON  
APPLICATION

Welcome, Simon!  
First Year / 2013-2014 | CAID 200005



Sign out

Dashboard

My Colleges

Common App

Recommenders

College Search

Start typing the college name

Add a College

My Colleges (2)	Deadline	Application	Writing Supplement	
▶ Connecticut College	11/15/2013	●	●	
▶ Gettysburg College	2/1/2014	✓	●	

Help Center

Search help

**Dashboard**

The Application Dashboard will display all of your colleges and the status of your work for each ma ... [+]

**Progress Statuses**

Dashboard icons give a visual indication of the status of your progress. Green checkmarks signify ... [+]

**Looking for a College?**

You can quickly search for a new college to add to your college list directly from the Dashboard. ... [+]

**Dashboard** displays an overview of the application status for each college on a student's list.



# Admission Decisions



- Offered admission
- Denied admission
- Deferred / Hold
- Waitlisted



# Next Steps



## Small group discussions

- Common Application, Naviance, testing, transcript, discipline
- Questions about the process?

## Review handouts at home

## Save the dates

- LMSD College Fairs (students only) 10/8/15 & 11/9/15
- National College Fair at the Convention Center 11/8/15
- Financial Aid Overview 1/7/16
- FAFSA Completion Nights 1/21/ and 1/27/16; 2/24/16

***We are here to help!***