COLLEGE SEARCH TIMELINE 2018-2019

December 8:	JANUARY Mock ACT Test
January 11:	Registration deadline for the February 9 ACT Test Go to <u>www.act.org</u> to register
February 8:	FEBRUARY Registration deadline for March 9 SAT Test (No Subject Tests) Go to <u>www.sat.org</u> to register Guidance strongly recommends ALL juniors to register for this SAT Test
February 9:	ACT Test
February 18-22:	School Vacation – A great opportunity to begin visiting colleges
March 8:	MARCH Registration deadline for April 13 ACT Test Go to <u>www.act.org</u> to register
March 9:	SAT Test
March 22:	Mock ACT Test
	APRIL
April 2:	Mini-College Fair for junior students during the school day at Arlington Catholic
April 5:	Registration deadline for May 4 SAT and SAT Subject Test Go to <u>www.sat.org</u> to register
April 9:	Mini-College Fair for junior students during the school day at Arlington Catholic
April 13:	ACT Test
April 15-19:	School Vacation – ALL juniors are strongly encouraged to start visiting colleges
May 3:	MAY Registration deadline for June 1 SAT and SAT Subject Test Go to <u>www.sat.org</u> to register
May 3:	Registration deadline for June 8 ACT Test Go to <u>www.act.org</u> to register
May 4:	SAT and SAT Subject Test
May 6-17:	Advanced Placement Exams administered, if applicable (AC handles registration) JUNE
June 1:	SAT and SAT Subject Test
June 8:	Each junior MUST ask two teachers to write a college recommendation letter for him/her by this date. Brag Sheets MUST be completed and submitted to these two teachers and student's guidance counselor.
June 8:	ACT Test
June 14:	Registration deadline for July 13 ACT. Go to www.act.org to register.
August 24:	Anticipated SAT and SAT Subject Test date

2018 ACT DATES (www.act.org)

TEST DATE	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	LATE REGISTRATION
February 9, 2019	January 11, 2019	January 12-18, 2019
April 13, 2019	March 8, 2019	March 9-25, 2019
June 8, 2019	May 3, 2019	May 4-20, 2019
July 13, 2019	June 14, 2019	June 15-24, 2019

2018 SAT DATES (www.sat.org)

TEST DATE	TEST	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	LATE REGISTRATION
March 9, 2019	SAT	February 8, 2019	February 27, 2019
May 4, 2019	SAT and Subject Test	April 5, 2019	April 24, 2019
June 1, 2019	SAT and Subject Test	May 3, 2019	May 22, 2019

SCHEDULE OF SAT SUBJECT TESTS

Subject Test	May	June
Literature	X	X
United States History	Х	Х
World History		Х
Math Level 1	Х	Х
Math Level 2	X	Х
Biology (Ecological/Molecular)	Х	Х
Chemistry	Х	Х
Physics	X	Х
French	X	Х
German		Х
Italian		Х
Latin		Х
Modern Hebrew		Х
Spanish	X	Х

HOW COLLEGES CHOOSE CANDIDATES

Have you ever wondered how colleges and universities decide which candidates they will accept? When a college receives your application, an admissions committee will assess all your qualifications and determine if you would be a good fit for their school. It's a complicated process and there are a lot of factors that come into play.

Scholastic Record/Transcript:

The quality of work you have done in high school is the single **MOST IMPORTANT** factor in the admissions process. It is imperative that admissions people see an academic program that incorporates both challenging courses and good grades.

Maybe your junior and senior year grades are stronger than they were freshman and sophomore year. Perhaps you have gone up a level in some courses. This shows that you are growing as an individual, taking your academics seriously, and challenging yourself!

Standardized Tests Scores:

How much emphasis is placed on standardized test results depends on each college's policy. It is important to remember that test scores are a part of the total applicant profile. Your scores compare you to other students in your age group nationwide.

Extracurricular Activities:

Colleges are not necessarily looking for a long list of activities. They tend to prefer in-depth participation and leadership in a few areas of interest. They want to know that you have initiative, curiosity, and motivation beyond your studies. They are hoping to find people who will come to their school and be involved in their community.

Community Service:

Colleges like to see that you are committed to the world around you. Thoughtful commitment to a cause or social issue shows depth and integrity.

The Essay:

Most colleges require applicants to write an essay. Students are often able to write one essay that is applicable to more than one school. Remember to be creative! This is your chance to sell yourself to the colleges. Colleges seem to be putting more emphasis on the essay.

Recommendations: Most colleges require a letter of recommendation by your guidance counselor. In addition, colleges will also request one or more individual teacher evaluations.

The Interview:

Some colleges require or recommend interviews. If so, the interviewer's report will be considered with your application.

Portfolio/Audition:

Art-based and performance-based majors may require submission of a portfolio and/or audition. This information can be found on a college's website.

Institutional Needs: These are the factors that Arlington Catholic and you have no control over.

DEVELOPING A COLLEGE LIST

One of the questions asked most frequently is, "What should my final list of colleges include?". Inherent in this question are two considerations: first, how many schools should I apply to and second, what range of schools should be included with regard to admissions competition?

We discourage students from adopting the "shotgun approach" of applying to a multitude of schools. We also discourage students, regardless of academic ability, to "put all of their eggs in one basket" by applying to only one institution or one level of college. As a general rule, we advise that students apply to **approximately eight schools** which vary in terms of selectivity, but which have the most important features desired by the student. As long as the student does not overly limit himself/herself geographically, finding such a group of schools is not that difficult a task when we consider the large number of colleges and universities found in the United States. Generally, we recommend that a student's final list include schools from each of the following categories:

- 1. **"Reach" Schools**: Schools at which there is a likelihood of denial. It is fine in this group to include a few reasonable long shots.
- 2. **"Fifty-Fifty/Match" Schools**: Schools that possess the significant features a student desires and at which the student is in the mid-range of the typical acceptance pool.
- 3. **"Safety" Schools:** Schools that have most of the features a student desires and at which it is "highly likely" to "certain" that the student will be admitted.

While there is no hard and fast rule, students usually include two or three schools from categories one and two and at least **two schools from category three**. Obviously, those schools that qualify as "reach", "fifty/fifty," or "safety", vary tremendously from student to student. Each student has an individual academic profile and should select schools accordingly, making sure that choices range through all three categories. We would like to emphasize that students are continually encouraged to apply to more than one "fifty/fifty" and/or "safety" school. This will hopefully yield two or more acceptances and provide each student with some choices. **The goal is for the student to identify at least two "safety" schools at which he/she truthfully wishes to attend.**

Naviance Student http://student.naviance.com/arlingtonchs

Naviance Student is a college and career readiness platform that enables self-discovery, career exploration, academic planning, and college preparation. All students have a username and password, which parents should use as well. If your child does not know his/her user name and password, please have him/her see his/her guidance counselor. Through this program, students and parents have access to a wide range of college admissions information.

Colleges:

- Students and families can search for colleges based on numerous qualifications like location, size of student body, majors offered, cost, etc.
- It is easy to look up information on any college of interest to you. Students can learn about out specific admissions requirements, majors and activities offered, and statistics about the student body at the click of a button. It is easy to research colleges as contact information is readily available, including a direct link to the college's homepage.
- Students and families can access statistics and graphs that represent past ACHS applicants to specific schools. These graphs show the SAT scores and GPAs of applicants (without names) and indicate whether the student was admitted, wait listed, or denied. This data allows students to have an understanding of how their statistics match up to previous applicants. It is strongly encouraged that students and parents use this feature in conjunction with consultation from counselors to create a well-balanced college list.
- Students can easily track and store colleges they are considering.
- Students can research enrichment programs through a national database.

Careers:

- The Career Interest Profiler and Cluster Finder features are excellent tools for giving students insight into how their pattern of interests and personal characteristics mesh with different career and occupational categories. Additionally, the Profiler will provide possible majors that match your interest and colleges that offer those majors.
- Road Trip Nation allows students to browse thousands of videos featuring people in all kinds of careers, with all kinds of interests. Explore innovative resources designed to help students connect their interests to careers. Watch people as they travel the country, interviewing inspiring leaders from all walks of life.

About Me:

- Students can build a resume in the About Me tab and store it so it can be printed and/or exported at a later date.
- Results of the career and interest inventories will be stored in this tab.

Naviance Student College Home

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Naviance Student: Overview of College Home Tab

Search Tools

Advanced College Search: Using multiple categories, answer questions to identify colleges that match your interests and then save the search.

SuperMatch College Search: Receive a list of best-fit schools based on criteria that you deem as important in your college search.

College Lookup: Look up a school by name, country, state, or college group.

My Favorites

Colleges I'm Thinking About: A list of schools that you have identified as prospects.

Colleges I'm Applying To: A list of schools to which you have decided to apply.

Research Colleges

Scattergrams: A graph used to help you analyze how you fit in with other students from your high school who have been accepted or denied admittance to a school based on GPA and test scores.

College Match: See and quickly favorite the other schools that students are applying to when they have also applied to a school from your favorite list. Additionally, check out other colleges that have accepted students with stats like your own.

College Compare: Add schools to compare the average GPA and test scores of students from your high school that have been accepted to that college during a time span.

College Resources: List of external web resources that may be valuable to your college search process.

Acceptance History: An alphabetical list of colleges where someone from your school has been accepted and/or enrolled over a time span.

College Maps: View an interactive map of schools based on a list of different pre-defined criteria. For example, you can see a map of the colleges from your Colleges I'm Thinking About list.

Enrichment Programs: Naviance has partnered with TeenLife to provide a robust database of enrichment programs for you to research and gain experience. These include possible internship opportunities and other events to build your experiences.

Apply To Colleges

Colleges I'm Applying To: A list of schools to which you have decided to apply.

Letters of Recommendation: Request new and track existing letter of recommendation requests.

College Events: View a list of colleges that are hosting events and sign up for those of interest.

Test Scores: View your key test scores, including SATs, ACTs, and PSATs.

Scholarships and Money

Scholarships I'm Applying to: A list of scholarships to which you are applying.

Scholarship List: A list of potentially relevant scholarships that you can review and add to your applications list.

Scholarship Match: A list of scholarships that may be a suitable match for you based on scholarship requirements such as gender, ethnicity, GPA, etc.

National Scholarship Search: An external site hosted by Sallie Mae that provides a list of potential scholarship matches based on personal criteria as associated with Naviance Student.

<u>Naviance Student</u> College Search and Scattergrams



Scattergrams | Applications for Arlington Catholic High School ()



COLLEGE CHARACTERISTICS TO CONSIDER

Location

Region or regions of the country; consider distance from home and weather/climate Setting: large city; small city; suburban (near but not in city); rural Live on campus (dorms) or commute (consider travel time and costs)

Size of Undergraduate Population

Very small (less than 1,000); small (1,000 to 3,000); medium (3, 000 to 8,000); large (8,000 to 20,000); very large (greater than 20,000). Also consider the number of graduate students on campus, if any.

Majors Offered at the College

A major is a student's academic field of specialization. A major may also be called a concentration or a program of study. Also consider types of colleges: technical schools, two-year colleges; four-year colleges; universities; liberal arts colleges; specialized colleges (Art, Business, Engineering and Music).

Student Body Characteristics

Ethnic, racial and religious diversity Social/political environment (liberal, mixed, conservative) Single sex colleges Historically black colleges

Campus Activities and Organizations

Music, Theater Clubs Sports (Division I, II, III Club, Intramural) Fraternities and sororities

Colleges with a Religious Affiliation or No Affiliation

Strict religious affiliation vs. historical affiliation vs. no affiliation. Consider the number of students on campus who are members of the religion as well as required religion courses and attendance at religious services.

Public Colleges and Private Colleges

Public colleges are funded by each state's government. State taxpayer money helps fund the colleges. The tuition is lowered for in-state residents. Out-of-state tuition at some public colleges may be less than private college tuition.

Private colleges are not funded by the government. They are usually more expensive than public colleges, but costs will vary according to region of the country.

Selectivity

Selectivity is based on the percent of applicants accepted to a particular college. Acceptance is based on student's GPA, rigor curriculum, standardized test scores, activities, essays and recommendations.

Noncompetitive (all applicants with high school diploma or GED accepted); Less Competitive (75% to 100% accepted); Competitive (50%-75% accepted); Highly Selective (25%-50% accepted); Most Selective (less than 25% accepted).

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR CAMPUS VISIT

1. Setting Up Your Visit

Visiting campuses is a critical component of the college search process. It helps students identify characteristics they want in their future institution. Only by stepping on the campus and absorbing the sights and sounds of the environment will you be able to know whether or not a certain school can become your home for the next four years. Students should begin arranging college visits during the second half of their **junior year**.

2. See What You Want to See

Most schools will do whatever they can to help you see as much of the campus as you want. The more you learn about the school, the more you will fall in love with the institution. If nothing else, the visit can help you determine if you should continue to pursue a particular college or not.

Most admissions officers offer a general information session and campus tour on most days. Many also offer the chance to meet with an admissions representative to ask about the admissions process and the college's programs or to share information about you. If you want to dig deeper, ask to sit in on a class, eat at the dining hall, meet with a professor in your major or a coach for your sport, or stay overnight in the residence halls. With some advance notice, you will find that most college admissions offices will be very accommodating to your requests. Also, realize that you may be able to see and do more if you visit on a regular class day as opposed to a weekend or during the summer.

3. <u>Take Notes</u>

After each visit, take 10 minutes and write down everything you remember from your time on campus. Take note of the pros and the cons. Pay particular attention to the details that impressed you the most. These notes will help you complete the applications in your senior year as many colleges ask "Why are you applying to this college?" A more detailed answer shows admissions counselors that you did in-depth research and are genuinely interested in their school.

4. Visit Again...and Again...

It's April of your senior year, and you have been accepted by all of your colleges. Still can't decide where to go? Visit those schools again! When you visit after your acceptance, you will be looking at the college from a different and more critical vantage point. You won't just be looking at the big picture; you will be thinking about how every day life will be if you attend the school. You may notice something at this point that you never realized earlier. Most colleges offer an on-campus program for accepted students to show them a different side of the campus than they would normally see on an admissions tour. As always, if there is something specific that you want to see, do not hesitate to ask for it.

5. Do's and Don'ts for Visiting College

- <u>DO call ahead or RSVP</u> -- Let the admissions office know that you are coming, whether it is for a quick tour or an all-day program. Not only will they be prepared for you, but you may also learn about special events or opportunities. If you want to visit a class or meet with a coach or professor, you may not be able to do so unless you arrange it in advance.
- **DON'T be late!** Nothing makes a worse first impression than showing up late. Build plenty of travel time into your schedule.
- <u>**DO**</u> dress the part Make sure you look presentable, especially if you plan to meet one-on-one with an admissions officer or professor. For programs, dress appropriately what you wear for an overnight visit should be very different than what you wear for a scholarship program.

- **DO ask questions...DON'T be shy** This is your chance to learn about the school. Find out as much as you can! Come armed with questions; make a list of your most important concerns before you visit the campus.
- **DO talk to current students** Make sure to hear what current students have to say about the school, and see if it matches what others tell you.
- **DO have fun!** -- Campus visits can be exciting. You never know what you will see, and it's great fun to pick your home for the next four years!

6. Follow Your Gut

Eventually, you should find a college that "feels right" to you. Maybe it's the size, maybe it's the location, maybe it's the atmosphere, but whatever it is, something clicks and makes you realize that you could be part of this school. Remember, this will be home for the next four years. You need to feel comfortable at whichever school you choose. Otherwise, you won't enjoy your experience as much, and that could hurt your motivation to work hard in the classroom and become involved in the college, making it even less enjoyable and starting a vicious cycle. (Of course, you might find more than one school that "feels right." If that happens, then you will have a tough decision to make!).

If you take your time to research the schools on your list and visit the ones that interest you the most, you will be in a much better position to decide which school (or schools) will best fit you, your personality, your needs, and your goals. Once you have done that, you will be well on your way to finding your niche and your new home at college.

Questions to ask prospective colleges

during tours, interviews, overnight visits, college fairs, etc....

General

What makes your school different, special? What are the students like? What is the mission, philosophy, purpose of the institution?

Academics

What is the average class size in the freshman year? Overall? What are the smallest class sizes? The largest? Do graduate students teach undergraduates? Do faculty maintain office hours? Are students involved in the evaluation of instructors? Are certain courses hard to get into? What percent? Can you cross-register at any other nearby colleges/universities? Are there any required courses? Which ones? What type of academic advising is provided? Do you give credit for AP courses? Is a certain test score required?

Location/Student Life

How large is the campus? Where is it located? How far is the campus from the nearest airport/train/bus/subway? Does the college provide transportation locally? To airport/train/mall? What percentage of students are housed on campus? Off campus? Is housing guaranteed for all 4 years? What kinds of off campus housing are available nearby? How are students assigned to a room? To a roommate? Are there coed dorms? By floor/wing/room? What services are provided in the dorms? In separate dorms? Are freshmen required to live on campus? In separate dorms? What kinds of meal plans are available? How many meals each day? Vegetarian option? What athletic teams do you have? Division? Can I meet one of the coaches? Can students have cars on campus? Freshman? Parking fees?

Financial Aid

Will applying for financial aid have an impact on the admission decision? Is financial aid based on need? On merit? Do you offer scholarships? What types are available? How do I apply? Do you offer work study jobs? How do I apply for those? Is there off campus employment available? Where are the jobs posted? What percentage of students receive financial aid? What are the financial aid application procedures and deadlines? When are financial aid packages awarded?

Questions to ask prospective colleges

during tours, interviews, overnight visits, college fairs, etc....

Admission

What information do you require from applicants? SAT/ACT/SAT Subject Tests?Is an interview necessary/required?How many recommendations? From specific teachers?What are your academic requirements? Foreign languages?Do you have an application deadline? When? Rolling?How much does it cost to apply?When do students find out if they have been accepted?

Career Resources/Alumni

Do you offer internships? Are they required? Are they paid positions or for class credit? Are they available for all majors?

What career services do you offer? Resume writing? Counseling? On campus recruiting? Job listings? Graduate school information and advising?

What percentage of graduates go directly into the work force? To graduate school? What percentage of your alumni donate?

STANDARDIZED TESTS FOR COLLEGE ENTRANCE

SAT: Evidence-Based Reading & Writing, Math, and Essay (Optional)

- Visit <u>www.sat.org</u> to register for the SAT and for information regarding test dates, content, and preparation.
- Required by the vast majority of schools. All students should take the SAT two to three times between the spring of junior year and the fall of senior year.
- Most colleges consider students' best score in each section, even if the scores are for tests taken on different dates.

ACT with Writing: English, Math, Scientific Reasoning, Reading and Writing (Optional)

- Visit <u>www.act.org</u> to register for the ACT with Writing and for information regarding test dates, content and preparation.
- The ACT is the competitor to the SAT. This college entrance exam is accepted just as widely as the SAT.
- Some students choose to take both the ACT and the SAT. The colleges will take into consideration the higher standardized test score.

SAT Subject Tests

- The SAT Subject Tests are hour long exams that ask students to demonstrate a deeper, more detailed knowledge of a specific subject. A complete list of subjects offered is available at www.sat.org
- Some of the more competitive colleges require that students take the SAT Subject Tests in addition to the SAT/ACT with Writing. Usually, two (2) subjects are required, but some of the most competitive colleges require three (3). Note: You cannot take the SAT Test and SAT Subject Tests on the same day.
- Students should study for these tests.
- Some colleges will accept the ACT with Writing in lieu of the SAT Subject Tests. It is each student's responsibility to find out if this is true of their colleges.

TOEFL Test

- The TOEFL test measures the ability of non-native English speakers to use and understand English as it is read, written, heard and spoken in the university classroom.
- If you want to study at an English-speaking university or program, no other test can get you to as many destinations around the world as the TOEFL test.
- The TOEFL test measures all four English-language skills. It takes about four hours. Reading: 60-80 minutes, read passages, then respond to questions; Listening: 60-90 minutes, listen to lectures or a classroom discussion, then respond to questions; Speaking: 20 minutes, speak into a microphone about familiar topics and discuss material; Writing: 50 minutes, read a passage, listen to a recording and then type written response.

- All international students should take the TOEFL and submit these scores to the colleges to which they are applying through <u>www.ets.org/TOEFL</u>.
- Some institutions will accept the English section from the ACT and/or the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section from the SAT in lieu of TOEFL scores. However, the minimum acceptable score varies from school to school. It is the student's responsibility to research each institution's English proficiency requirement.

Releasing Your Test Scores

- Be aware that most colleges require applicants to have their scores officially sent through the College Board, ACT and/or ETS. This can be done online on the aforementioned websites.
- When you register for these exams (and any time before the test date), you may send scores to four schools at no cost. The testing companies charge a fee for each additional school to which you choose to send your scores. We advise you NOT TO SEND any test scores in junior year to colleges.
- Some colleges have adopted a SAT/ACT optional policy. A complete list of **Test Optional Colleges** can be found at <u>www.fairtest.org</u>.

"Super Score"

- There is a "Score Choice" option which lets you choose by test date which scores colleges will see. However, it is important for you to research the "test score reporting" policy for each college you are considering.
- The vast majority of colleges will "Super Score". This means colleges will review multiple SAT scores from various test dates that a student has taken. They will combine the highest scores in each section from different test dates to give a "Super Score".

For example, if a student took the SAT twice and the scores were as follows:

Test 1: Evidence-Based Reading and Writing: 500, Math: 600; Total SAT Score 1100

Test 2: Evidence-Based Reading and Writing: 600, Math: 510; Total SAT Score 1110

Colleges that "Super Score" would consider this student's SAT Score to be a 1200.

- For SAT Subject Tests students can choose to send or omit any scores even those taken on the same day.
- Some colleges will "Super Score" the ACT and some will not. Some colleges look at the individual subject test scores within the ACT while others only concentrate on the composite score.

Comparing the SAT to the ACT

	SAT	ACT
Format & Length	5 long sections (comprising 3 "tests" and an optional essay): Writing & Language; Reading; 2 Math; Essay	5 long sections (comprising 4 "tests" and an optional essay): English, Mathematics; Reading; Science; Writing (optional essay)
	Questions have 4 answer choices Total testing time: 3 hours (without optional	Most questions have 4 answer choices (Math has 5)
Scoring	essay) Total testing time: 3 hours, 50 minutes (with essay) Combined score: 400-1600	Total testing time: 2 hours, 55 minutes (without optional essay) Total testing time: 3 hours, 35 minutes (with essay) Combined score: 1-36 (average of 4 tests)
	Evidence-based Reading & Writing: 200-800; Math: 200-800	English: 1-36; Math: 1-36; Reading: 1-36; Science 1-36 Writing score provided separately: 2-12
	Essay score reported separately "Cross-Test Scores" report performance in Science & History/Social Studies across entire test	"Cross-Test Scores" report performance in ELA (English Language Arts) and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)
	No deduction for incorrect answers	No deduction for incorrect answers
Writing/ English	Revise and edit a piece of writing for logicalstructure and effective rhetoricStandard English grammar and usage	Revise and edit a piece of writing for, logical structure, and effective rhetoric Standard English grammar and usage
	Punctuation	Punctuation
	Logical structure	Logical structure
	Effective rhetoric	Effective rhetoric
	Includes informational graphics	Commonly confused words
Math	Pre-Algebra through basic Trigonometry Strong emphasis on Algebra	Pre-Algebra through basic Trigonometry Math tested in straightforward manner
	Calculator prohibited on one section	Extensive range of concepts tested
	13 Grid-In questions (no answer choices)	Emphasis on word problems
Deading	Veeebulery de emphasized	Formulas not provided
Reading	Vocabulary de-emphasized 4 long passages and 1 paired passage	Four long passages 4 long passages
	2 passages include diagrams/charts	Very little emphasis on vocabulary
	1 passage from "Great Global Conversation"	Straightforward questions that require close reading of passage
		Order of questions is random
Science	The SAT does not have stand-alone Science	Less time per question 40 Questions distributed over 7 passages
ocience	section, but Science questions will be included	Emphasis on charts, diagrams, etc.
	throughout the Math, Reading, and Writing &	Science is a reasoning test – rarely requires prior science
	Language tests.	knowledge
Essay	50 minutes, optional, always last section Analyze a passage and evaluate author's reasoning and rhetoric	40 minutes, optional always the last test Analyze multiple view points on a contemporary issue
	Students' opinions discouraged	Demands a more structured response Optional
	Essay is scored on 2-8 scale on three traits (Reading, Analysis and Writing)	Essay is scored on a 2-12 scale

CONCORDANCE TABLE

Concordance tables are necessary to compare scores between different tests.

College admissions officers and others will use concordance tables for admission and placement.

ACT to SAT Concordance Table

АСТ	SAT	Percentile
36	1570-1600	99+
35	1530-1560	99+
34	1490-1520	99
33	1450-1480	99
32	1420-1440	97-99
31	1390-1410	95-99
30	1360-1380	92-96
29	1330-1350	90-94
28	1300-1320	88-92
27	1260-1290	85-89
26	1230-1250	80-84
25	1200-1220	75-79
24	1160-1190	70-74
23	1130-1150	65-69
22	1100-1120	60-64
21	1060-1090	55-59
20	1030-1050	45-54
19	990-1020	40-44
18	960-980	30-39
17	920-950	25-29
16	880-910	20-24
15	830-870	15-19
14	780-820	10-14
13	730-770	5-9
12	690-720	1-4
11	650-680	1
10	620-640	Less than 1

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

The Basics

- Typically, colleges require one guidance counselor and two teacher recommendations. Be sure to check each college's website for their specific admissions requirements regarding recommendations.
- Guidance counselors write recommendations for all students.
- All recommendations are confidential no exceptions.

Teacher Recommendations

- You must ask two teachers to write you a letter of recommendation.
- Who to ask: It is strongly encouraged that you request recommendations from teachers who taught you *in your junior year.* At least one of your recommendations should be from a major subject teacher (math, science, history, English or foreign language). The other may be from an elective teacher, particularly if you have a strong interest in or talent for the elective subject and would like to continue with it in college.
- **Exception:** If there is a teacher you had a particularly close relationship with in your freshman or sophomore year, it is acceptable to have him/her write one of your recommendations. This is especially okay if you anticipate having this teacher again as a senior. But remember: Your other recommendation should be from a junior year teacher.
- When to ask: You must ask your teachers for recommendations by the last day of classes, as some teachers like to work on their letters over the summer. Approach them either before or after school not between or during classes.

Be aware that teachers can say no to your request for one of two reasons: (1) They feel they can't truthfully write you a positive recommendation; or (2) They already have too many people to write for (so ask early)!

You should request letters of recommendation from your teachers even if you are unsure of your posthigh school plans.

Recommendations from Non-School Sources

It is recommended that you submit an additional recommendation from a coach, employer, or instructor <u>only if</u> you feel they can provide new and meaningful information about you. More is not better. Admissions officers encourage applicants to favor quality over quantity.

One last note: Many teachers write up to 30 recommendation letters each fall. Most are more than happy to help you on your way to the college of your choice, but it is incredibly time consuming nevertheless. Please thank your teachers. A quick, handwritten thank you note is a nice and simple way to let them know you appreciate their time and effort.

College Interviews 101

Colleges use interviews to make you more than just a number...they want to see that you are unique, able to speak publicly, and someone they want as part of their community. If you are very interested in a school and have the ability to do so, you should ABSOLUTLY interview. Appointments book up fast, so contact the admissions office early in the fall to set up either an on campus interview or an alumni interview.

Three basic rules to keep in mind...

- 1. PRACTICE! Think about answers beforehand, say them out loud to someone or to yourself, and know your nervous tics ("like", "um", knee shaking, pauses etc.).
- 2. BE PROFESSIONAL! Be sure to dress appropriately (collared shirt and tie for the men, equivalent for the ladies).
- 3. BE YOURSELF! Interviewers want to get to know YOU, not the fake version of you. Think of the interview as an "elevated conversation", be friendly, be confident, and most of all BE YOURSELF!

Usually interviews center around three main topics...

YOUR SCHOOL

- -Tell me about Arlington Catholic
- -What do you like most about your school?
- -Who is your favorite teacher and why?
- -What has been your favorite class?
- -What class do you struggle in the most?
- -How have you been involved in your school community?
- -What is your favorite memory from school?
- -What subject do you like the most? The least?

YOU

- -What is your greatest strength? Weakness?
- -How would your friends describe you?
- -What do you like to do for fun OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL?
- -What's your favorite book? Why?
- -What is your family like?
- -Where do you like to travel?
- -What makes you different from all the other applicants?

THEIR SCHOOL

- -What do you like about our college?
- -What do you see yourself studying here?
- -What will you be involved in outside of
- classes?
- -What are you most nervous about in college?
- -What are you most excited about in college?
- -Why are we the right fit for you?

After the Interview

Send a thank you note to the interviewer. It shows that you have taken the time and interest to think about your recent interview. This is also a great opportunity to reinforce or clarify something from the interview, or add information that was not discussed.

What is your favorite book?

WRONG- "Well um, <u>War and Peace</u>, because the analysis of the characters leads me to believe that the plot has great depth and um, it has a deep knowledge base with various"

RIGHT- "To be honest? Probably <u>Harry Potter</u>; I read the first book at the same time that I was starting middle school so I really related to Harry because he was starting a new adventure just like I was...even though my adventure didn't involve owls!"





What is your greatest strength?

WRONG- "I guess I am really nice and generous. Yeah."

RIGHT- "I guess I am really nice and generous; I spend a lot of time tutoring in the Achievement Center at my school and though it's tough giving up a study hall sometimes, I really enjoy helping my peers!"

Do you have any questions for us?

WRONG-No.

WRONG- Do you have an English major here?

RIGHT- *I* am really interested in doing study abroad but I know that it is tough doing that as a pre-med student, is it possible to do both?



APPLICATIONS

Students will be responsible for submitting their college applications in the fall/winter of their **senior year.** Guidance counselors/teachers will submit students' transcripts and letters of recommendation through Naviance.

• <u>Common Application</u> (www.commonapp.org)

One application that more than 800 colleges and universities accept. The Common Application requires students to write one essay. Essay topics are generally released in the spring and the guidance counselors do provide the juniors with the essay choices.

For information on how to complete the Common Application, please visit Common App Ready Toolkit (<u>www.commonapp.org/ready</u>) for a series of packed presentations and accompanying scripts that cover every aspect of the application.

• Institutional Application

If your student is applying to a college/university that does not accept the Common Application, then he or she should go to that college's website to complete the institutional-specific application. They generally open in summer or fall of your child's senior year.

• <u>Coalition Application</u> (www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org)

The Coalition Application is a multi-college application similar to the Common Application that launched in the 2016-2017 school year. The Coalition aims to make applying to colleges accessible to all, as it requires its member colleges to offer "affordable" tuition. Currently 140 colleges will accept the Coalition Application for the 2018-2019 school year.

Some colleges accept the Common Application, their Institutional Application, or the Coalition Application. Students must choose which application they want to submit. Colleges give equal preference to all versions of the application.

The Common Application Rollover

- The Common Application Rollover will let students create a Common App account prior to senior year and maintain that account from one year to the next. It is intended to be a learning tool, not a means of completing college applications prior to senior year.
- You will be able to sign in using the same log-in and password from year to year.
- After August 1, you will be asked if you want to "rollover" your account and you will reply "yes".
- Information That WILL Rollover:
- The answers students provide to any questions that appear in the six sections of the "Common App" tab: Profile, Family, Education, Testing, Activities, and Writing.
- The Guidance Department strongly encourages students to complete these sections over the summer.

Information that WILL NOT Rollover:

- Any information you may have entered for college-specific questions or writing supplements
- Your release Authorization and FERPA Selection
- Any recommender invitations, assignments, and forms
- PDF's of Common Applications and writing supplements submitted the prior year
- Responses to any questions that have been removed since the prior year
- Responses to any questions that may have different response options from the prior year

All this information and more can be found at:

www.commonapp.org/whats-appening/college-counseling/common-app-account-rollover

Types of College Application Deadlines

Regular Decision

Candidates are required to submit their applications by a specific deadline and are notified of decisions in the spring. Students may apply to other institutions under Early Decision (one only) or Early Action plans.

Rolling Admission

Institutions review and make decisions on applications as they are received. Students may apply to other colleges. Students are not required to make a commitment prior to May 1, but are encouraged to do so as soon as a final college choice is made. Priority indicates that these applications will take priority over applications received after this date. Typically, applying by a college's listed priority admissions date will ensure that you receive full consideration for all of the institutional scholarships and financial aid that you may be eligible for.

Early Decision

If you are certain that you will attend one particular college if admitted and are willing to sign a statement to that effect, you may be able to apply Early Decision. Application deadlines are generally in November or December. If admitted, you are obligated to enroll at that college unless the financial aid award is inadequate. Immediately upon acceptance of the offer of admission, you must withdraw all other applications. In choosing Early Decision candidates, admission officers are looking for very clear indications of ability. However, you may have a slight advantage because you are clearly telling the college that you are committed to attend if admitted. You may apply to other colleges but may have only one Early Decision application pending at any time.

Early Action

Early Action is another option for early notification of acceptance. In this instance, you are not obligated to attend that school or to withdraw all other applications. **If accepted, you are allowed to use the Candidate's Reply Date of May 1**st **and therefore hear from all your schools before making a final decision about which school you will attend.** In most cases, students may apply to other colleges (including one Early Decision application) under this plan. Please be aware of a school's policy if you plan to apply Early Action. Some colleges have Restrictive Early Action or Single Choice Early Action. In this case, certain restrictions apply, i.e., applicants are not permitted to apply to another college's binding program. Students **must** check each school's policy.

Candidate's Reply Date:

The vast majority of colleges require students to accept an admissions offer and deposit at one college by May 1.

MINIMUM ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENT'S FOR MASSACHUSETT'S STATE UNIVERSITIES AND UNDERGRADUATE UMASS CAMPUSES

The minimum admissions standards for the state universities and undergraduate UMass campuses were established for several primary reasons: first, to emphasize the importance of successfully completing a rigorous academic course of study in high school (such as MassCore, a recommended program of studies that includes specific numbers and types of courses across academic subjects); second, to ensure that students are well prepared to complete college courses and their degrees; and third, to increase consistency across the state universities and undergraduate UMass campuses.

Again, these standards are <u>minimum requirements</u>. Eligibility for admission is not an entitlement of admission for any applicant; as such, meeting the minimum standards does not guarantee admission, since admissions officers consider a wide range of factors when reviewing students' applications, and the state universities and UMass campuses can establish additional requirements. For information about any additional requirements, please contact the admissions office at the institution(s) to which the student is interested in applying.

Note: Theses standards do not apply to the community colleges, which implement open admissions and enrollment polices. For additional information about admissions policies at the community colleges, please contact the admissions office at the institution(s) to which you are interested in applying.

FRESHMAN APPLICANTS

The admissions standards for freshman applicants at Massachusetts public four year institutions have three primary components:

- 1. Successful completion of required academic courses in specific subjects; and
- 2. A minimum average and weighted grade point average (GPA)earned in high school level academic courses; and
- 3. The submission of SAT or ACT scores.

ACADEMIC COURSE REQUIREMENT

All freshman applicants are required to successfully complete the following courses in each academic subject. Applicants are required to have completed 17 courses.

Academic Course Requirements for Entering College Freshmen for Massachusetts State Universities and UMass Campuses

Subject	
English	4 Courses
Mathematics	4 courses (Algebra I or II and Geometry or Trigonometry or comparable coursework) including mathematics during the final year of high school
Science	3 courses (from Natural Science and/or Physical Science and/or Technology/Engineering), including 3 courses with laboratory work.
Social Sciences	2 courses (including 1 course in U.S. History)
Foreign Languages	2 courses (in a single language)
Electives	2 courses (from the above subjects or from the Arts & Humanities or Computer Science)

MINIMUM GPA REQUIREMENT

The minimum average GPA for freshman applicants, weighted for accelerated (Honors and Advanced Placement) courses is 3.0 for both the state universities and the UMass undergraduate campuses.

The GPA is based on all courses completed and grades received for courses in which the student is currently enrolled (for example, mathematics course in which the student is enrolled during the senior year of high school).

SAT/ACT SCORE REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS WHO DO NOT MEET THE GPA REQUIREMENT

All freshman applicants who meet the minimum average GPA requirement of 3.0 and are within three years of their high school graduation **must submit** their SAT scores (for Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and Mathematics) or ACT scores.

For freshman applicants who **do not** meet the minimum GPA requirement, they must earn the following SAT or ACT scores in order to be eligible for admission.

NOTE: NO APPLICANT WITH A HIGH SCHOOL GPA BELOW 2.0 MAY BE ADMITTED TO A STATE UNIVERSITY OR UMASS UNDERGRADUATE CAMPUS.

Weighted Average GPA	Combined SAT Score (Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and Mathematics)	ACT Score
2.51 - 2.99	1030	20
2.41 - 2.50	1070	21
2.31 - 2.40	1110	22
2.21 - 2.30	1140	23
2.11 - 2.20	1180	24
2.00 - 2.10	1220	25

Required SAT or ACT Scores for Freshman Applicants to UMass Campuses

Required SAT or ACT Scores for Freshman Applicants to State Universities

Weighted Average GPA	Combined SAT Score (Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and Mathematics)	ACT Score
2.51 - 2.99	990	19
2.41 - 2.50	1030	20
2.31 - 2.40	1070	21
2.21 - 2.30	1110	22
2.11 - 2.20	1140	23
2.00 - 2.10	1180	24

HOW TO REGISTER WITH THE NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER

www.eligibilitycenter.org

If you want to play NCAA sports at a Division I or II school, you need to meet certain academic standards and be certified as an amateur athlete. The NCAA Eligibility Center will evaluate your academic and athletic experiences based on information you provide through your **eligibilitycenter.org** account. The NCAA Eligibility Center also offers a profile page for students planning to compete at Division III, or students who don't yet know where they want to compete.

Which eligibilitycenter.org account should I create?

There are two different types of accounts to help prospective student-athletes make the best decision about their college choices.

- Certification Account: You need to be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center to compete at an NCAA Division I or II school. You also need to be registered with a Certification Account before you can make official visits or sign a <u>National Letter of Intent</u> in Division I or II. Please allow 30 to 45 minutes to completely register.
- 2. **Profile Page:** If you plan to compete at a Division III school or are currently unsure which division you want to compete in, create a Profile Page. Please allow 15 to 30 minutes to completely register. If at any time you wish to play at the Division I or II level, you can transition to a Certification Account and pay the registration fee to begin your certification process.
 - **Please Note:** You may transition from a Profile Page to a Certification Account, but cannot move from a Certification Account to a Profile Page. Students who registered with the old website will be considered Certification Accounts.

Registration Steps

- 1. Visit eligibilitycenter.org and select the "Register" arrow on the homepage.
- 2. Read both account descriptions and decide which account to register for.
- 3. If you plan to compete at an NCAA Division I or II school, select the **"Create an Account"** button.
- 4. If you plan to compete at an NCAA Division III school, or you are not sure where you want to compete, select the **"Create a Profile Page"** button.
- 5. You will be prompted to enter your email address to create an account or profile. Be sure to provide an email that will be active even after you complete high school.
- 6. Check your inbox for an email containing your **verification code**. If you do not receive the email within 30 minutes, you may need to check your Spam or Junk folders.
- 7. Click the link in the verification code email to return to eligibilitycenter.org. Enter your verification code and complete the Account, Basic Information and Contact pages. If you are creating an account for a student-athlete, please use the student-athlete's information.

- 8. If you created a Certification Account, you will be prompted to pay the registration fee (\$80 for US students, \$135 for international students). You have 30 days after receiving your verification code to pay before your account is dropped from the system.
- 9. After submitting payment, return to your Dashboard to complete your registration.
- 10. Answer the Schools and Sports questions with your most recent information. Once you have completed a page of questions, select the "Continue" button to proceed to the next page. If you need to return to the previous page, select the "Back" link under the "Continue" button.
- 11. After completing your Schools and Sports information, check your Dashboard. This page contains information about your status, next steps and any tasks you need to complete.
- 12. You will receive an email from the NCAA Eligibility Center when we assign you a new task. Be sure to respond to each task as quickly as possible so we have all the information we need to certify you. We will not begin your certification until it is requested by an NCAA school.
- 13. If you have not done so already, ask the ACT or SAT to send your test scores to the NCAA Eligibility Center using code 9999. You may also use this code to send scores directly to us when you register for future SAT or ACT Tests.
- 14. After you finish your sixth semester of high school (the junior year for most students), ask your high school counselor to submit your transcript to the NCAA Eligibility Center. This allow us to evaluate your account and let you know if there are any issues you need to fix before your evaluation. Please see Mrs. Lally, Guidance Office, and pick up a Transcript Release Form. so that your transcript may be sent to the NCAA. Please bring in the signed release from to Mrs. Lally so that your transcript may be uploaded to the Eligibility Center.
- 15. If you gradate high school in May, you may log in to your eligibilitycenter.org account after **April 1** of your senior year to request your final amateurism certification. If you graduate in December, you may request your final amateurism certification after **October 1** of your senior year.
- 16. Once you graduate, ask your high school counselor to submit your final transcript with proof of graduation to the NCAA Eligibility Center.



DIVISION I ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

College-bound student-athletes will need to meet the following academic requirements to practice, receive athletic scholarships, and/or compete during their first year.

Core-Course Requirement

Complete 16 core courses in the following areas:



Full Qualifier

- Complete 16 core courses.
 - Ten of the 16 core courses must be completed before the seventh semester (senior year) of high school.
 - Seven of the 10 core courses must be in English, math or science.
- Earn a core-course GPA of at least 2.300.
- Earn the ACT/SAT score matching your core-course GPA on the Division I sliding scale (see back page).
- · Graduate high school.

Academic Redshirt

- Complete 16 core courses.
- Earn a core-course GPA of at least 2.000.
- Earn the ACT/SAT score matching your core-course GPA on the Division I sliding scale (see back page).
- · Graduate high school.

Full Qualifier:

College-bound student-athletes may practice, compete and receive athletics scholarships during their first year of enrollment at an NCAA Division I school.

Academic Redshirt:

College-bound student-athletes may receive athletics scholarships during their first year of enrollment and may practice during their first regular academic term, but may NOT compete during their first year of enrollment.

Nonqualifier:

College-bound student-athletes cannot practice, receive athletics scholarships or compete during their first year of enrollment at an NCAA Division I school.

Test Scores

When a student registers for the SAT or ACT, he or she can use the NCAA Eligibility Center code of **9999** so his or her scores are sent directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center from the testing agency. Test scores on transcripts will **NOT** be used in his or her academic certification.

A combined SAT score is calculated by adding reading and math subscores. An ACT sum score is calculated by adding English, math, reading and science subscores. A student may take the SAT or ACT an unlimited number of times before he or she enrolls full time in college. If a student takes either test more than once, the best subscore from different tests are used to meet initial-eligibility requirements.

If a student took the SAT before March 2016 and then took the redesigned SAT at a later date, the NCAA Eligibility Center will not combine section scores from the former and redesigned SAT when determining his or her initial eligibility. The NCAA Eligibility Center will only combine section scores from the same version of the test. Because the redesigned SAT varies in design and measures different academic concepts than the former SAT, the Eligibility Center will apply the College Board's concordance tables when performing academic certifications for students with redesigned SAT scores.

*To compare SAT scores, click here for a comparison table, or click here to visit the College Board's website.

DIVISION I FULL QUALIFIER SLIDING SCALE		FULL QU/	DIVISION I ALIFIER SLIDIN	IG SCALE		
CORE GPA	SAT	ACT SUM	CORE GPA	SAT*	ACT SUM	
3.550	READING/MATH 400	37	2,750	READING/MATH	59	
3.525	400	38	2.725	730	60	-
3.500	420	39	2.700	740	61	-
3.475	430	40	2,675	750	61	-
3.450	440	41	2.650	760	62	-
3.425	440	41	2.625	770	63	-
3.400	460	42	2.600	780	64	-
3.375	470	42	2.575	790	65	-
3.350	480	43	2.550	800	66	-
3.325	490	44	2.525	810	67	1
3.300	500	44	2.500	820	68	-
3.275	510	45	2.475	830	69	-
3.250	520	46	2,450	840	70	-
3.225	530	46	2.425	850	70	-
3.200	540	47	2.400	860	71	-
3.175	550	47	2.375	870	72	-
3.150	560	48	2.350	880	73	-
3.125	570	49	2.325	890	74	1
3.100	580	49	2.300	900	75	-
3.075	590	50	2.299	910	76	
3.050	600	50	2.275	910	76	1.
3.025	610	51	2.250	920	77	L L
3.000	620	52	2.225	930	78	Ī
2.975	630	52	2.200	940	79	SO
2.950	640	53	2.175	950	80	
2.925	650	53	2.150	960	81	
2.900	660	54	2.125	970	82	ĬĔ
2.875	670	55	2.100	980	83	
2.850	680	56	2.075	990	84	
2.825	690	56	2.050	1000	85	ACADEMIC REDSHIRT
2.800	700	57	2.025	1010	86	◄
2.775	710	58	2.000	1020	86	1

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2018 DIVISION II NEW ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

College-bound student-athletes first enrolling at an NCAA Division II school on or after August 1, 2018, need to meet new academic rules to practice, compete and receive athletics scholarships during their first year.

Core-Course Requirement

Complete 16 core courses in the following areas:



Full Qualifier

- Complete 16 core courses.
- Earn a core-course GPA of at least 2.200.
- Earn the ACT/SAT score matching your core-course GPA on the Division II full qualifier sliding scale (see back page).
- Graduate high school.

Partial Qualifier

- Complete 16 core courses.
- Earn a core-course GPA of at least 2.000.
- Earn the ACT/SAT score matching your core-course GPA on the Division II partial qualifier sliding scale (see back page).
- · Graduate high school.

Full Qualifier:

College-bound student-athletes may practice, compete and receive athletics scholarships during their first year of enrollment at an NCAA Division II school.

Partial Qualifier:

College-bound student-athletes may receive athletics scholarships during their first year of enrollment and may practice during their first regular academic term, but may NOT compete during their first year of enrollment.

Nonqualifier:

College-bound student-athletes may not practice, compete or receive athletics scholarships during their first year of enrollment at an NCAA Division II school.

Test Scores

If a student took the SAT before March 2016 and then took the redesigned SAT at a later date, the NCAA Eligibility Center will not combine section scores from the former and redesigned SAT when determining his or her initial eligibility. The NCAA Eligibility Center will only combine section scores from the same version of the test. Because the redesigned SAT varies in design and measures different academic concepts than the former SAT, the Eligibility Center will apply the College Board's concordance tables when performing academic certifications for students with redesigned SAT scores.

*To compare SAT scores, click here for a comparison table, or click here to visit the College Board's website.

FULL QUA	DIVISION II LIFIER SLIDIN	IG SCALE	PARTIAL Q	DIVISION II JALIFIER SLI
USE FOR DIVIS	SION II BEGINNING A	AUGUST 2018		ISION II BEGINNIN
CORE GPA	\$AT*		CORE GPA	
3.300 & above	неалиялияти 400	37	3.050 & above	400
3.275	410	38	3.025	410
3.250	420	39	3.000	420
3.225	430	40	2.975	430
3.200	440	41	2.950	440
3.175	450	41	2.925	450
3.150	460	42	2.900	460
3.125	470	42	2.875	470
3.100	480	43	2.850	480
3.075	490	44	2.825	490
3.050	500	44	2.800	500
3.025	510	45	2.775	510
3.000	520	46	2.750	520
2.975	530	46	2.725	530
2.950	540	47	2.700	540
2.925	550	47	2.675	550
2.900	560	48	2.650	560
2.875	570	49	2.625	570
2.850	580	49	2.600	580
2.825	590	50	2.575	590
2.800	600	50	2.550	600
2.775	610	51	2.525	610
2.750	620	52	2.500	620
2.725	630	52	2.475	630
2.700	640	53	2.450	640
2.675	650	53	2.425	650
2.650	660	54	2.400	660
2.625	670	55	2.375	670
2.600	680	56	2.350	680
2.575	690	56	2.325	690
2.550	700	57	2.300	700
2.525	710	58	2.275	710
2.500	720	59	2.250	720
2.475	730	60	2.225	730
2.450	740	61	2.200	740
2.425	750	61	2.175	750
2.400	760	62	2.150	760
2.375	770	63	2.125	770
2.350	780	64	2.100	780
2.325	790	65	2.075	790
2.300	800	66	2.050	800
2.275	810	67	2.025	810
2.250	820	68	2.000	820 & above
2.225	830	69		
2.200	840 & above	70 & above	NC	AA is a trademark o

ON II I SLIDING SCALE

	SION II BEGINNING	
CORE GPA		ACT SUM
	READING MADE	
3.050 & above	400	37
3.025	410	38
3.000	420	39
2.975	430	40
2.950	440	41
2.925	450	41
2.900	460	42
2.875	470	42
2.850	480	43
2.825	490	44
2.800	500	44
2.775	510	45
2.750	520	46
2.725	530	46
2.700	540	47
2.675	550	47
2.650	560	48
2.625	570	49
2.600	580	49
2.575	590	50
2.550	600	50
2.525	610	51
2.500	620	52
2.475	630	52
2.450	640	53
2.425	650	53
2.400	660	54
2.375	670	55
2.350	680	56
2.325	690	56
2.300	700	57
2.275	710	58
2.250	720	59
2.225	730	60
2.200	740	61
2.175	750	61
2.150	760	62
2.125	770	63
2.100	780	64
2.075	790	65
2.050	800	66

NCAA is a trademark of the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

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COMMONLY USED TERMINOLOGY AND ABBREVIATIONS

Associate's Degree	A degree granted by a college or university after the satisfactory completion of the equivalent of a two-year full-time program of study (or its part-time equivalent).
Bachelor's Degree	A degree granted by a college or university after the satisfactory completion of a four-or five-year, full time program of study (or its part- time equivalent).
College Board	This agency administers the SAT tests, as well as many other services connected with the college admissions process. See <u>www.sat.org</u> .
SAT Test	Taken in the junior year and often taken again in the fall of the senior year, the SAT is required for admission to many colleges. The redesigned SAT will include Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and Mathematics, and an optional essay.
SAT Subject Tests	These tests cover a variety of academic subjects and are designed to test your level of knowledge. Colleges requiring these tests usually ask for two, but students must investigate college requirements carefully and be aware of when tests are given.
ACT Test	American College Testing: This assessment is used throughout the country by college and university admission offices. It is curriculum based and includes tests related to high school content areas; English, Math, Reading, Science Reasoning. Students can choose between two test options – the ACT Assessment or the ACT Assessment plus Writing which includes a 40-minute writing test.
AP Tests	Advanced Placement Tests: Three-hour tests administered in May each year for students seeking advanced standing in college in certain subject areas.
Priority Deadline	Priority indicates that these applications will take priority over applications received after this date. Typically, applying by a college's listed priority admissions date will ensure that you receive full consideration for all of the institutional scholarships and financial aid that you may be eligible for.
Candidate's Reply Date	May 1 is the date by which you are required to let the college of your choice know you will be attending. Sending in your deposit reserves your space in the class. If any institution requests a deposit prior to May 1, it must be fully refundable until May 1.
Wait List	Colleges cannot always predict the number of accepted students who will attend. Therefore, a wait list is created and students are offered admission as space becomes available. If you are on a wait list, you should be given a past wait list history and an indication of when you can expect to be notified of final admission decisions. Students are usually notified in May or June if they are being accepted from the wait list. Occasionally, notification is given as late as July or August.

COMMONLY USED TERMINOLOGY AND ABBREVIATIONS

Deferred Admission	The practice of permitting students to postpone enrollment usually for one year, after acceptance to college.
FAFSA	The Free Application for Federal Student Aid seeks details on you and your parents' income and assets. It will calculate your Expected Family Contribution at no charge. FAFSA forms are available online at www.fafsa.gov beginning October 1.
CSS PROFILE	Developed by the College Scholarship Service (CSS) of the College Board, the PROFILE may be obtained by registering at <u>www.profileonline.collegeboard.org</u> . Most private colleges require the PROFILE in addition to the FAFSA. The deadline for submitting the PROFILE is usually earlier than the FAFSA.

USEFUL WEBSITES

NAVIANCE

student.naviance.com/arlingtonchs Naviance is a college and career readiness platform that helps connect academic achievement to post-secondary goals.

College Search

www.collegeboard.org search for colleges and careers www.petersons.com explore colleges www.collegenet.com search for colleges according to geographical areas www.collegexpress.com search for private colleges www.princetonreview.com explore colleges www.gocollege.com college search www.affordablecollegesonline.org/college-resourcecenter/college-admissions

College Fairs

www.collegeweeklive.com interactive, free online tool that allows students to chat live with colleges/universities via the Internet.

Career Information

www.bls.gov/ooh The US Department of Labor's Occupational Outlook Handbook

www.masscis.intocareers.org Career information, searches and interest inventories

Students Interested in the Arts

https://nationalportfolioday.org applying to a visual arts program.

http://nasd.arts-accredit.org applying to a visual arts program http://nast.arts-accredit.org applying to a theater arts program http://nasd.arts-accredit.org applying to a dance program http://nasm.arts-accredit.org applying to a music program www.awpwriter.org Useful for students interested in applying to a writing program

Electronic Applications

www.commonapp.org Common Application

Free Online Admissions Essay Writing Course

<u>www.essayedge.com</u> tackle the question; select an essay topic; structure and outline; style; introductions and conclusions; editing and revising

Standardized Testing and Test Preparation

www.revolutionprep.com SAT test prep www.collegeboard.org dates for SAT, register for SAT www.sat.org dates for SAT, register for SAT www.act.org dates for ACT, register for ACT www.princetonreview.com Test prep www.ets.org/TOEFL Register for TOEFL Test www.kaplan.com KAPLAN SAT test prep www.khanacademy.org/test-prep FREE test prep

SAT/ACT Optional College List

www.fairtest.org

MASSColleges

<u>www.masscolleges.org</u> provides information about admissions and financial aid; admission requirements and deadlines; research and data about college

Financial Aid

www.fafsa.gov FAFSA financial aid form www.profileonline.collegeboard.org PROFILE form www.salliemae.org Financial Aid 101, Estimated Family Contribution Calculations, scholarship search www.fastweb.com financial aid search www.mefa.org www.finaid.org

National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

www.nasfaa.org This site provides the best links to sources of information about financial aid on the Internet.

Financial Aid Resources for Students with Disabilities

www.finaid.org/otheraid/disabled.phtml information about scholarships and fellowships for students with physical and/or learning disabilities

Scholarships

www.collegeanswer.com www.fastweb.com www.tuitionfundingsources.com www.collegenet.com www.scholarships.com www.scholarships.org www.scholarshipamerica.org www.collegexpress.com http://lendedu.com/blog/scholarships

Athletics

www.ncaa.org eligibility requirements for athletes www.naia.org National Association for intercollegiate Athletics www.eligibilitycenter.org NCAA Clearinghouse

Armenian Student Association of America

www.asainc.org a non profit organization, provides scholarships to students.

The United Negro College Fund

<u>www.uncf.org</u> nation's largest, oldest, most successful and comprehensive minority higher education assistance organization.

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