



Secaucus High School's Guidance Department Presents:

College Planning

Class of 2019

SAT

Website: www.collegeboard.org (sign up for a free account)

2018-2019 Testing Dates

2018-2019 Test Dates	Test Fee (\$47.50) w/Essay (\$64.50)	Registration Deadlines		
			Regular	Late (a fee applies) Extra \$29
June 2, 2018	SAT & Subject Tests		May 3, 2018	May 23, 2018
August 25, 2018	SAT & Subject Tests		July 27, 2018	August 15, 2018
October 6, 2018	SAT & Subject Tests		Sept. 7, 2018	Sept. 26, 2018
November 3, 2018	SAT & Subject Tests		Oct. 5, 2018	Oct. 24, 2018
December 1, 2019	SAT & Subject Tests		Nov. 2, 2018	Nov. 20, 2018
March 19, 2019	SAT Only		Feb. 8, 2019	Feb. 27, 2019
May 4, 2019	SAT & Subject Tests		April 5, 2019	April 24, 2019
June 1, 2019	SAT & Subject Tests		May 3, 2019	May 22, 2019

- ❖ You must upload a recent color photo of yourself during registration
- ❖ You may send score reports to four colleges for free with each SAT registration
- ❖ See your guidance counselor for a fee waiver, IF you are eligible.

ACT

See website for test dates:

Website: <http://www.actstudent.org>
(sign up for a free account)

New SAT Composite Score	ACT Composite Score
1600	36
1560-1590	35
1520-1550	34
1490-1510	33
1450-1480	32
1420-1440	31
1390-1410	30
1350-1380	29
1310-1340	28
1280-1300	27
1240-1270	26
1200-1230	25
1160-1190	24
1130-1150	23
1100-1120	22
1060-1090	21
1020-1050	20
980-1010	19
940-970	18
900-930	17
860-890	16
810-850	15
760-800	14
720-750	13
630-710	12
560-620	11

College Planning Websites

www.collegeboard.org

- ✓ Register for the SAT exam
- ✓ Search over 4,000 colleges nationwide
- ✓ Information on financial aid & scholarships

<http://connection.naviance.com/secaucus>

- ✓ Perform nationwide college searches
- ✓ Notify your counselor of college applications & check the status of your transcript submissions

www.commonapp.org

- ✓ One universal application used by many colleges nationwide

www.fafsa.ed.gov

- ✓ Financial aid application = available October 1, 2018
***Save the Date* Financial Aid Meeting on September 20, 2018
@ 7:00 pm in the PAC.**

www.scholarships.com

- ✓ National scholarship search

<http://eligibilitycenter.org> (NCAA website)

- ✓ Athletes MUST register here to play Division I or II sport

<http://nces.ed.gov/netpricecalculator>

- ✓ Net Price Calculator will help to estimate your college cost

Important Email Addresses

Ms. Helen Bacigalupo:

hbacigalupo@sboe.org

Ms. Elise Lennon

elennon@sboe.org

Mrs. Tara Taveras

ttaveras@sboe.org

Mrs. Christina Wiswesser

cwiswesser@sboe.org

College Application Checklist

BEFORE submitting college applications to guidance, I have:

- ___ Taken at least one SAT or ACT exam
- ___ Checked all my application deadlines
- ___ Completed & submitted my activity list on *Naviance*.
- ___ Requested & have on file 2 letters of recommendation from teachers (two step process:
1. Ask the teacher in person 2. Add the teacher & send a thank you note via *Naviance*)
- ___ Completed the college essay/personal statement & had my English teacher proofread it

WHEN submitting my college applications, I must:

- ___ Request my transcript be sent to the college via *Naviance*
- ___ Let my counselor know at least 2 weeks before the application deadline that I am applying
- ___ Have all sections of the application completed & saved online
- ___ Pay application fee online through a credit card, unless I have a school fee waiver
- ___ Provide any supporting documentation to my guidance counselor to mail

Don't forget to:

- ___ Complete the NCAA Clearing House Form, if planning to play on a Division I or II team
- ___ Complete the FAFSA on the web, available October 1, 2018 (*free*)
- ___ Complete the CSS Profile, if requested by the college (*fee involved*)
- ___ Update my *Naviance* account as I receive college decisions & scholarships

SENIOR YEAR CALENDAR

<p><u>SEPTEMBER</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *College meeting with guidance counselor *Sign up for college open houses *Make a list of target schools with deadlines *Ask teachers for recommendation letters *Register for the SAT/ACT exam *Take note of Early Action/Early Decision deadlines (if applicable) *Attend FAFSA information night & gather information for FAFSA 	<p><u>OCTOBER</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Continue visiting college open houses *SHS College Fair *Register for/take the SAT/ACT exam *Finalize activity list in Naviance *File FAFSA beginning October 1 *Begin CSS Profile, if required by your college *Complete college applications on individual websites or Common Application 	<p><u>NOVEMBER</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Register for/take the SAT/ACT exam *Continue visiting college open houses *Complete college applications on individual websites or Common Application *Complete all financial aid requirements <i>Make sure to submit by colleges' deadlines</i> 	
<p><u>DECEMBER</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Take the SAT exam *Complete applications to colleges *Keep visiting your guidance counselor 	<p><u>JANUARY</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Happy New Year! *Update FAFSA with new tax information *Study for mid-term exams *Do scholarship searches *AVOID SENIORITY 	<p><u>FEBRUARY</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Last chance to register for SAT/ACT *Do scholarship searches *Notify your counselor of acceptances 	
<p><u>MARCH</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Work on scholarship packets *Contact colleges you may not have heard from yet *Last chance to visit colleges you haven't seen 	<p><u>APRIL</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Decide on the college you want to attend *Submit scholarship packets to guidance *Notify colleges that you do not plan to attend of your intent to go elsewhere 	<p><u>MAY</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *May 1-tuition deposits due *Take placement exam *Sign up for freshman orientation *Take AP exams 	
<p><u>JUNE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *GRADUATE!! 			<p><u>JULY</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Shop for your dorm room, make contact with your college roommate & enjoy your time with friends & family

College Terms Dictionary

Types of College Admission Options:

- ❖ **Regular Decision** = the most common option for four-year colleges and universities. All students must submit their applications by a specific date (*usually* between November and March). The admissions board then reviews all the applications and sends out acceptances and rejection letters on the same date.
 - ❖ **Rolling Admission** = schools that provide rolling admissions allow students to apply at any time during their admissions period; typically, September through July. The school then evaluates each college application as it's received and sends acceptance letters to students who meet their requirements. *Since admission is granted on a first-come, first-serve basis, you'll want to submit your application as early as possible.*
 - ❖ **Early Decision** = BINDING. With this type of admission, you agree to attend this school if accepted & must withdraw other college applications once you receive an acceptance. Since this option is binding, you must be 100% sure about this decision, the criteria & your financial situation.
 - ❖ **Early Action** = you are not bound to attend if accepted and you can apply early action to more than one university. You can accept an offer as soon as you receive it or wait to make your final selection in the spring after you've found out where else you've been accepted.
 - ❖ **Deferred Admission** = you may receive this decision if you have applied early action or early decision and the college has not made a final decision about you by their deadline. This would push you into the regular admission pooling of students & you will receive a decision in the spring.
 - ❖ **Open Admission** = typical of community colleges. Nearly all high school graduates are admitted, provided they have received a high school diploma or GED.
-
- *Don't assume that all colleges and universities have similar application deadlines. As you do your college search, keep track of each school's deadlines for applications and financial aid so you don't miss any opportunities.*

ALL COLLEGE DEPOSITS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY MAY 1ST OF YOUR GRADUATING YEAR.

If you have been waitlisted at a college of your choice, you must still submit a deposit at a college you have been accepted to. If you receive an acceptance by the waitlisted school after this happens & you choose to accept, you will simply lose your deposit money at the school to which you have submitted.

Senior Responsibilities - Naviance

1. **Students are responsible for** accessing & reading **ALL** information on the Family Connection Homepage, especially information listed under “welcome message,” “pages,” “links,” “updates” and emails in your inbox.
2. **Students are responsible for** signing into the Common Application website and creating an account, only if your colleges are accepting the Common Application (refer to *Common App Guide* under “pages”)
3. **Students are responsible for** following the proper procedures through Family Connection to request a teacher letter of recommendation (refer to *Teacher Rec Guide* under “pages”)
4. **Students are responsible for** reading ALL information provided by each college to which they are applying or considering, including application information, **ALL DEADLINES** (*Early Action, Early Decision, Regular Decision, Rolling Admission*) and information pertaining to the submission of SAT test scores.
5. **Students are responsible for** accessing their Family Connection account to add colleges and request transcripts from guidance (refer to *Secaucus Application Guide* under “pages”).
6. **Students are responsible for** indicating **Secaucus High School SAT Code 311349** when registering for an SAT exam online.
7. **Students are responsible for** submitting their SAT scores to applied colleges through their *College Board* account (fee involved).
8. **Students are responsible for** monitoring the status of their college applications in Family Connection.
9. **Students are responsible for** notifying the guidance office in a timely manner when they receive a decision from the colleges to which they applied, along with financial aid.

Don't Forget, you **MUST**:

- _____ Have your English teacher proofread your college essay
- _____ Make sure you have 2 teacher letters of recommendation on file
- _____ Pay the application fee online through a credit card, unless you have a school fee waiver
- _____ Request, from your counselor, your transcript sent at least 2 weeks before the college's deadline to ensure timely delivery.
- _____ Complete the FAFSA on the web, available October 1st (free)
- _____ Complete the CSS Profile, if requested by the college (fee involved)
- _____ Complete the NCAA Clearing House Form, if planning to play on a Division I or II team

Teacher Recommendation Request Guide

1. Students **MUST** speak with their teachers in person when requesting a recommendation
2. After requesting a teacher recommendation, students must add the teacher to their Naviance account by sending the teacher a THANK YOU NOTE in Family Connection
3. Follow the steps below to send teachers a **THANK YOU NOTE**:
 - a. Click the Colleges tab
 - b. Click Letters of Recommendation
 - c. Click add/cancel request
 - d. In the Select Teacher dropdown box, select the teacher(s)
 - e. Click the colleges to which you want that letter sent to
 - f. In the Personal note to the teacher area, write the teacher a THANK YOU NOTE
 - g. At the bottom, click Update Request
4. After sending a THANK YOU NOTE students can view the following:
 - i. The names of the teacher(s) they have sent a THANK YOU NOTE
 - ii. The status of the note to the teacher(s)
 - iii. The Thank You Note sent to the teacher(s)

Below is a SAMPLE Thank You Note:

Dear (Mr. - Mrs. - Ms.) Name of the Teacher

Thank you for writing a letter of recommendation for me. I sincerely appreciate your support of my college applications.

Again, thank you.

Sincerely,

(Student's name)

REMINDER: Students **MUST ALWAYS** speak with the teachers from whom they are requesting a recommendation prior to sending a Thank You Note in Family Connection. Teachers will receive the student's Thank You Note in their school email account.

Guide for Completing the Application Process in Family Connection

In order for the Secaucus High School Guidance Department to submit required documents supporting students' applications to colleges, students **MUST add** the colleges they have applied to and **request** their *transcript* in Family Connection.

To insure that students' documents are processed in a timely manner, follow the guide below to add colleges and request your transcript.

- Click the Colleges tab:
- Click Colleges I'm Applying To
- Complete the Common Application Matching, which is **REQUIRED**
- Students applying to Common Application colleges must enter the email address they used in their Common Application Account
- Click Match
- After completing the Common Application Matching Form, add **ALL** the colleges to which you are applying

Students **NOT** applying to a Common Application college, on the bottom of the Common Application Matching form, click Not Needed

- When adding colleges you have applied to, you must do the following:
 1. Click Colleges I'm Applying To:
 2. Click Add To This List
 3. Select Type of Application*
 4. Check Request Transcript - REQUIRED
 5. Click Look-up and add Colleges - **REQUIRED**
 6. Check I Have Submitted My Application
 7. Click Add Colleges at the bottom of the page

If you have questions about the application and transcript request process, speak with your guidance counselor.

*See descriptions of the types of college admissions under "pages," click "*types of admissions*."

College & University Open Houses

Albright College: Oct. 9, Nov. 10, Nov. 27. www.albright.edu

Bloomfield College: Oct. 14. www.bloomfield.edu

Caldwell University: Oct. 14, Nov. 18. www.caldwell.edu

Centenary University: Nov. 11. www.centenaryuniversity.edu

The College of New Jersey: Sept. 16. www.tcnj.edu

Columbia University: call to schedule a tour. www.columbia.edu

Dartmouth College: Oct. 7. www.dartmouth.edu

Drexel University: Oct. 14 & 15, Nov. 18 & 19. www.drexel.edu

Drew University: Sept. 23, Oct. 21. www.drew.edu

East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania: Sept. 30, Oct. 14, Nov. 11. www4.esu.edu

Fairleigh Dickinson University: Teaneck, Oct. 22; Madison, Oct. 29. www.fdu.edu

Fashion Institute of Technology: Sept. 23. www.fitnyc.edu

Felician University: campus tours Monday-Thursday. www.felician.edu

Fordham University: Oct. 14 (Lincoln Center), Oct. 15 (Rose Hill). www.fordham.edu

Hofstra University: Sept. 24. www.hofstra.edu

Iona College: Oct. 22. www.iona.edu

Ithaca College: Sept. 23, Oct. 28. www.ithaca.edu

John Jay College of Criminal Justice: Oct. 14. www.jjay.cuny.edu

Johnson & Wales University: Sept. 23, Oct. 21, Nov. 11. www.jwu.edu

Kean University: Sept. 23. www.kean.edu

LaSalle University: Sept. 23, Oct. 28. www.lasalle.edu

Lehigh University: campus tours most Saturdays. www.lehigh.edu

LIM: Oct. 14. www.limcollege.edu