

For Seniors & Families:

The College Application Process



**LOWER MERION SCHOOL DISTRICT
SEPTEMBER 2016**





This evening's program



As a large group, we will cover:

- ◇ A timeline for senior year
- ◇ Types of admission & deadlines
- ◇ Parts of an application
- ◇ The mechanics of submitting applications
- ◇ Types of admission decisions
- ◇ A change in financial aid
- ◇ 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 –
10/1, 11/5, 12/3
4. Athletes: Register with the NCAA at EligibilityCenter.org
5. Research colleges: on your own; college visits at school; college fairs; college websites
6. Settle on a list of colleges and enter into Naviance, Common Application and other apps
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 accepted!*

Deadlines

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



Application Components



Counselor

Submits counselor recommendation; provides 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-all applications in Naviance; requests test scores.

Completes Common App and/ or other application form and FERPA release.

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*
- Over 700 colleges of the almost 4,000 in the US and abroad use The Common Application
- The majority of colleges accept school documents & letters electronically; a few, usually international universities, want documents mailed
- New application this year, Coalition Application, applies to 95 colleges; only 1 is Coalition *exclusive*-UFLA. Many of the colleges on Coalition are on The Common Application too
- Some universities have their own process-Penn State uses PSU online and Pitt and others use a self-reported process, which means you input your own courses and grades
- Each process is defined on Naviance, which is a great source of information
- Deadlines are very important in the college process to keep on track



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) :: lookup	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular Decision	(click lookup) :: lookup	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular Decision	(click lookup) :: lookup	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular Decision	(click lookup) :: lookup	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular Decision	(click lookup) :: lookup	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular Decision	(click lookup) :: lookup	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular Decision	(click lookup) :: lookup	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular Decision	(click lookup) :: lookup	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular Decision	(click lookup) :: lookup	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular Decision	(click lookup) :: lookup	<input type="checkbox"/>

my colleges

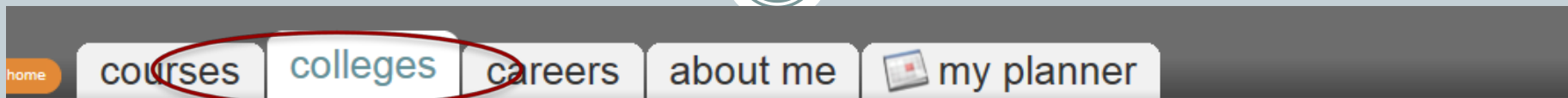
- > [colleges I'm thinking about](#)
- > [colleges I'm applying to](#)
- > [college visits](#)

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"/> U of Delaware	RD	Unknown		N/A	1/15/11	Pending	have you applied?	Unknown	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pennsylvania State Univ	RD	-		N/A	-	Pending	have you applied?	Unknown	
<input type="checkbox"/> U of Pittsburgh	RD	-		N/A	-	Pending	have you applied?	Unknown	
<input type="checkbox"/> Villanova Univ	RD	Unknown		N/A	1/7/11	Pending	have you applied?	Unknown	
<input type="checkbox"/> Widener Univ	RD	-		N/A	-	Pending	have you applied?	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

With whom do you make your permanent home?*

Select

Do you have any children?

Yes

No

[Back](#)

▶ 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
- Your responsibility

A Change in Financial Aid Timing



- Starting this fall, families will be able to file for aid through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) beginning October 1! That is a full 3 months ahead of the timing in previous years
- For the first time also, families will be able to use their prior-prior year tax information, aka PPY, when reporting personal and family income
- Example-Since student will enter college in the fall of 2017, you can use your 2015 tax information-a huge change from waiting to get taxes done in January and racing against February deadlines



Next Steps



Small group discussions

Common Application, Coalition Application, other types of applications

Naviance

Testing, transcript, discipline, release form

Questions about the process?

Review handouts at home

Save the dates

LMSD College Fair (students only) 10/31/16 8:30-9:45 am LM; 10:15-11:30 am HHS

National College Fair at the Convention Center 10/30/16

Financial Aid Overview 10/24/16

FAFSA Completion Nights 11/2/16; 1/5/17

We are here to help!