

Welcome Parents

Class of 2021

College-Bound Student Q&A

Agenda:

- Brief review of the application process
- Question & Answer

College Bound:

Select your list of schools

(4-6 is a good number)

- Use college match programs:

- [BigFuture \(Collegeboard\)](#)
- [Petersons.com](#)
- [Cappex.com](#)

- Narrow list by:

- **Good Fit schools**- Academically right & **affordable**
- **Reach schools**- Higher tier, tougher to get in or out of price range
- **Safety**- Guaranteed admission & affordable

• ALWAYS CONSIDER: **Size** 🏟️ **Location** 🗺️ **Cost** 💰

Do your research! [Virtual College Exploration week](#), [NACAC Virtual College Fair](#), [PACAC Virtual Sessions-Keystone State, PA Colleges](#). **Or a College Rep virtual session through [HAHS](#) or visit the college websites directly for events!**

Wait, wait, tell me more!

Want to learn more about a particular college???

Thank you, COVID, for 1 thing, and that is virtual **EVERYTHING!**

College reps are now hosting virtual sessions! Check the [list](#) often, for schools of interest! Google doc also found on the HS Counselor Webpage- [Events/College Visits](#)

College athlete?

Register with the [NCAA](#) for D1&DII play



College Application Process



- Follow college application directions and **know what is required**. *Counselors are not informed about specific college requirements. Do your research!*
- Keep track of login info. & check email often
- Know deadlines
Merit scholarship deadlines end early!
Early Decision/Early Action includes completed FAFSA

Visit the HS Counselor Webpage for additional resources and information!
<https://www.hasdhawks.org/domain/183>

Steps to apply

- **Apply online.. Common App?**
- **App fee** (or fee waiver)
- **Request Transcript (PARCHMENT)** 
- **Send SAT/ACT** scores if you will take or had taken them. What does test-optional mean? 
- **Write personal statement/essay** (optional?)
- **Recommendations***
(request recs from teachers now only if required by your school!)

What does test-optional mean?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b_ueh5z-tds&feature=youtu.be

- Each school uses SAT/ACT in test-optional world, differently: Scholarship consideration, or has no impact?
- Students should study before taking a test. Be realistic about reality of this.
- What to mark on applications: Taking SAT/ACT in future or not?

PACAC College Admission Sessions & Recorded Sessions:

- Covering the Gap Financing ⁽²³⁾
- I'm First to College ⁽⁵³⁾
- Preparing a Great College App, Including the Essay ⁽⁸⁴⁾
- STEM Education in Phila ⁽⁹⁷⁾
- Think Community College ⁽¹¹²⁾

Virtual College Exploration

& Recorded Sessions:

- Acing the Interview ⁽¹⁾
- Starting College Search, Virtual World ⁽¹²⁰⁾
- Test Optional ⁽¹²²⁾



Request a Transcript

- Hamburg uses **Parchment**, to electronically send transcripts to colleges. Do not email your counselor to send a transcript.
BUT, if you apply using Common App, Counselors will take care of transcripts, electronically
- For more information, visit the Counseling Office Webpage
 - Transcripts & Recommendations TAB
 - Watch Tutorial [Request a Transcript](#)
 - Click on REQUEST MY [TRANSCRIPT](#) link
 - Click on NEW LEARNER ACCOUNT
 - No need to create a full profile, just basic information and 'request'
 - \$1.00 / transcript

Financial Aid FAFSA & PHEAA



- **ALL** Students & Parents of college-bound students must complete a FAFSA online form.
- Visit www.fafsa.ed.gov to get started.
- Have financial aid questions? Contact the FAFSA help line or the college financial aid office directly.
- Complete the FAFSA only **after** October 1st **2021-2022 app**

Select the correct application year



CSS Profile? Does your college require it? <https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org>

PHEAA *the last page of FAFSA will ask if students want to also apply for GRANT \$\$ through PHEAA- YES! More information found at www.pheaa.org*

**Scholarships are found by putting in the time,
and doing the research.**

Where do I find scholarships?

Scholarships posted on Guidance Webpage

- Hamburg and local scholarships and applications
 - Do not forget **ESTHER LUDWIG** SCHOLARSHIP DUE early January annually
 - 85% and higher CUM GPA for 4 year college
 - 80% and higher CUM GPA for trade or 2 year college

Outside Scholarships

- Create an account with [scholarships.com](https://www.scholarships.com) or other national sites.
- Check with your bank, vfw, local unions, etc.
- Apply in FALL to college-specific scholarships
 - Some colleges require separate applications
 - Some colleges automatically screen for scholarships based off of FAFSA information and/or merit (grades).



Q&A

- *Recap: Students should be applying now. Follow college directions to apply online. Request to send transcript, online (Parchment). Consider Community College as a low-risk and affordable option.*

- This presentation will be recorded and saved on HS Counselor Webpage.
- If hyperlinks do not open (Acrobat DC issues), right click to save link and paste in a web browser.