



9th-10th Grade College Planning

Ms. Wills

North High School



A note about professionalism

Colleges and universities will expect you to conduct yourself as a young adult. Because of this, here are some tips to help you prepare:

- Create an email account with an appropriate username. Email addresses that include innuendo of any kind are in poor taste.
- If you have a question for a college, teacher, coach, or administrator, ask them yourself.
- You are working on making an impression with your personality, character, and work ethic, *not* your clothing. Dress appropriately.
- Admit when you are wrong.
- Say Thank You.

College Graduation Stats

- 90% of high school students SAY they will go to college
- 35% college students drop out after 1 yr
- 20% who take the ACT are not prepared for college in ANY of the 4 categories
- 57% of 4 yr college bound graduate within 6 years
- 30% of community college students graduate within 3 years
- 6% of low income students graduate college

Stay Informed

We work very hard at keeping parents and students up-to-date on deadlines, events, and scholarship opportunities. Please read your emails, newsletters, Naviance account.

Parkway North Counseling Website

- Click on “Departments” then “Counseling”
 - Scholarships
 - Evening Programs
 - Help with Naviance Student

NHS Naviance/Naviance Student

- Every teacher, student, and parent has an account

Core Classes

NHS Graduation

Math- 3

English- 4

Science- 3

Social Studies- 3

Modern Language- 0

College Bound-4yr

Math- 4

English- 4

Science- 3-4

Social Studies- 3-4

Modern Lang.- 2-4

Strong Applicant Qualifications

- Strength of high school courses (AP/CC/Honors)- This matters a great deal with selective/highly selective universities
- Cumulative GPA (weighted/unweighted)
- ACT (may need writing) or SAT & subject test scores
- Extra curricular activities (leadership)-better to have a few activities that you are seriously involved in rather than many that you cannot commit to
- Community Service

Competitive Courses

- AP=Advanced Placement (by College Board); enroll in year long class; option to take the test in May; cost per test approximately \$100
- College Credit - courses taken at NHS and taught by our teachers; can pay for credit via UMSL; @ approximately \$200 per 3 hour class (1/3 the cost of a regular UMSL class).
- Honors-high school classes; advanced

Testing

10th: Practice ACT in April

*optional PSAT (\$20) practice SAT

11th: PSAT (optional) (\$20) practice SAT; used for National Merit selection; Free ACT in April

ACT (and optional SAT Subject Tests)

Suggest taking ACT twice starting 2nd semester and finishing subject tests before fall of senior year

12th-ACT or SAT

ACT

Highly Selective 31-36

- Harvard
- Stanford
- Military Academies
- Washington U
- Duke

Selective 28-31

- Knox
- Grinnell
- U of Miami-FL

Moderate 25-28

- William Jewell
- SLU
- Truman
-

Standard 21-24

- Mizzou
- Maryville
- Webster

HBCUs (Historically Black Colleges and Universities)

Historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) are institutions of higher education in the United States

Historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) are institutions of higher education in the United States that were established before 1964 with the intention of serving the black community.

- Alabama A&M
- Clark Atlanta
- Grambling State
- Howard University
- Morehouse College
- Spelman College
- Xavier University (Louisiana)

HBCUs have different levels of selectivity, and look at the student's entire profile when evaluating applicants.

Improve ACT score

- Visit Parkway North Counseling website
- Under the Testing/Assessment tab, click on Testive Test Prep
- You should see a Parkway North landing page for Testive which will allow you to create a free student profile.

Ivy League

University Overall Admission Rates

Admission rates for highly selective and Ivy League schools hover in the single digits. Please be aware of the applicant pool prior to applying.

Timeline

Junior Year

- College Search
www.collegeboard.com
- Visit Colleges
- Take 2 (ACT or SAT)
- Take the PSAT test if testing in the 85%
- College resume (website)
- Teacher Letter of recommendation
- Organize scholarship search

Senior Year

- APPLY Aug/Sept/Oct
- Continue taking ACT/SAT
- Interviews/Essays
- 2nd campus visit if needed
- Apply for scholarships
- Update Resume
- Deposit (academic & housing) at 1st choice school

Total Cost

- Tuition (15-17 credits per semester)
- Room & Board
- Fees (vary greatly from \$150-\$3,500)
- Books (figure about \$1,000 yr)
- Cost for transportation
- Spending money

Cost

Every institution has a cost calculator that can help you understand the total cost of the university as well as the type of aid you can expect to receive in the spring of senior year.

Scholarships



NCAA/NAIA Eligibility

- If you even think you might play collegiate sports, speak with your counselor about the courses and G.P.A. required to be eligible!
- A MINIMUM gpa of a 2.5 should be a goal for students looking to play D1 athletics.

FAFSA

- Free Application For Federal Student Aid
- Every family must fill this out October of the student's senior year.
- Determines eligibility for grants, loans and work study
- Must be filled out every year
- www.fafsa.ed.gov
- www.fafsa4caster.gov (NOW to determine EFC)

Student

- Take challenging courses
- Be successful in those classes
- Learn to STUDY
- Begin searching for colleges at www.collegeboard.com
- Remember material for standardized tests!
- Email counselor with questions
- Understand college cost/financial aid

Parent/Guardian

- Assist your child on college visits
- Fill out the FAFSA Oct. of senior year
- Look for scholarships from your employer
- Emotional support
- Attend evening programs
- www.fafsa4caster.gov NOW to find out your EFC (Estimated Family Contribution)

Timeline

The beginning of high school is an exciting time. Your child may be adjusting to a new school, making new friends and becoming more independent. But your child still needs your help and involvement. Here are some things you can do together to succeed this year.

Fall

- Make sure your child meets with the school counselor. Your child should schedule a meeting to talk about college and career options and to choose the most-appropriate classes.
- Help your child set goals for the school year. Working toward specific goals helps your child stay motivated and focused.
- Make a plan to check in regularly about schoolwork. If you keep up with your child's tests, papers and homework assignments in Infinite Campus, you can celebrate successes and head off problems as a team. Get [homework tips for your child](#).
- Talk about extracurricular activities. Getting involved in clubs and other groups is a great way for your child to identify interests and feel more engaged in school. Read more about [the benefits of extracurriculars](#).

Timeline Cont'd

Winter

- Start thinking about financial aid. It's not too early to look into types of aid that could help you cover college costs. Start by reading [7 Things You Need to Know About Financial Aid](#).
- Discuss next year's classes. Make sure your child is challenging him- or herself — and taking the courses college admission officers expect to see. Learn more about the [high school classes that colleges look for](#).

Spring

- Help your child start a college list. Visit [College Search Step-by-Step](#) together to get tips on starting a college search and figuring out what matters most to your child when choosing a college.
- See how much you need to save for college. Use the [College Savings Calculator](#) to get an idea of where you are compared with your savings goal.
- Help your child make summer plans. Summer is a great time to explore interests and learn new skills — and colleges look for students who pursue meaningful summer activities. Find out ways your child can [stay motivated this summer](#).

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