

A Guide to the College Application Process for Seniors



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INFORMATION INCLUDED IN THIS BOOKLET...

Applying to College

SAT/ACT Dates

Concordance Tables

Massachusetts State Universities and UMass Requirements

NCAA Eligibility Information

NCAA – Division I Academic Requirements

NCAA – Division II Academic Requirements

Basics of Applying for Financial Aid

Admission Decisions

Useful Websites

Parent Information Sheet for Guidance Counselors

Transcript Request Form (sample)

Notes

APPLYING TO COLLEGE

1. Know Your Application Deadlines.

All colleges will either have a Regular Decision deadline or will be Rolling Admissions.

- **Regular Decision**

Candidates are required to submit their applications by a specific deadline and are notified of decisions in the spring. Students may apply to other institutions under Early Decision (one only) or Early Action plans.

- **Rolling Admission**

Institutions review and make decisions on applications as they are received. Students may apply to other colleges. Students are not required to make a commitment prior to May 1, but are encouraged to do so as soon as a final college choice is made. Priority indicates that these applications will take priority over applications received after this date. Typically, applying by a college's listed priority admissions date will ensure that you receive full consideration for all of the institutional scholarships and financial aid that you may be eligible for.

In addition to a Regular Decision deadline or Rolling Admissions, colleges may offer Early Decision or Early Action.

- **Early Decision**

If you are certain that you will attend one particular college if admitted and are willing to sign a statement to that effect, you may be able to apply Early Decision. Application deadlines are generally in November or December. **If admitted, you are obligated to enroll at that college unless the financial aid award is inadequate. Immediately upon acceptance of the offer of admission, you must withdraw all other applications.** In choosing Early Decision candidates, admission officers are looking for very clear indications of ability. However, you may have a slight advantage because you are clearly telling the college that you are committed to attend if admitted. You may apply to other colleges but may have only one Early Decision application pending at any time.

- **Early Action**

Early Action is another option for early notification of acceptance. In this instance, you are not obligated to attend that school or to withdraw all other applications. **If accepted, you are allowed to use the Candidate's Reply Date of May 1st and therefore hear from all your schools before making a final decision about which school you will attend.** In most cases, students may apply to other colleges (including one Early Decision application) under this plan. Please be aware of a school's policy if you plan to apply Early Action. Some colleges have **Restrictive Early Action** or **Single Choice Early Action**. In this case, certain restrictions apply, i.e., applicants are not permitted to apply to another college's binding program. Students **must** check each school's policy.

- 2. Determine Which Application You Will Complete For Each College To Which You Are Applying.**
Some colleges offer multiple versions of applications so students must choose which application they want to submit. Colleges give equal preference to all versions of applications.

Your applications are your responsibility – you will submit these through the Common Application, Coalition Application and/or through the colleges’ websites. Naviance does not allow you to complete your application through their program. It will be used for you to organize your schools, see the deadlines, and make sure the school sends in your materials (i.e. transcripts, school profile, letters of recommendation, and school reports).

- **Common Application** (www.commonapp.org)
One application that nearly 700 colleges and universities accept.
- **Institutional Application**
If your student is applying to a college/university that does not accept the Common Application, then he or she should go to that college’s website to complete the institutional-specific application.
- **Coalition Application** (www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org)
The Coalition Application is a new, multi-college application similar to the Common Application being launched in the 2016-2017 school year. The Coalition aims to make applying to colleges accessible to all, as it requires its member colleges to offer “affordable” tuition. Currently 53 colleges will accept the Coalition Application for the 2016-2017 school year.
- **Special Applications**
Many colleges use special application offers to target a particular type of student or to entice your student to apply. Often times these offers are emailed or mailed directly to the student. They typically have a specific title (ex: Dean’s Application, Express Application, VIP Application, etc.), and usually offer a benefit (Ex: no application fee, no essay, etc.) to completing this form of the application.
 - If your student chooses to use a special application from a college, you **MUST** inform your guidance counselor because many of these applications prevent the school from submitting materials via Naviance. Therefore, your admissions materials would have to be mailed to the colleges.
 - **PLEASE NOTE:** Many colleges will still provide you with the benefits of the Special Application if you prefer to use Common Application or Institutional Application. Just call and ask.

- 3. If You Are Applying With The Common Application, You Must Complete The Naviance And Common Application Matching Process.**

Before teachers and guidance counselors can submit a form/letter electronically to a Common Application college via Naviance, students must complete the Common Application Account Matching process in Naviance.

STEPS TO COMPLETE THE MATCHING PROCESS:

Sign into your Common Application Account (www.commonapp.org).

- Complete the school segment in the “Education” section
 - Add at least one college in the “College Search” tab
 - Sign the FERPA waiver in the “Assign Recommenders” tab
 - The **FERPA** is the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. It entitles students to review letters of recommendation and accompanying forms **AFTER** you enroll at a post-secondary institution only if that institution saves the documents post-enrollment. In other words, FERPA does not give you the right to inspect recommendations before they are sent to your colleges.
- **Waiving Your Right:** If you waive your right this lets colleges know that you do not intend to read your recommendations, which helps reassure colleges that the letters are candid and truthful.
 - **Not Waiving Your Right:** After matriculating, you will have access to the recommendation form and all other recommendations and supporting documents submitted by you and on your behalf only if the institution saves recommendations.

Sign into Naviance at <http://connection.naviance.com/arlingtonchs>

- Click on “Colleges”
- Click on “Colleges I Am Applying To”
- In the blue box, enter the email address you used to create your Common Application account and your date of birth.

PLEASE NOTE: Your guidance counselor will not be able to submit your transcript and letter of recommendation to the colleges to which you are applying until you complete the FERPA waiver and the Common Application/Naviance account matching process.

PLEASE NOTE: If you do not enter your correct Common Application user name, you will delay the processing of your applications.

4. Creating Your College List In Naviance.

Once students are logged into their Naviance Family Connection account, they can add colleges to their active college application list:

- Click on “Colleges”
- Click on “Colleges I Am Applying To”
- Click “Add To This List”
- Click “Lookup”
- Search by name, alpha browse, etc. to find a college
- Click the name of the college which fills in that college’s name in the box.
- Indicate the decision type from the drop-down menu
- Continue adding up to 10 schools
- Once you have completed your list, click “Add Colleges”
- Indicate whether you are applying via Common Application, Coalition Application, or an Institutional Application

5. Send Teacher Recommendation Requests In Naviance.

Students will be allowed to request Teacher Recommendations for specific colleges. However, students can request only the number of letters that the college accepts.

- The “Letters of Recommendation” link is located in the “Colleges” tab of your student’s Naviance account.
- **PLEASE NOTE:** The deadlines to make Teacher Recommendation request(s) in Naviance are the same as the Transcript Request Deadlines as outlined on the following page.

6. Fill Out A Transcript Request Form In The Guidance Office Indicating The Colleges To Which You Are Applying.

The Guidance Department will only submit documents to colleges that are listed on the Transcript Request Form.

Teacher Recommendation and Transcript Request Deadlines for College Applications:

- For colleges with November deadlines, requests must be submitted by **Monday, October 3**
- For colleges with December deadlines, requests must be submitted by **Tuesday, November 1**
- For colleges with January deadlines, requests must be submitted by **Thursday, December 1**
- If your college has a Rolling Admissions deadline, you must request transcripts **one month** in advance of your desired due date.

PLEASE NOTE: Students do not need to have their application(s) completed by the Guidance deadlines. Because the student and school sends documents separately, the student has up until the college’s deadline to complete their application(s).

7. Send Official Test Score Reports To Colleges.

- Go online to have your SAT and/or ACT scores sent to the colleges to which you are applying. (www.collegeboard.org or www.actstudent.org).
- International students are also required to send TOEFL (www.ets.org) scores to colleges.

8. Check Status Of Your Application(s).

Once you submit your application, many colleges will provide you the opportunity to check the status of your application(s) online. They will send you directions how to set up this account at their school. Please make sure your student does so. This is how the college will communicate with your family if there are missing application items.

2016-2017 SAT DATES

TEST DATE	TEST	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	LATE REGISTRATION
October 1	SAT and Subject Test	September 1	September 13 (Mail) September 20 Phone/Online)
November 5	SAT and Subject Test	October 7	October 18 (Mail) October 25 (Phone/Online)
December 3	SAT and Subject Test	November 3	November 15 (Mail) November 22 Phone/Online)
January 21	SAT and Subject Test	December 21	January 3 (Mail) January 10 (Phone/Online)

2016-2017 ACT DATES

TEST DATE	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	LATE REGISTRATION
September 10	August 7	August 8 – 19
October 22	September 16	September 17 – 30
December 10	November 4	November 5 – 18
February 11	January 13	January 14 - 20

HOW DO I SEND MY SAT/ACT/TOEFL SCORES TO COLLEGES?

- It is the student's responsibility to send an official SAT/ACT score report to each college to which he/she is applying. To do so, place the college code number for each school when you do your SAT/ACT registration online. Please note that the first four reports are free, but there is a fee for every additional report.
- If you already registered for the SAT/ACT or took the exam(s) without entering college codes, you can sign into your CollegeBoard www.collegeboard.org and/or ACT www.actstudent.org account(s) and request the testing company to send your score reports to the colleges to which you are applying.
- International students must submit their TOEFL scores to each college to which they are applying. To do so visit www.ets.org.

New SAT to Old SAT Concordance Table (2400 Scale)

Table 1							
New SAT Total Score (400-1600)	Old SAT Total Score (600-2400)	New SAT Total Score (400-1600)	Old SAT Total Score (600-2400)	New SAT Total Score (400-1600)	Old SAT Total Score (600-2400)	New SAT Total Score (400-1600)	Old SAT Total Score (600-2400)
400	600	710	910	1020	1390	1330	1870
410	610	720	930	1030	1400	1340	1880
420	620	730	950	1040	1420	1350	1900
430	630	740	960	1050	1430	1360	1920
440	640	750	980	1060	1450	1370	1930
450	650	760	990	1070	1460	1380	1950
460	660	770	1010	1080	1480	1390	1970
470	670	780	1030	1090	1490	1400	1990
480	680	790	1040	1100	1510	1410	2000
490	690	800	1060	1110	1530	1420	2020
500	700	810	1070	1120	1540	1430	2040
510	710	820	1090	1130	1560	1440	2060
520	720	830	1110	1140	1570	1450	2080
530	730	840	1120	1150	1590	1460	2090
540	730	850	1140	1160	1610	1470	2110
550	740	860	1150	1170	1620	1480	2130
560	750	870	1170	1180	1640	1490	2150
570	760	880	1180	1190	1650	1500	2170
580	770	890	1200	1200	1670	1510	2190
590	780	900	1210	1210	1680	1520	2210
600	790	910	1220	1220	1700	1530	2230
610	800	920	1240	1230	1710	1540	2260
620	810	930	1250	1240	1730	1550	2280
630	820	940	1270	1250	1750	1560	2300
640	830	950	1280	1260	1760	1570	2330
650	840	960	1300	1270	1780	1580	2350
660	850	970	1310	1280	1790	1590	2370
670	860	980	1330	1290	1810	1600	2390
680	870	990	1340	1300	1820		
690	880	1000	1360	1310	1840		
700	900	1010	1370	1320	1850		

New SAT to Old SAT Concordance Table (1600 Scale)

Table 2							
New SAT Total Score (400-1600)	Old SAT Total Score (400-1600)		New SAT Total Score (400-1600)	Old SAT Total Score (400-1600)		New SAT Total Score (400-1600)	Old SAT Total Score (400-1600)
400	400		720	620		1040	960
410	410		730	630		1050	970
420	410		740	640		1060	980
430	420		750	660		1070	990
440	430		760	670		1080	1000
450	430		770	680		1090	1010
460	440		780	690		1100	1020
470	450		790	700		1110	1030
480	450		800	710		1120	1040
490	460		810	720		1130	1060
500	470		820	730		1140	1070
510	470		830	740		1150	1080
520	480		840	750		1160	1090
530	490		850	760		1170	1100
540	490		860	780		1180	1110
550	500		870	790		1190	1120
560	510		880	800		1200	1130
570	510		890	810		1210	1140
580	520		900	820		1220	1150
590	530		910	830		1230	1160
600	540		920	840		1240	1170
610	540		930	850		1250	1180
620	550		940	860		1260	1190
630	560		950	870		1270	1200
640	560		960	880		1280	1210
650	570		970	890		1290	1220
660	580		980	900		1300	1230
670	580		990	910		1310	1250
680	590		1000	920		1320	1260
690	600		1010	930		1330	1270
700	600		1020	940		1340	1280
710	610		1030	950		1350	1290

Concordance Tables (Released: May 9, 2016)

New SAT to ACT Concordance Table

Table 7							
New SAT Total (400-1600)	ACT Composite Score	New SAT Total (400-1600)	ACT Composite Score	New SAT Total (400-1600)	ACT Composite Score	New SAT Total (400-1600)	ACT Composite Score
1600	36	1330	28	1060	21	790	14
1590	35	1320	28	1050	20	780	14
1580	35	1310	28	1040	20	770	14
1570	35	1300	27	1030	20	760	14
1560	35	1290	27	1020	20	750	13
1550	34	1280	27	1010	19	740	13
1540	34	1270	26	1000	19	730	13
1530	34	1260	26	990	19	720	13
1520	34	1250	26	980	19	710	12
1510	33	1240	26	970	18	700	12
1500	33	1230	25	960	18	690	12
1490	33	1220	25	950	18	680	12
1480	32	1210	25	940	18	670	12
1470	32	1200	25	930	17	660	12
1460	32	1190	24	920	17	650	12
1450	32	1180	24	910	17	640	12
1440	31	1170	24	900	17	630	12
1430	31	1160	24	890	16	620	11
1420	31	1150	23	880	16	610	11
1410	30	1140	23	870	16	600	11
1400	30	1130	23	860	16	590	11
1390	30	1120	22	850	15	580	11
1380	29	1110	22	840	15	570	11
1370	29	1100	22	830	15	560	11
1360	29	1090	21	820	15		
1350	29	1080	21	810	15		
1340	28	1070	21	800	14		

For lower score points, there is not enough data to produce a valid concordance between the new SAT and ACT.

New SAT Writing and Language to ACT English/Writing Concordance Table

Table 8							
New SAT Writing and Language (10-40)	ACT English/Writing Score	New SAT Writing and Language (10-40)	ACT English/Writing Score	New SAT Writing and Language (10-40)	ACT English/Writing Score	New SAT Writing and Language (10-40)	ACT English/Writing Score
40	34	34	28	28	21	22	15
39	33	33	26	27	20	21	14
38	33	32	25	26	19	20	13
37	32	31	24	25	18	19	13
36	30	30	23	24	17	18	12
35	29	29	22	23	16	17	11

Because of changes to the ACT writing test introduced in 2015, the concorded score for the ACT Combined English/Writing is only applicable if you took the ACT prior to September 2015.

For lower score points, there is not enough data to produce a valid concordance between the new SAT and ACT.

MINIMUM UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE UNIVERSITIES AND UMASS CAMPUSES

The minimum undergraduate admissions standards for the state universities and UMass campuses were established for several primary reasons: first, to emphasize the importance of successfully completing a rigorous academic course of study in high school (example MassCore, a recommended program of studies that includes specific numbers and types of courses across academic subjects); second, to ensure that students are well prepared to begin college courses and their path to degree; and third, to increase consistency of undergraduate admissions across the state universities and UMass campuses.

Again, these standards are **minimum requirements**. Eligibility for undergraduate admission is not an entitlement of admission for any applicant; as such, meeting the minimum standards does not guarantee admission, since admissions officers consider a wide range of factors when reviewing students' applications, and the state universities and UMass campuses can establish additional requirements. For information about any additional requirements, please contact the admissions office at the institution(s) to which the student is interested in applying.

Note: These standards do not apply to the community colleges, which implement open admissions and enrollment policies. For additional information about admissions policies at the community colleges, please contact the admissions office at the institution(s) to which you are interested in applying.

FRESHMAN APPLICANTS

The admissions standards for freshmen applicants at Massachusetts' public four year institutions have three primary components:

1. Successful completion of required academic courses in specific subjects; and
2. A minimum average and weighted grade point average (GPA) earned in high school level academic courses; and
3. The submission of SAT or ACT scores. For Fall 2016 and 2017 a small number of Massachusetts State Universities and UMass campuses are participating in a TEST Optional pilot. In 2016 and 2017 Salem State University and UMassLowell are participating in a SAT TEST Optional pilot. For further information contact the admissions office at these institutions.

ACADEMIC COURSE REQUIREMENT

All freshman applicants are required to successfully complete the following courses in each academic subject over their four years of high school. Applicants are required to have completed 17 courses. This reflects the required completion of four courses of mathematics in high school including mathematics in the senior year, effective Fall 2016. In Fall 2017 an additional lab science will be required.

The table provides detailed information about the course requirements for each academic subject.

Table 1: Academic Course Requirements for Entering College Freshmen

Subject	Requirements for Entering College Freshmen		
	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017 and beyond
English	4 courses		
Mathematics	3 courses (Algebra I & II and Geometry or Trigonometry or comparable coursework)	4 courses (Algebra I & II and Geometry or Trigonometry, or comparable coursework) including mathematics during the final year of high school	
Sciences	3 courses (from Natural Science and/or Physical Science and/or Technology/Engineering, including 2 courses with laboratory work).		3 courses (from Natural Science and/or Physical Science and/or Technology/Engineering), including 3 courses with laboratory work
Social Sciences	2 courses (including 1 course in U.S. History)		
Foreign Languages	2 courses (in a single language) <i>Note: American Sign Language (ASL) is a foreign language.</i>		
Electives	2 courses (from the above subjects or from the Arts & Humanities or Computer Sciences)		

Note: comparable courses are defined as coursework that is equal to or beyond the content defined in the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks.

If a high school designates a course as a comparable mathematics course or designates a science course as a science laboratory course, college admissions officers must accept that the course meets the above requirements. Technology and Engineering course should be identified and High school transcripts should clearly indicate that the course(s) are mathematics or science courses.

MINIMUM GPA REQUIREMENT

The minimum average GPA for freshman applicants, weighted for accelerated (Honors and Advanced Placement) courses, is 3.0 for both the state universities and the UMass campuses. Detailed information about calculating the weighted GPA is presented in the Appendix, pages 13 - 18. Calculating the weighted GPA is a process conducted by admissions office and does not reflect policies and practices in place in high schools.

This GPA is based on all academic courses completed and grades received for courses in which the student is currently enrolled (for example, mathematics courses in which the student is enrolled during the senior year of high school).

SAT/ACT SCORE REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS

NEW SAT SCORE INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS AND INFORMATION ON SAT RE-DESIGN BEGINNING MARCH 2016

All freshman applicants who are within three years of their high school graduation must submit their SAT scores (for Critical Reading and Mathematics) or ACT scores.

Beginning in March 2016 a re-designed NEW SAT was developed by the College Board. The previous OLD SAT offered prior to March 2016 will no longer be offered. **The NEW SAT will replace the OLD SAT and will continue to be required for all freshman applicants** who are within three years of their high school graduation. ACT did not undergo a redesign and will continue to be an option for students to use in the admissions process.

Admissions requirements for SAT scores have not changed. The SAT re-designed format now includes evidenced based reading and writing and mathematics. This NEW SAT format requires a new sliding scale. For example, if a student took the OLD SAT (before March 2016) and scored of 950, then took the NEW SAT (after March 2016) the equivalent NEW SAT score would be 1030. It is important to emphasize that scores from the OLD SAT cannot be directly compared to scores on the NEW SAT. **Students are encouraged to submit either or both SAT scores if they have taken both the OLD SAT and the NEW SAT.**

In conjunction with the College Board, the Department of Higher Education has included new sliding scale tables for the State Universities and the University of Massachusetts to align the NEW SAT scores with a sliding weighted GPA and ACT score. Offices of admissions will review these OLD SAT scores and NEW SAT scores with weighted GPA and ACT according to the appropriate OLD SAT or NEW SAT sliding scale table. See Table 2A and 3A.

Note: For Fall 2016 and 2017 a small number of Massachusetts State Universities and UMass campuses are participating in a test optional pilot. At present, UMass Lowell and Salem State University allow SAT test optional. For further information contact the admissions office at these institutions.

All freshman applicants (including international) who meet the minimum average weighted GPA of 3.0 and are within three years of their high school graduation must submit their SAT scores or ACT scores. International freshman students may be exempt if it is not possible to take these tests due to extreme hardship.

For freshman applicants (including international) who do not meet the minimum weighted 3.0 GPA requirement, they must earn the following SAT or ACT scores in order to be eligible for admission.

NOTE: AN APPLICANT WITH A HIGH SCHOOL MINIMUM WEIGHTED GPA BELOW 2.0 MAY NOT BE ADMITTED TO A STATE UNIVERSITY OR UMASS UNDERGRADUATE CAMPUS.

SAT SCORE SLIDING SCALE TABLES FOR UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS

Table 2: OLD SAT- SAT test administration prior to March 2016
 Required OLD SAT or ACT scores for freshman applicants to UMass

Campuses Weighted Average GPA	Combined OLD SAT Score (Critical Reading and Mathematics)	ACT Score
2.51 - 2.99	950	20
2.41 - 2.50	990	21
2.31 - 2.40	1030	22
2.21 - 2.30	1070	23
2.11 - 2.20	1110	24
2.00 - 2.10	1150	25

Table 2 A: NEW SAT- SAT test administration after March 2016
 Required NEW SAT or ACT scores for freshman applicants to UMass

Campuses Weighted Average GPA	Combined NEW SAT Score (Evidenced Based Reading & Writing and Mathematics)	ACT Score
2.51 - 2.99	1030	20
2.41 - 2.50	1070	21
2.31 - 2.40	1110	22
2.21 - 2.30	1140	23
2.11 - 2.20	1180	24
2.00 - 2.10	1220	25

SAT TOTAL SCORE SLIDING SCALE TABLES FOR STATE UNIVERSITIES

Table 3: OLD SAT- SAT Test Prior to March 2016
 Required OLD SAT or ACT Scores for Freshman Applicants to State Universities

Campuses Weighted Average GPA	Combined OLD SAT Score (Critical Reading and Mathematics)	ACT Score
2.51 - 2.99	910	19
2.41 - 2.50	950	20
2.31 - 2.40	990	21
2.21 - 2.30	1030	22
2.11 - 2.20	1070	23
2.00 - 2.10	1110	24

Table 3 A. NEW SAT- SAT Administration After March 2016
 Required NEW SAT or ACT Scores for Freshman Applicants to State Universities

Campuses Weighted Average GPA	Combined NEW SAT Score (Evidenced Based Reading & Writing and Mathematics)	ACT Score
2.51 - 2.99	990	19
2.41 - 2.50	1030	20
2.31 - 2.40	1070	21
2.21 - 2.30	1110	22
2.11 - 2.20	1140	23
2.00 - 2.10	1180	24

NCAA Eligibility Information

The NCAA has established a central clearinghouse to certify athletes for eligibility in Divisions I and II. Here are the answers to questions that frequently are asked by students about what they need to do to participate in college sports under this new process.

- **Why do I need to register and be certified?** If you intend to participate in athletics at a Division I or II school as a freshman, you must be registered with and be certified as eligible by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse. **Please note that initial eligibility certification pertains only to whether you meet the NCAA requirements for participation in Division I or II athletics and has no bearing on your admission to a particular Division I or II institution.**
- **When should I register?** Students should register with the Clearinghouse after the completion of their junior year of high school. At this time, a transcript, which includes six semesters of grades, should be sent to the Clearinghouse from the high school. Students must submit a signed transcript release form (available on the Clearinghouse website) to the Guidance Office for this purpose. Additionally, students should have their SAT or ACT test scores forwarded directly to the Clearinghouse whenever they take the exam.
- **How do I register?** You may complete the registration process online at www.eligibilitycenter.org.
- **Are standardized test scores required?** Qualifying test scores are required for participation at both Division I and II institutions. You may report your scores directly from the College Board or ACT using code **9999**.
- **What if I have attended more than one school?** If you have attended multiple high schools since 9th grade, the Clearinghouse must receive an official transcript for each school. Transcripts can come directly from each school or from the high school from which you are graduating. Check with your high school counselor.
- **What will the Clearinghouse provide to those institutions that are recruiting me?** The Clearinghouse will send your eligibility status to any Division I or II institution that requests it, provided you have given your permission on your student-release form for the institution to receive that information. Please note that the Clearinghouse will not send your eligibility information at your request; rather, the institution must make the request for that information. Additionally, if no member institution requests your eligibility status, a final certification decision may not be processed.

Transcript Release Form. You must see Mrs. Lally, Guidance Office, and pick up a Transcript Release Form so that your transcript may be sent to the NCAA. This form can be used to send an official transcript through Grade 11 and/or the final transcript after graduation from high school. You must bring in the signed release form to Mrs. Lally. This form gives Arlington Catholic permission to send your transcript to the Clearinghouse.



Division I Academic Requirements

College-bound student-athletes will need to meet the following academic requirements to practice, receive athletics scholarships, and/or compete during their first year.

Core-Course Requirement
<p>Complete 16 core courses in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 years of English • 3 years of math (Algebra I or higher) • 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered) • 1 year of additional English, math or natural/physical science • 2 years of social science • 4 years of additional courses (any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy)

Full Qualifier	Academic Redshirt
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 16 core courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ten of the 16 core courses must be completed before the seventh semester (senior year) of high school ▪ Seven of the 10 core courses must be in English, math, or science • Earn a core-course GPA of at least 2.300 • Earn the ACT/SAT score matching your core-course GPA on the Division I sliding scale (see back page) • Graduate high school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 16 core courses • Earn a core-course GPA of at least 2.000 • Earn the ACT/SAT score matching your core-course GPA on the Division I sliding scale (see back page) • Graduate high school

Full Qualifier: College-bound student-athletes may practice, compete and receive athletics scholarship during their first year of enrollment at an NCAA Division I school.

Academic Redshirt: College-bound student-athletes may receive athletics scholarships during their first year of enrollment and may practice during their first regular academic term but may NOT compete during their first year of enrollment.

Nonqualifier: College-bound student-athletes cannot practice, receive athletics scholarships or compete during their first year of enrollment at an NCAA Division I school.



NCAA Eligibility Center

Test Scores

When you register for the SAT or ACT, use the NCAA Eligibility Center code of 9999 so your scores are sent directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center from the testing agency. Test scores on transcripts will not be used in your academic certification.

A combined SAT score is calculated by adding reading and math subscores. An ACT sum score is calculated by adding English, math, reading and science subscores. You may take the SAT or ACT an unlimited number of times before you enroll full time in college. If you take either test more than once, the best sub score from different tests are used to meet initial eligibility requirements.

If you take the current SAT before March 2016 and then take the redesigned SAT at a later date, the NCAA Eligibility Center will not combine section scores from the current and redesigned SAT when determining your initial eligibility. The NCAA Eligibility Center will only combine section scores from the same version of the test. Because the redesigned SAT varies in design and measures different academic concepts than the current SAT, a numerical score on the current test may not be equivalent to the same numerical score on the redesigned test.

DIVISION I FULL QUALIFER SLIDING SCALE		
Core GPA	SAT Reading/Math	ACT Sum
3.550	400	37
3.525	410	38
3.500	420	39
3.475	430	40
3.450	440	41
3.425	450	41
3.400	460	42
3.375	470	42
3.350	480	43
3.325	490	44
3.300	500	44
3.275	510	45
3.250	520	46
3.225	530	46
3.200	540	47
3.175	550	47
3.150	560	48
3.125	570	49
3.100	580	49
3.075	590	50
3.050	600	50
3.025	610	51
3.000	620	52
2.975	630	52
2.950	640	53
2.925	650	53
2.900	660	54
2.875	670	55
2.850	680	56
2.825	690	56
2.800	700	57
2.775	710	58
2.750	720	59
2.725	730	60
2.700	740	61
2.675	750	61
2.650	760	62
2.625	770	63
2.600	780	64
2.575	790	65
2.550	800	66
2.525	810	67
2.500	820	68
2.475	830	69
2.450	840	70
2.425	850	70
2.400	860	71
2.375	870	72
2.350	880	73
2.325	890	74
2.300	900	75
2.299	910	76
2.275	910	76
2.250	920	77
2.225	930	78
2.200	940	79
2.175	950	80
2.150	960	81
2.125	970	82
2.100	980	83
2.075	990	84
2.050	1000	85
2.025	1010	86
2.000	1020	86

ACADEMIC REDSHIRT



Division II Academic Requirements

College-bound student-athletes enrolling at an NCAA Division II school need to meet the following academic rules to practice, compete and receive athletics scholarships during their first year.

Core-Course Requirement
Complete 16 core courses in the following areas:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 years of English • 2 years of math (Algebra I or higher) • 2 years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if offered) • 2 years of social science • 3 additional years of English, math or natural or physical science • 4 additional years of English, math, natural or physical science, social science, foreign language, comparative religion or philosophy

Full Qualifier	Partial Qualifier
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 16 core courses • Earn a core-course GPA of at least 2.000 • Earn an SAT combined score of at least 820 or an ACT sum score of at least 68 • Graduate high school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 16 core courses • Earn a core-course GPA of at least 2.000 • OR • Earn an SAT combined score of at least 820 or an ACT sum score of at least 68 • Graduate high school

Full Qualifier: College-bound student-athletes may practice, compete and receive athletics scholarship during their first year of enrollment at an NCAA Division II school.

Partial Qualifier: College-bound student-athletes may receive athletics scholarships during their first year of enrollment and may practice during their first regular academic term but may NOT compete during their first year of enrollment.

Nonqualifier: College-bound student-athletes may not practice, compete or receive athletics scholarships during their first year of enrollment at an NCAA Division II school.

Test Scores

If you take the current SAT before March 2016 and then take the redesigned SAT at a later date, the NCAA Eligibility Center will not combine section scores from the current and redesigned SAT when determining your initial eligibility. The NCAA Eligibility Center will only combine section scores from the same version of the test. Because the redesigned SAT varies in design and measures different academic concepts than the current SAT, a numerical score on the current test may not be equivalent to the same numerical score on the redesigned test.

BASICS OF APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID

What is Financial Aid?

Any type of assistance provided to help you with educational expenses

Types of Financial Aid:

1. **Grants & Scholarships:** gift aid that does not have to be repaid; can be based on student's financial need or merit; private, local, and national sources all offer outside scholarships. Tuition and fee vouchers are available to eligible Massachusetts residents that waive or reduce costs at Massachusetts public colleges and universities.
2. **Work Study:** students' work part-time on or near campus while in college. Earnings can be used for living expenses, books, supplies, and other education-related expenses. Work study earnings are not deducted from the college bill; they are paid to the student throughout the year in paycheck form.
3. **Federal Student Loans:** available to eligible students regardless of income or credit score. They offer fixed interest rates, deferred repayment and various repayment options.

Senior Year Timeline/Important Dates

<i>Season/Date</i>	<i>Objective</i>
Fall	Use online net price calculator for each school you are applying to for a customized estimate of your financial aid.
September	Apply for your Federal Student Aid ID at www.fsaaid.ed.gov . Your ID serves as your electronic signature on the online FAFSA. The student and parent each need an ID.
October 1st	The FAFSA (www.FAFSA.gov) and The CSS Profile (profileonline.collegeboard.org) become available.
November-December	Early Action/Early Decision applicants may have early financial aid deadlines. Colleges may require the CSS Profile to be completed.
February-March	Most financial aid applications are due at colleges.
May 1 st	National deadline to select your college and submit the tuition deposit.

Key Changes

Submit a FAFSA Earlier: Students will be able to file a 2017-2018 FAFSA as early as October 1, 2016 rather than beginning on January 1, 2017. The earlier submission date will be a permanent change enabling students to complete and submit a FAFSA as early as October 1 every year.

Use Earlier Income Information: Beginning with the 2017-2018 FAFSA, students will report income information from an earlier tax year. For example, on the 2017-2018 FAFSA, students (and parents, as appropriate) will report their 2015 income information, rather than their 2016 income information.

Before you fill out application forms, you will need several codes for the Federal government to process your application and send the information to your prospective colleges and universities.

Obtain your Federal Student Aid ID (www.fsaaid.ed.gov)

Your ID acts as your electronic signature on the FAFSA. It also serves as your identifier to give you access to your personal information in various US Department of Education systems. It is like the personal ID number you get from your bank, so you should not give it to anyone. Both the student and parent need to apply for a FSA ID.

Find your Federal School Codes

Each college and university has a unique 6-digit Federal school code which is used to forward your financial aid application to the colleges you are applying to. You may have your information sent to as many as 10 colleges and universities on your FAFSA at one time.

Contact each college or university you are considering to learn which financial aid applications are required and when they are due. Note that filing deadlines can be different at each school.

The most common financial aid applications you will need to file are:

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) (www.fafsa.gov)

All Colleges and Universities require the FAFSA Form.

Filling out the FAFSA is the first step in the financial aid application process. It is used to determine Federal student financial aid, such as Pell Grants, Federal student loans, and work study. Most states and many colleges also use information from the FAFSA to award their own financial aid. **The FAFSA can be submitted after October 1, but must be filed by your college's earliest financial aid deadline.**

CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE (profileonline.collegeboard.org)

The CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE is a web-based financial aid application required by some colleges and universities in addition to the FAFSA. Colleges that require the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE use it to determine your eligibility for institutional aid. The CSS PROFILE can be submitted **as early as October 1** each year and has no Federal deadline like the FAFSA.

When to Register for the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE: You should register your PROFILE as soon as you are sure about where you are applying for aid. This should be – at the minimum – at least two weeks before the earliest college or scholarship program priority filing date you need to meet. The priority filing date is the date by which the college or program tells you that you must have submitted a completed PROFILE application.

How Much Does It Cost? You are charged \$25 for the initial application and information sent to one college. Additional reports are \$16 each. A limited number of fee waivers are granted automatically to first-year, first-time citizen, or eligible non-citizen applicants from low-income families, based on the financial information provided on the PROFILE.

Institutional Applications. Some colleges and universities may require their own application form as well. Check the college's financial aid website or call the financial aid office to find out if an institutional aid application is required.

Selective Service. Registration with the selective service system is required by law for all males, ages 18 through 25, with few exceptions. Registration is a pre-requisite for Federal student financial aid and most Federal employment. You can register at any post office or online at www.sss.gov.

Tips from Financial Aid Representatives:

- Know and follow financial aid deadlines
- Contact schools directly and visit their websites since schools have various requirements
- Attend a FAFSA Day (www.fafsaday.org).
- Seek outside scholarships as they are the best gap between school offered grants and loans
- Involve your child in the process since this investment impacts their future
- Prepare in advance as much as possible: saving money, researching scholarships, loans, and affordable colleges/universities

Helpful Internet Resources:

- www.mefa.org
- www.finaid.org
- www.studentaid.gov
- www.payscale.com
- www.collegerealitycheck.com
- www.yourplanforfuture.org

ADMISSIONS DECISIONS

Acceptances

Congratulations! Most of you will have been accepted at one or more colleges or schools because you chose your colleges well and applied to a range of schools. However, some of you may have been denied admission at one or more colleges or schools.

What About Rejections?

If you are denied admission at a school or college, try not to take it personally. It does not necessarily mean that you could not do the work. Admissions decisions are based on the needs of the college and the composition of the applicant pool each year, so sometimes students are denied admission to colleges to which they may have been admitted in another year. This has been exacerbated by the current bulge in the population of 18 year olds, which has made college admission much more difficult in the last several years.

Remember, that if you hear negatively from a college that you had considered a safety, you should see your counselor immediately. Several colleges have rolling decisions and each spring the counselors receive a list of colleges across the country that still have openings after May 1.

Please be sure to inform your counselor what you have heard from your colleges. Remember to keep your teachers in the loop as well. Let them know about your colleges' decisions and be sure to thank them for their letters of recommendation.

How to Decide Which College to Attend

When sorting through the offers of admission you have received, there are several factors to consider as you try to decide which college to attend.

Revisit the reasons you selected the colleges in the first place; compare again the courses, activities and other opportunities among the schools;

Visit the campuses again, attend classes, stay overnight if possible, (it feels different knowing that you are accepted);

Compare expenses and financial aid packages:

Talk to several people – counselors, teachers, parents, friends, current students at the colleges; and

Trust your intuition

Many students find it helpful to make a list of pros and cons to assist in the comparison of their choices. You need to make a personal decision, one that makes the most sense for you and your particular interests, needs and requirements. It may be difficult for you to say no to a more “prestigious” school when another is really the best choice for you. You may need someone to be a guide or a sounding board in that process.

Candidate's Reply Date

You should hear the admissions decisions and financial aid offers from all your colleges by April 15 at the latest and you have until May 1, the Candidate's Reply Date, to let the college of your choice know you plan to attend.

Once your decision is made, you need to send a deposit to the college you will attend by May 1 and courtesy dictates informing the other colleges to which you were accepted that you will not attend. In fact, you should inform colleges that you will not attend as soon as you know, because it is with this information that colleges can continue to accept students now, and later on, accept students from their wait list.

Wait List

You may be notified that you are on a Wait List, which means that the admissions officers feel that you can do the work, but that the college has many more qualified applicants that can be accepted. There are specific strategies that help when you are wait-listed at your **first choice** school, therefore you should seek the help of your counselor. **Colleges want to see students take the initiative and advocate for themselves.** It is important to communicate with the admissions office your continued enthusiasm and desire to attend that particular school. It may be appropriate to send the college another letter of recommendation (as long as it provides new information) and send third (or fourth) term grades. As each situation varies, it is important that you and your counselor work together to develop the best strategy.

USEFUL WEBSITES

NAVIANCE

connection.naviance.com/arlingtonchs Naviance is a college and career readiness platform that helps connect academic achievement to post-secondary goals.

College Search

www.collegeboard.org search for colleges and careers

www.petersons.com explore colleges

www.collegenet.com search for colleges

according to geographical areas

www.collegeexpress.com search for private colleges

www.princetonreview.com explore colleges

www.gocollege.com college search

College Fairs

www.collegeweeklive.com interactive, free online tool that allows students to chat live with colleges/universities via the Internet.

Career Information

www.bls.gov/oco The US Department of Labor's Occupational Outlook Handbook

www.masscis.intocareers.com Career information, searches and interest inventories

Students Interested in the Arts

www.portfolioday.net applying to a visual arts program.

<http://nasad.arts-accredit.org> applying to a visual arts program

<http://nast.arts-accredit.org> applying to a theater arts program

<http://nasd.arts-accredit.org> applying to a dance program

<http://nasm.arts-accredit.org> applying to a music program

www.awpwriter.org Useful for students interested in applying to writing program

Electronic Applications

www.commonapp.org Common Application

Free Online Admissions Essay Writing Course

www.essayedge.com tackle the question; select an essay topic; structure and outline; style; introductions and conclusions; editing and revising

Standardized Testing and Test Preparation

www.revolutionprep.com SAT test prep

www.collegeboard.org dates for SAT, register for SAT

www.actstudent.org dates for ACT, register for ACT

www.princetonreview.com Test prep

www.ets.org Educational Testing Service – helpful tools for the test-taker, practice questions

www.kaplan.com KAPLAN SAT test prep

www.khanacademy.org/test-prep SAT Test prep

SAT/ACT Optional College List

www.fairtest.org

MASSColleges

www.masscolleges.org provides information about admissions and financial aid; admission requirements and deadlines; research and data about college

Financial Aid

www.fafsa.gov FAFSA financial aid form

www.profileonline.collegeboard.org PROFILE form

www.salliemae.org Financial Aid 101,

Estimated Family Contribution

Calculations, scholarship search

www.fastweb.com financial aid search

www.mefa.org

www.finaid.org

National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

www.nasfaa.org This site provides the best links to sources of information about financial aid on the Internet.

Financial Aid Resources for Students with Disabilities

www.finaid.org/otheraid/disabled.phtml information about scholarships and fellowships for students with physical and/or learning disabilities

Scholarships

www.collegeanswer.com

www.fastweb.com

www.tuitionfundingsources.com

www.collegenet.com

www.scholarships.com

www.studentscholarships.org

www.scholarshipamerica.org

Athletics

www.ncaa.org eligibility requirements for athletes

www.naia.org National Association for intercollegiate Athletics

www.eligibilitycenter.org NCAA Clearinghouse

Armenian Student Association of America

www.asainc.org a non profit organization, provides scholarships to students.

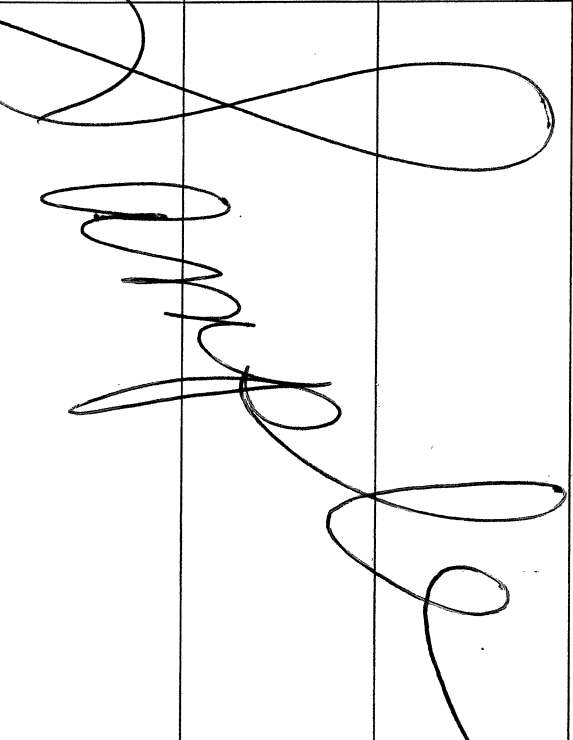
The United Negro College Fund

www.uncf.org nation's largest, oldest, most successful and comprehensive minority higher education assistance organization.

COLLEGES I AM APPLYING TO -- TRANSCRIPT REQUEST FORM -- 2016-2017

NAME: _____ **COUNSELOR:** _____

Teacher(s) Writing Recommendations: _____

Date Submitted to Guidance	Application Due Date	Application Type (circle one)	COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY NAME	Common Application (circle one)	For Office Use Only Date Submitted Naviance/ Mail	For Office Use Only Transcript Fee (\$5) Paid
		EA ED REG ROLLING		YES NO		
		EA ED REG ROLLING		YES NO		
		EA ED REG ROLLING		YES NO		
		EA ED REG ROLLING		YES NO		

