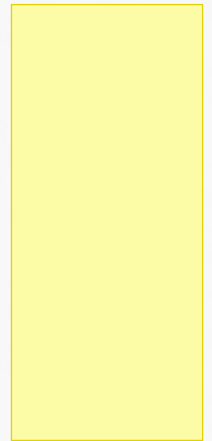


COLLEGE 101

PLANO EAST SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

GETTING CONNECTED TO THE COLLEGE ADMISSION
PROCESS



FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

- Here is a link so that you can follow us Twitter:
Plano East Counseling @PESHounseling
- Our Presentation will also be on PESH's Counseling website later this week.



WHERE SHOULD I BE NOW?

JUNIORS:

- Researching potential majors and schools – **Naviance** www.naviance.com
- Compiling a short list of schools – **Naviance** “Colleges I’m thinking about”
- Research requirements for school and major – **Naviance** , specific school websites
- Visit potential colleges
- Prepare for ACT/SAT
- Strong Junior year – these grades are the last most schools will see

SENIORS:

- Complete application process
- Complete NCAA forms as needed online (www.ncaa.org)
- Go on a College Visit
- Take or retake ACT/SAT
- Request Transcripts through **Naviance**
- Arrange for Letters of Recommendation to be sent – speak with teachers/counselor
- Apply for Financial Aid (FAFSA) and Scholarships (mostly spring of senior year)
- STAY ACADEMICALLY RIGOROUS!

20 MOST POPULAR COLLEGES FOR PLANO EAST CLASS OF 2015

- Collin County Community College District
- The University of Texas, Dallas
- The University of Texas, Austin
- Texas A&M University
- Baylor University
- University of North Texas
- Southern Methodist University
- Texas Tech University
- The University of Texas, Arlington
- Rice University
- Stanford University
- University of Houston
- Stephen F. Austin State University
- Texas A&M University, Commerce
- Texas State University
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Arkansas
- University of Oklahoma
- Oklahoma State University
- University of Southern California

WHAT DO COLLEGES WANT TO SEE?

- High School GPA / Class Rank
- SAT / ACT scores
- Insights from written essays
- Community service involvement
- Well-rounded students

YOUR LIST OF COLLEGES

- Selecting your schools can be difficult
- Dream Schools vs. Reality Schools
- Find your FIT...
 - Academically
 - Personally
 - Socially
 - Financially

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

- **Apply Texas** – all Texas PUBLIC colleges/universities
 - www.applytexas.org

The Common Application - Most other colleges/universities (Texas private schools OR out of state)

- www.commonapp.org

Determine which application to use based on the college's website. If the Common Application is an option, choose it – your application pieces will process faster!

COUNSELOR LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

PLANO EAST SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
RECOMMENDATION PACKET



***This packet must be returned to the Counseling Office by December 1st.*
Please allow 10 school days for processing by your counselor.**

Full Name _____ PESH ID _____

Student email _____

COLLEGES I AM APPLYING TO:

***Remember that the following colleges must be listed in NAVIANCE under the tab "Colleges I'm applying to". You must also request a recommendation form from your counselor through NAVIANCE. It is very important that you use the Common Application if this is an option for your college. Applying with an application on the university website or other applications will delay processing.**

College	Application DEADLINE	Common App	Apply Texas	Other
_____	_____	CA	TX	0
_____	_____	CA	TX	0
_____	_____	CA	TX	0
_____	_____	CA	TX	0
_____	_____	CA	TX	0

***If you add colleges to your list after submitting this packet, it is your responsibility to notify your counselor and request the additional transcripts through NAVIANCE.**

All college recommendations are confidential. Please indicate your agreement to the following terms by signing below. Parent signatures are required as well.

- I give my permission for test scores, class rank, grade point average and transcript data to be submitted to colleges, universities and scholarship committees.
- I waive my right to see the recommendation submitted to colleges, universities and scholarship committees.

Student Signature _____ Date _____ Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Date received in the Plano East Counseling Office: _____

- Completed during senior year
- Pick up a GOLD packet in counseling office OR download from counseling web-site
- Not all schools require a counselor letter of rec; ALL Common Application schools do require one!
- Complete as much info as possible AND continually communicate with counselor – regular emails are great
- Allow 10 school days processing time

TEACHER LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

- Not required by all schools
- Speak personally with the teacher!
- Request letter through **Naviance**, also – teachers will submit letters and secondary report through **Naviance** to be sent directly to your colleges.
- Let your teacher know to which schools to send your letter if that pertains to you – some schools require more or less than others, so pay attention to your colleges' requirements

COLLEGE ESSAY

- Do not PROCRASTINATE!
- Make it error free – write, re-write, show it someone else, etc. Make sure to NOT mention another school in the essay.
- Answer the questions, and focus on quality, not quantity
- Use your voice – don't over-use a thesaurus, make it sound like you and let your personality shine. But, remember you're writing to an adult, not a peer – avoid excessive sarcasm or extreme opinions.

TESTING

- **SAT / ACT**

- www.collegeboard.com
- www.actstudent.org

- **SAT Subject Tests**

- Not needed for all schools / majors

- **PESH code: 445569**

- **TSI (THEA)**

- Not used for admissions, only for some English/math placement
- Can be exempt based on SAT/ACT
- Must take at your future university; contact them for details

COLLEGE VISITS

- Schedule appointment with the college/university
- Obtain **College Visit Form** from sub-school prior to college visit day
- Upon return, turn in signed **College Visit Form** to sub-school
- 2 college visits per year allowed

TRANSCRIPTS

Seniors

- Request any transcripts through **Naviance** – for colleges, scholarships, NCAA, mid-year reports, final transcript, etc.
- One-time \$5 fee on Parent Portal covers all transcripts

Mid-Year Reports

- Email your counselor if your college requires a mid-year report AND request a mid-year transcript through **Naviance**

Final Transcript

- Request through **Naviance** for the FINAL and ONLY school you will be attending the following fall

FINANCIAL AID

- **FAFSA** – required for most need based scholarships and grants, completed in January of Senior year
- www.fafsa.ed.gov
- **CSS Profile** – used by some more selective / private universities, but does not replace FAFSA
- www.collegeboard.com – CSS/Profile

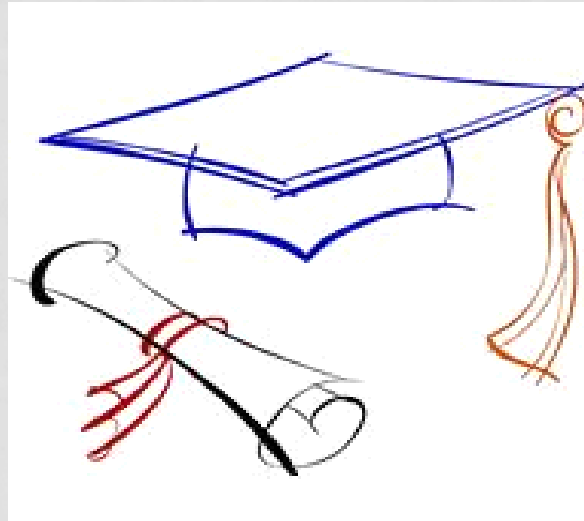
SCHOLARSHIPS

- Watch your specific college web-site – many are college specific and you apply through their website
- Check **Naviance** – Colleges tab, Scholarships and Money link. We update weekly every local and many national scholarships with links and downloadable information
- Check Panther Pause and eNews
- Be aware of due dates – majority of scholarship are **SPRING** of SENIOR year

IMPORTANT DATES

- **PSAT** (Juniors) – Wednesday, October 19
- **Financial Aid Meeting at PESH** – Monday, November 28
- **Parenting/Student Mental Health** – March, 2017 Details

TBD



NAVIANCE

- <http://succeed.Naviance.com/planoeast>
- **Account** (if needed): PlanoEast
- **Email** (Not actually email): student's Plano ISD
username (**firstname.lastname.1**)
- **Password**: Plano ISD ID number (6 digit number)