

JUNIOR PARENT NIGHT

**Taking the College Application Process One Step
at a Time**

2017 NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Dual Enrollment: Georgian Court University and Mercer Community College:**
- Matches Current Seniors with College Course Credit
- Education-based Psychology and English 101 Course (6 credits earned per semester-totaling 12 credits at the close of the year = College Advancement/College Placement/Graduation Acceleration
- **Required 540 English SAT Score or Accuplacer Score + Teacher Recommendation**
- Courses will be taught at TCA

The Catholic School Liaison for admissions is:

Tracy Howard Ubelhoer

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thoward@georgian.edu

PSAT REVIEW

- www.collegeboard.org/quickstart
- Scores 200-800
- Average 500+/Ivy league 700/800+
- Breakdown of test question types
- Samples for understanding/improvement
- Personality quizzes
- Partnership with Khan Academy
- Creates a full picture of student potential map
- Preparation for SAT format
- Independent student tracking/growth

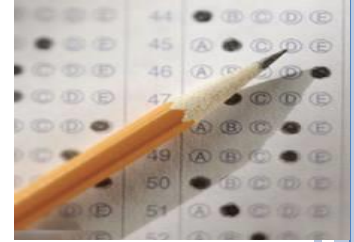


STEP 1: REGISTER FOR THE SAT/ACT

- Regular \$45.50, add. \$18.50 after deadline
- Juniors on free/reduced lunch are eligible for 2 free fee waivers for SAT & ACT {Dependent on lunch application determination}
- Juniors are expected to take the SAT or ACT in the Spring (May or June)
- **They should have taken one of the tests at least once, with at least 2 test sessions by November of Senior year**



SAT-SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT TEST



- Reasoning test meant to assess critical thinking skills and predict college level abilities
- Contains a reading, math, and writing section (re-design will take effect in January 2016***)
- Scores range from 200-800 on each section
- Average Score 1000+/1200+ Ivy league
 - Perfect Score = 1600
 - 500 is the national average on each section
 - Writing section is becoming obsolete
 - SAT optional colleges require higher credentials
- Create an account on **www.collegeboard.org** to register



ACT- AMERICAN COLLEGE TESTING

- A knowledge based test meant to assess how much information has been retained and learned through high school
- Contains English, Reading, Math, Science, and Writing (optional) sections (SAT Re-design will follow similar format)
- ACT composite score ranges from 1-36
 - Composite score is based on scores in each section
 - National average is 21
- Fallacy- Used largely by Midwestern, Western, and Southwestern colleges
- SAT Re-design mirrors current ACT
- Create an account on **www.actstudent.org** to register



TEST PREP

○ Free Resources

- Trenton Catholic Academy's SAT course
- Websites

- www.collegeboard.org (online score report)

- www.actstudent.org

- www.number2.com

- www.ineedapencil.com

- www.kaplan.edu

- Guidance website

- Let's Get Ready SAT Prep Program (see handout)

○ Priced Resources

- Young Scholars courses

- Courses (e.g. Princeton Review, Kaplan, Sylvan)



DOWNLOADABLE APPS FOR STUDY

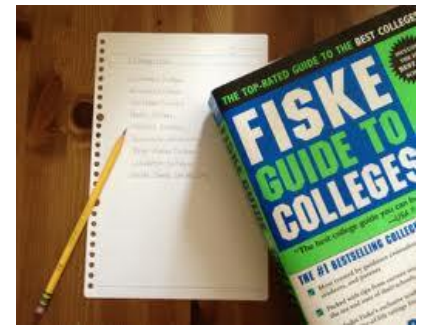
- **Edupath SAT Prep & College Search**
- **SAT Vocab by Mindsnacks**
- **ADAPSTER**
- **THE OFFICIAL SAT QUESTION OF THE DAY**
- **SAT Up**
- **SAT CONNECT**
- **ACTStudent**
- **SATLadder**

- **SAT Score Quest™ by The Princeton Review**
- **Kaplan SAT Flashcubes**
- **eTextPrep SAT and ACT Vocab Prep**
- **SAT Remix**
- **ACT Practice for Dummies**



STEP 2:

FINALIZING THE COLLEGE LIST



- I will be talking to students individually about their college preferences
 - Location, size, available facilities
 - Programs, activities, and special services offered
 - Academic challenges/DVRS
 - Admissibility: Reach, Target, Safety
 - Personality Inventory
- College search tool on **www.collegeboard.org**
- College visits to TCA, college fairs, Road to Success, College Quickstart
- College tours and information sessions



BEFORE APPLYING

- PLAN TO VISIT EACH CAMPUS
- CONTACT REPRESENTATIVES
- COMPILE ACOMPLISHMENTS
- CREATE PORTFOLIOS-ELECTRONIC
- CREATE RESUMES
- INTERN/SUMMER OPPS.
- TALK TO TEACHERS
- TRACK PREREQUISITES FOR MAJORS
- REACH OUT TO POTENTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS
- BE PROACTIVE!!!



APPLYING DETERMINATIONS

- Early Admission Types
- Early Decision- Usually September-October: **BINDING!!**
(Short acceptance)
- Early Admission- Usually September-October :
- **NOT BINDING** (Short acceptance)
- Regular Decision- November to January (1-2 mos.)
- **FAFSA application starts October 1st**
- Late Decision- After January (Up to 4 mos.)
- General Confirmation Deadline- May 1st
- Rolling Admission- Apply at any time (**FAFSA is rolling admission, but will dwindle in funds**)
- EOF/EOP(Educational Opportunity Fund/Program- Economically challenged students receive explicit admissions requirements



STEP 3:

APPLYING



- Determine application deadlines
- Decide on application type

Aim to have all college applications submitted by November of senior year

At least 4 apps. are Recommended!!! (F/R Lunch are free)

- Naviance and Common Application
 - Over 478 Colleges and Universities accept it
 - Fill out one application and send to participating colleges/universities along with supplements
- Individual college applications
 - College websites
 - College fairs
 - Contacting admissions office
- Bring signed Transcript Release Form to Guidance



NAVIANCE

- -Electronically tracks college application process
- -Electronically communicates with colleges
- -Provides scattergrams of acceptances
- Electronically compares and contrasts applicants
- -Electronically career maps
- -Electronically uploads transcripts
- Electronically uploads LOR's
- -Expedites the application process
- -Communicates with Common Application
- -Communicates with NCAA
- -Widely accepted method of applying



NAVIANCE INS & OUTS

Junior Year Sections for Completion:

- All students have been registered
- About Me section (Game plan and create a resume)
- “Colleges that I am interested in”
- Under Colleges tab- Letters of Recommendation/Must provide email address

Senior Year Sections for Completion:

- Transcript request
- “Colleges that I am Applying to”
- Common Application inc. FERPA/LOR’s
- Matching Common App. and Naviance***



STUDENT PROCESS

- Parent Release Form
- Student Profile Form
- Student recommendation letters
- Transcript Request (First is free, \$5.00 each add.)
- SAT/ACT Scores (through College board 4 free)
- Student interview/visit (optional)
- Student acceptance
- Confirmation deposit- Most schools 5/1
- Placement Tests
- Registration
- Summer Classes(June) /Fall Classes(August)



WHEN APPLYING ONLINE, KEEP IN MIND

- A number of schools waive the application fee if application is completed online
- Save the application until you are ready to submit (proofreading is important!)
- Print out confirmation page
- Schools use MANY different electronic database systems....We need to know how the application is submitted
- Students MUST send LOR's through Naviance or Naviance cannot be used
- Must match applications with the same email address (trentoncatholic.org recommended)



LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION



RECOMMENDED

- Ask teachers, coaches, club advisors who know them well. Ask early!!!
- Counselor will write a recommendation as well
- (Aim to complete over the summer***)
- Student Profile to help recommenders
 - Accomplishments, awards, meaningful experiences
 - Positive qualities/characteristics, strengths
 - Hobbies, interests



COLLEGE ESSAY



- Go to college websites to find out their specific essay questions
- Some colleges will ask for a personal statement
 - Free to write about a topic of your choice
 - Important life event, values, interests, goals
- Want to give the college an understanding of who you are beyond grades and test scores
 - Struggles faced and overcome
 - Mistakes made and lessons learned
 - Aspirations, awards, accomplishments, positive qualities
- Writing ability
 - Students were advised on college essay writing in their SAT cycle and English classes
 - Have drafts done early
 - English teachers and counselors can proof read
 - *****SAVE DRAFTS ELECTRONICALLY**



STEP 4:

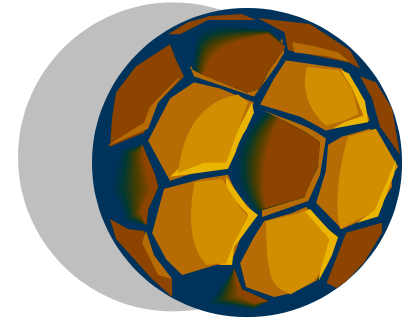
PAYING FOR COLLEGE



- Scholarships by categories
 - I will post scholarship opportunities and deadlines
 - TCA Guidance Website
 - Bulletin board in the cafeteria
 - www.fastweb.com
 - www.financialaidfinder.com
 - www.imfirst.org
 - www.scholly.com
 - www.scholarships.com
 - Students are encouraged to apply throughout the year
- Financial Aid
 - After October 1, 2017, you can file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)



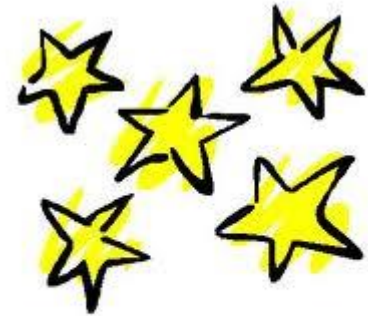
NCAA QUALIFICATIONS



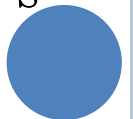
- Athletic Scholarships
- Divisions I, II, III and Redshirt
- Qualified for recruitment
- Application (F/R Lunch \$0.00/Normal \$87.50)
- Coach recommendations
- Sliding Scale Core GPA-vs.-SAT Sliding Score-
9999 NCAA Send scores
- 16 Core Courses
- NCAA approved courses
- Coaches request transcripts and SAT/ACT scores
- Athletic scholarships dependent on academics



NJ STARS PROGRAM



- Program coordinated through Mercer County Community College for students who are permanent NJ residents
- Students who graduate in the top 15% of their high school class and demonstrate college readiness will have tuition and fees paid for at MCCC for up to 5 semesters (2.5 years)
 - Student must take 12-18 credits per semester
- AMERICAN HONORS PROGRAM
 - Student must maintain at least a 3.25 GPA while earning their Associate's Degree
 - If meet program requirements, may be eligible to receive an award to transfer to a 4 year institution to earn their Bachelor's
 - Acceptance to a 4 year institution is partnered



TCA SPECIALS

- Benefactors:
- Marty Tuckman/SHU
- GCU Partnership
- Amanda Amison
- Women's Auxillary Committee
- Holy Name Scholarship
- Frantz Massenat
- TCA PTA
- Hamilton Rotary/Hamilton Elks
- A continuous work in progress



DVRS

- Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- Classified Students receiving Catapult Services
- Provides Postsecondary Career Training, Career Advisement, Financial Support and Ongoing Support
- More money to local institutions
- Lifetime opportunity
- No cost
- TCA Representative- Amanda Parsons



TCA SCHOOL CODE

311496

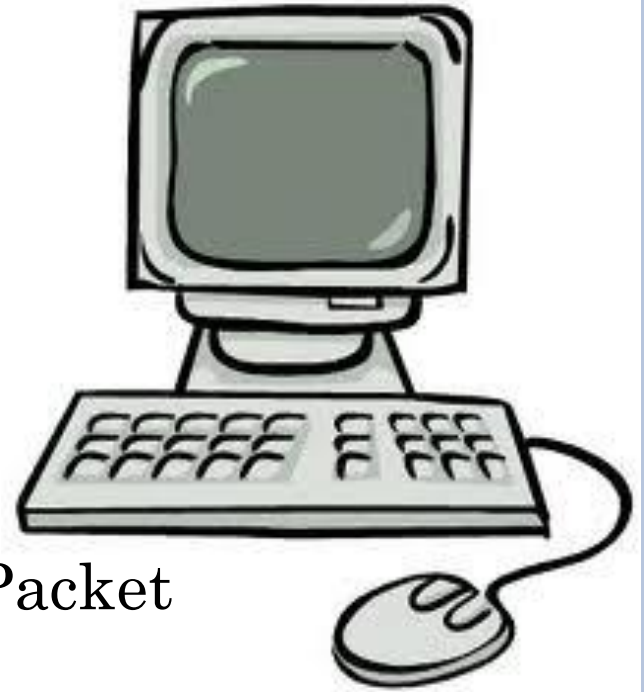
- SAT and ACT registration
 - College Applications
 - FAFSA



MS. FORD'S WEBSITE

Summer hours: Th/Fri and every other Wed.
9:00-1:00—Call for appointment

- Comprehensive College Planning Packet
- College Planning To-Do List
- SAT and ACT Test Dates and Fees
- Test Prep Information
- College Search Information
- Scholarship Information
- Financial Aid Information



CONTACT INFO

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