For Seniors & Families:
The College Application Process
A timeline for senior year

- Types of admission & deadlines
- Parts of an application
- The mechanics of Naviance and Common Application
- Types of admission decisions
- Financial aid
Timeline for the Fall

Carefully review your transcript

Discuss letters of recommendation with teachers and provide what they need

Decide if you will take any standardized tests in the fall:
- ACT – 9/11, 10/23, 12/11;
- SAT – 8/28; 10/2, 11/6, & 12/4

Athletes: Register with the NCAA at EligibilityCenter.org

Research colleges: on your own; visit colleges virtually or in person when open; virtual college fairs; Naviance

Settle on a list of colleges and enter into Naviance, Common Application and other apps

Review deadlines, requirements for each application; begin to work on submissions

Consider meeting with your counselor/college access counselor at each school if haven’t done so
# 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!)*
- ~ January 1/15
- ~ November 1/15
- ~ November 1/15
- ~ January 15/February 1
NACAC Definitions of Admission Options

**STUDENTS: WHICH COLLEGE ADMISSION PROCESS BEST SUITS YOU?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regular Decision</th>
<th>Rolling Admission</th>
<th>Early Action (EA)</th>
<th>Early Decision (ED)</th>
<th>Restrictive Early Action (REA)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DEFINITION:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Students submit an application by a specified date and receive a decision in a clearly stated period of time.</td>
<td>Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render admission decisions throughout the admission cycle.</td>
<td>Students apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the institution’s regular response date.</td>
<td>Students make a commitment to a first-choice institution where, if admitted they definitely will enroll and withdraw all other applications. The application deadline and decision deadline occur early.</td>
<td>Students apply to an institution of preference and receive a decision early. They may be restricted from applying ED or EA or REA to other institutions. If offered enrollment, they have until May 1 to confirm.</td>
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<td><strong>COMMITMENT:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>NON-BINDING</td>
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*Students are not restricted from applying to other institutions and have until May 1 to consider their options and confirm enrollment.*

Both EDI & II are binding.
Application Components

**Transcript**
Counselor submits along with counselor recommendation & school profile

**Registrar**
Uploads transcript to Naviance

**Test Scores**
Student submits through College Board and ACT

**Application & essay**
Student Completes Common App, essay and other application forms, signs FERPA waiver, and sends all materials, Colleges may receive all parts at different times.

**Teacher Letter of Rec**
Uploads letter and sends or mails
More than 1600 four-year colleges and universities do not require the SAT or ACT.

Check each college website for their testing requirements.
Mechanics of the Process

- All students will use Naviance Student.
  - Student.naviance.com/harriton or /lowermerion
  - Central clearinghouse for processing applications, transcripts, more

- Most students will use The Common Application – 930 plus colleges of approximately 4,000 are members

- Some students may use The Coalition Application - 140 plus colleges

- University specific applications and self-reported process - input your own courses and grades. Each process is defined on Naviance, which is a great source of information.

- Deadlines and communication are very important in the college process.
Welcome, Demo Whelan!

Search for Colleges

Type a college name

Welcome Class of 2020!

Welcome to your senior year and we hope that you had a wonderful summer!

The Student Services Department is committed to assisting you to achieve your post high school plans. Throughout the school year, we will provide you information that will help you with the transition from high school to your post-high school plans.

My Favorites

- COLLEGES
  - I'm thinking about

- COLLEGES
  - I'm applying to

- CAREERS AND CLUSTERS
  - I'm thinking about
Adding colleges

[Image of a navigation interface with options to add colleges to a list and move them to an application list.]
Mechanics of the Process
Common Application

HTTPS://APPLY.COMMONAPP.ORG/COMMON/6/33
**Dashboard** displays an overview of the application status for each college on a student’s list.
FERPA Waiver

• Click on the My College tab

• On the left hand side click Assign Recommenders then the FERPA Release Authorization is the first item on that page.

• Click the blue text under the FERPA RELEASE AUTHORIZATION to complete the FERPA waiver.

• Reason for the waiver is important to understand.
Connecting Naviance to CA

Colleges I’m applying to

It looks like you are not currently able to apply to Common App schools. Match your Common App account to Naviance Student account to get started.

Colleges that I'm attending:

N/A

Letters of recommendation

Some colleges require letters of recommendation to be submitted with your application. Please visit the letters of recommendation section, accessible from the main colleges page, for more information.
Please write an essay (250-650 words) on the topic selected.*

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

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
The Lower Merion High School Writing Fellowship

Writing Fellows are here to help you with your college app essay. Drop by the Writing Center or share your essay with us for an online review via Google Docs.

Read these tips from writing fellows who are now in college.

College Essay Advice – from “Those Who Got In!”

- Available in the Writing Center (room 231) during Lunch 2 on A, B, or C Day
• Complete and submit to Registrar at least 15 school days before your first deadline

• At LMHS, place form in the bin by the counseling secretary’s desk.

• At HHS, this form must be turned in before 12noon to Mrs. Newberg in the Counseling Office
Admission Decisions

- Offered admission
- Denied admission
- Deferred/Hold
- Waitlisted
- Your responsibility
Financial Aid Timeline

• File for aid through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) beginning October 1
• Use prior-prior year tax information when reporting personal and family income
• Example- for students who enter college in the fall of 2022, use 2020 tax information
• Review each college’s scholarship and financial aid sites
• **Net Price Calculators** give estimates for each individual college
Advice from a Glacier

- Carve your own path
- Go slow
- Channel your strengths
- Smooth the way for others
- Keep moving forward
- Avoid meltdowns
- Be cool!

Yourtruenature.com
Counselor Zoom Links

- Mr. Allen – School Counselor
  https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4294734180?pwd=RE52bWxvRoNyZHE0di9pRzlGN0FKQT09

- Mrs. Gesacion – School Counselor
  https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3035827428?pwd=cmsxWi9HekNpQ1JoR1gzMFIwR3NlZz09

- Mrs. Kail – School Counselor
  https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6497358983?pwd=cTlJZDlTTVBOMGYvTENXc1IpFF2dz09

- Mrs. Rosen – School Counselor
  https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5100520077?pwd=SW9sMTF5L1RCZmk3d2tRcHFpSUNOUT09

- Mrs. Vallieres – School Counselor
  https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9292281319?pwd=UWZCRW15QjVXRUl0ZTNXRVFjL004QT09