

TRANSITIONING FROM THE COLLEGE SEARCH TO THE COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS

The Counseling Center will host SENIOR SEMINARS at the beginning of the school year. The seminars are held during all three lunches. The specific dates of the seminars will be announced at the beginning of each year.

Most applications are available online, and admissions offices often prefer you access the online application. There are several types of applications which a student can use to apply to college. Some colleges offer several of these options, whereas other colleges exclusively use one type of application.

1. Common Application- www.commonapp.org
2. College designated application
3. Coalition Application - <http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/students.html>
4. Universal College Application - <https://www.universalcollegeapp.com/>

Online applications are very convenient; however you must be certain to pay close attention to the directions and details of each application. Each school will have specific application requirements and it is up to the student to know and follow the specific directions for each application. Students are required to complete their part of the application online and submit it directly to the institution either through the Common Application, Coalition Application, Universal Application, or the College-designated application. In addition to submitting application materials, students must request school documents to be sent by the Counseling Center.

Students will be given detailed instructions during the Senior Seminars. Students are allowed to schedule a senior conference after they attend a Senior Seminar.

STANDARDIZED TESTS

Please refer to the college application requirements regarding standardized test score requirements. The student is responsible for contacting the appropriate testing agency and having the scores sent to each college. There are three common standardized tests which colleges may require as part of the application. They include the SAT Reasoning Test, SAT Subject Test and the ACT. Students should research the option(s) which is best for them, and determine the appropriate test(s) based on admission requirements and personal preference. The Writing section for both the SAT and ACT is optional. Students should check specific colleges to determine whether Writing section is required. Keep in mind when planning your test date schedule to consider college deadlines, especially for early decision, early action and scholarship opportunities. It is also important to plan for test dates because of extracurricular activities and family obligations which may conflict with testing dates. Fee waivers for the cost of the standardized tests are available through the Counseling Center if financial need is determined.

IEP and 504 Students who are registering for the SAT and receive special testing accommodations by the College Board will need their eligibility code when registering for the SAT. Students considering the ACT will need to see their school counselor to apply for testing accommodations at least 8 weeks prior to the selected test date.

Differences regarding the structure and components of the specific tests can be found on various websites such as www.princetonreview.com or www.kaplan.com.

SCHOOL PROFILE

The school profile is a description of Unionville High School used by colleges as a point of reference when evaluating our students' applications and transcripts. An electronic version of the school profile is sent through Naviance with each transcript. The school profile is also on the Counseling Center website.

LETTER(S) OF RECOMMENDATION

The letter of recommendation can be a vital part of a student's application. Schools have different requirements regarding recommendation letters, and we suggest you follow the application directions. Typically, colleges require a minimum of two letters of recommendation from junior or senior year teacher(s) who taught you in academic subjects. To obtain a letter of recommendation from a teacher, the student must make this request in person. After making this request, the student is required to complete a "Teacher Recommendation Form" form at least 4 weeks prior to the college application due date. Students will be provided instructions for requesting letters of recommendation through Naviance during the Senior Seminar.

To obtain a letter of recommendation from your school counselor, students must complete the Counselor Recommendation Form and the parent(s) should complete the Parent Information Sheet. These forms can be found in the Counseling Center or on the Counseling Center website and must be submitted no later than September 1 of your senior year.

SUPPLEMENT(S)

Please be aware that many schools require supplemental materials as part of the application requirements. Applications are not considered complete until all supplements are completed and submitted. When using the Common Application, students must consult the colleges' application requirements listed within the Common Application website.