

Information for Seniors

College Exploration Process

- Be realistic
- Apply to 3+ schools
 - Safety School
 - Match School
 - Reach School
- Check school's deadlines
- Rolling admissions (students are accepted throughout the year)
- Regular admissions (deadlines for certain colleges)
- Early Action
- Fee Waivers for application fee

College Application Process

- Online applications
- Counselor Pages- drop off to Mrs. Fritz to send
- Transcripts- All Through Parchment!
 - Link at bottom of HS web page
 - Must request at time of application as well as for final grades
 - Colleges and universities may recalculate your grade point using core classes.
 - Will look at the rigor of the curriculum taken
 - Should have at least 4-5 academic courses your senior year
 - YOU will need to request for final transcripts to be sent! This will not automatic!!!!
 - MSU rescinded admission to 50 students this year based on their final grades.
- **SAT or ACT Scores sent directly from College Board or ACT.** Do this through your online account.
- Teacher letters of recommendation- should come from teachers who taught subject matter in which you excelled. Recommendation form in google forms. Make copy and send to teachers.
- If you haven't already, create a college application email address.
 - Make sure to check this often. Many schools are communicating exclusively through the email address you provide.

Writing Your Personal Statements and Essays

- Read three different times by three different people
- Be Honest
- Let your voice be heard
- If there is something about your record, explain it
- Write about something that is important to you
- Use language with which you are familiar
- The essay should show your character and personality- not just bragging about your list of accomplishments.
- Answer the question when you choose a topic- follow directions, length and format
- Grammar and Spelling!
- Essays should tell the reader who you are and what you plan on bringing to enhance that schools campus.

Financial Aid/Scholarships

- FAFSA- completed ASAP beginning in October
- Public vs. Private- \$\$\$\$
- Some schools (i.e. GVSU) require applications in by November or December to qualify for scholarships.
- Scholarships
 - Local, County, Region, State, National
 - Listen to announcements
 - Check Counseling Website Often
 - Remind
- Students receiving Free and Reduced Lunch
 - Application fee waivers/Test Waivers
 - U of M
 - TIP- may qualify even if do not receive Free and Reduced