



# COLLEGE APPLICATION 101

## Class of 2027

# Senior All Night Party (ANP)

- This event is the night of graduation from 9:00 pm - 2:00 am and it's a surprise to seniors.
- Parents plan the evening. It is suggested a team take the lead and delegate different roles. Role include assisting with ticket sales, fundraising, treasurer, food, prizes, and vendors.
- The PTO will be overseeing the planning and accounting which will be helpful in many ways.
- If interested in helping plan this fabulous event, please email [bhhsanp2026@gmail.com](mailto:bhhsanp2026@gmail.com).
- A meeting will be planned with all interested parents.
- There are many parents that have done it before and will help out!

# College 101 Presentation



Class of 2027

# BHHS Counselor Assignments

Brian Fitzgerald: A-C

Jim Fogle: D-G

Scott Merchant: H-K

Shayna Klein: L-O

Melanie Brooks: P-Si

Tony Midea: Sj-Z

# Counseling Office Supports & Resources

- College Visits
- AP Test Registration (Mrs. Frantz)
- Scholarship Information
- Summer Enrichment Opportunities
- Educational Development Planning
- College Night
- Financial Aid Resources
- College Bootcamp
- Resources on the [Counseling Office Website](#) and Class of 2027 Canvas Page

# Junior Year in Review

This year, students:

- Completed college search activities on Xello:
  - Personality Assessments
  - Skills Assessments
  - College Searches/students received a [Postsecondary Planning Guide](#)
- Researched and learned about colleges of interest and started to think about developing a college list. Students were introduced to resources such as College Board Big Future and Niche. Students received and worked on a resume or activities list
- Focused on academics
- Got involved (or continued involvement) in activities: clubs, organizations, sports, theater/music, art, employment, community service and more

In June, you will receive a letter home regarding your graduation status as well as a final transcript, review this carefully!

# What is the difference between a 2 year College and a 4 year College?

## 2 Year

- Students can earn an Associate's Degree or transfer to a 4 year college
  - Cost less than a 4 year college.
  - Offer vocational degrees & technical degrees
  - Students can earn their general ed. credits (60) then transfer to a 4 year college.
  - Admit all students but placement tests determine level of coursework.

## 4 Year

- A 4 year college is a place where students can earn a Bachelor of Art or Science degree .
  - 4 year colleges cost more than a 2 year colleges.
  - No need to transfer
  - Colleges range from less to more to very selective.
  - Require certain courses, grades & GPA to be admitted
  - Many professional degrees offered.

# Application Platforms: The Common Application vs. University-Specific Applications

## Common Application:

- Same application is accepted by 1,100+ colleges
- Accessed through the Common App website
- Common Application has a mobile app as well
- There are supplemental requirements for some colleges

## College/University-specific Applications:

- Accessed directly through each school's website and only used for that specific school
- Some colleges offer the choice to use the CA or a school-specific application

# Creating a Common Application Account

- Students can create a Common Application account at anytime via the [Common App Website](#), click on “Create an account”
  - We suggest using a personal email address
  - Common App rollover feature: if you start now, only complete the Common App tab
- In addition to completing a college application, you will use the Common App to:
  - Request your counselor in your account to send a transcript & recommendation letter, if needed
  - Request a teacher recommendation letter
  - Others: Coach, Employer, advisor, etc. (not required)





Good afternoon, Shayna!

## Dashboard

### My Common Application

0/7 sections complete

- [Profile](#)
- [Family](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Testing](#)
- [Activities](#)
- [Writing](#)
- [Courses & Grades](#)

### My Colleges

12 colleges on my list

12 in progress

Show colleges

Dashboard

APPLY

My Common Application

My Colleges

EXPLORE

College search

Direct admissions

Financial aid

Settings

Sign out

### My Colleges

Overview

Bowling Green State University

Central Michigan University

Michigan State University

Ole Miss - The University of Mississippi

Salisbury University

University of Detroit Mercy

University of Maryland

University of Michigan

University of Michigan-Dearborn

University of Washington

Wayne State University

Western Michigan University

+ Add a college

My Colleges

+ Add a college

## Overview

[Compare application requirements](#)

Sort by: College name



Bowling Green State University

[Add your term or admission plan](#)

Application - In progress

Show more details



Central Michigan University

[Add your term or admission plan](#)

Application - In progress

Show more details



Michigan State University

[Add your term or admission plan](#)

Application - In progress

Show more details



Ole Miss - The University of Mississippi

[Add your term or admission plan](#)

Application - In progress

Show more details



## My Common Application



Profile



Personal Information



Address



Contact Details



Demographics

Language

Geography and Nationality

Common App Fee Waiver

Family

Education

Testing

Activities

Writing

Courses &amp; Grades

1 college(s) require



## Personal Information

In progress

Legal first/given name \*

Penelope

Would you like to share a different first name that people call you?

 Yes

 No

Clear answer

Middle name

Last/family/surname \*

Peters

Suffix

Do you have any materials under a former legal name? \*

 Yes

 No

Clear answer

Date of birth \*

## Help &amp; support

Search FAQs

Search takes you to the student solution center

## Need help?

Please use the link below to look for an answer to your question. Answers to most questions can...

[Read full answer](#)
[All help topics](#)

## My Colleges

### College information

#### APPLICATION

- General
- Academics
- Contacts
- Citizenship
- Family
- Education / Future Plans
- Personal Information
- Funding
- Testing
- Recommenders and FERPA
- Review and submit application

Apply to Michigan State University

# Michigan State University



[admis@msu.edu](mailto:admis@msu.edu) · Phone (517) 355-8332

426 Auditorium Road, Room 250,  
Hannah Administration Building  
East Lansing, MI 48824  
USA

## Application deadlines

Fall 2026

**Early Action** · November 01, 2025

**Regular Decision** · April 01, 2026

## Links

- [College website](#)
- [Admissions office](#)
- [Financial aid](#)
- [Virtual tour](#)
- [College Navigator](#)



## Other deadline information

Michigan State University continues to accept undergraduate applications as long as space is still available. However, the number of qualified applicants has exceeded available space in recent years, so students should apply by November 1 to ensure highest consideration.

We must receive your complete application (admission application and all **required materials**) by 11:59 p.m. ET on the application submission deadline to be considered for

# Sending Transcripts through Parchment

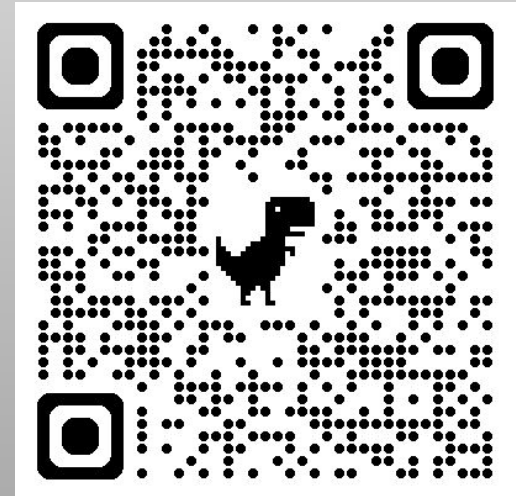
**\*All students must create a Parchment account\***

Parchment is used to send transcripts to various colleges and other organizations, such as scholarship organizations

Use this link to create a [Parchment Account](#) or use the QR code. Scroll down to “Start Here - Enter Your Email Address”. **It is recommended to use a PERSONAL EMAIL address, not Bloomfield**

Requesting a transcript through Parchment is quick and easy.

Parchment can also be used to send your transcript for a scholarship or summer program



## 4 Year Colleges: Factors that Could be Considered for Admission (based on individual college standards)

Academic Achievement	Academic Potential
Rigor & Context	Diversity
Personal Attributes	Geographic Balance
Curriculum and Trend	First Generation/Low-Income
Intellectual Curiosity	Athlete/ Artist
Services & Leadership	Adversity

# Teacher Letters of Recommendation

Look at what is required by the colleges you are applying to. If you need a recommendation letter, initiate a conversation with one or two academic teachers (depending on how many letters are required) who would write a positive letter of recommendation for you.

Speak with a teacher **BEFORE** you leave for the summer

How do you decide which teacher(s) to ask?



## Counselor Letters of Recommendation

If a college requires a letter of recommendation from your counselor, you must complete the Student Questionnaire and have a family member complete the Parent/Guardian Questionnaire (check the college/universities website)

[Student Questionnaire](#)

[Parent/Guardian Questionnaire](#)

# The College Essay/Personal Statement: MYTHS

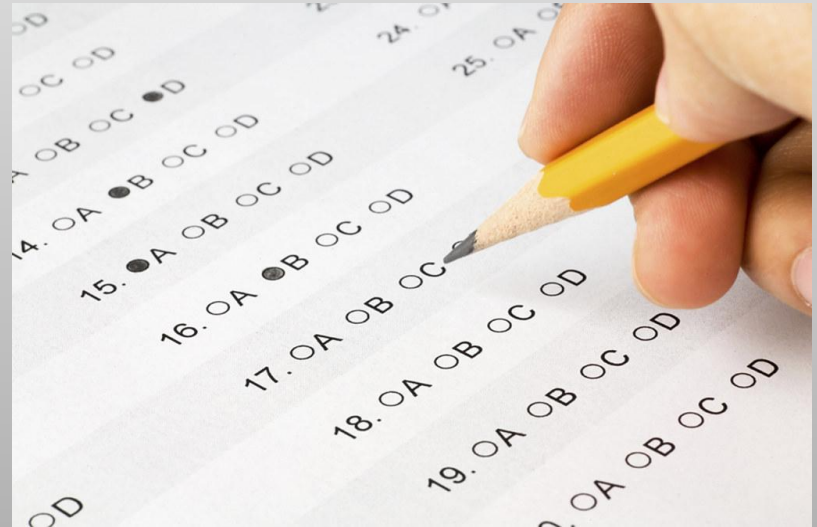
- The essay should sound sophisticated
- Students need an impressive topic
- Admission officers do not read them
- Colleges do not know if students get too much help
- There's a secret formula

# The College Essay/Personal Statement: TIPS

- Understand the prompt
- Brainstorm ideas
- Focus on a theme
- Speak from the heart/use your voice
- Think about “what do I want a college to know about me”
- Have a peer/adult read your work
- Don't use AI!

# What Does it Mean to Apply “Test Optional”?

- Not all colleges will require students to submit an ACT/SAT score to complete an application
- It is your responsibility to monitor application requirements
- One resource that lists test optional schools is [fairtest.org](https://www.fairtest.org)  
[Fair Test Website](https://www.fairtest.org)



**\*We highly advise you ALWAYS double check this on the colleges' websites**

# Which Admissions Deadline Should I Select?



## DEFINITIONS OF ADMISSION OPTIONS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

### STUDENTS: WHICH COLLEGE ADMISSION PROCESS BEST SUITS YOU?

Regular Decision	Rolling Admission	Early Action (EA)	Early Decision (ED)	Restrictive Early Action (REA)
<p><b>DEFINITION:</b></p> <p>Students submit an application by a specified date and receive a decision in a clearly stated period of time.</p>	<p><b>DEFINITION:</b></p> <p>Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render admission decisions throughout the admission cycle.</p>	<p><b>DEFINITION:</b></p> <p>Students apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular response date.</p>	<p><b>DEFINITION:</b></p> <p>Students make a commitment to a first-choice institution where, if admitted they definitely will enroll and withdraw all other applications. The application deadline and decision deadline occur early.</p>	<p><b>DEFINITION:</b></p> <p>Students apply to an institution of preference and receive a decision early. They may be restricted from applying ED or EA or REA to other institutions. If offered enrollment, they have until May 1 to confirm.</p>
<p><b>COMMITMENT:</b></p> <p>NON-BINDING</p>	<p><b>COMMITMENT:</b></p> <p>NON-BINDING</p>	<p><b>COMMITMENT:</b></p> <p>NON-BINDING</p>	<p><b>COMMITMENT:</b></p> <p>BINDING</p>	<p><b>COMMITMENT:</b></p> <p>NON-BINDING</p>
<p>Students are not restricted from applying to other institutions and have until May 1 to consider their options and confirm enrollment.</p>			<p>Students are responsible for determining and following restrictions.</p>	



# NCAA

- If you are planning to participate in Division 1 or 2 collegiate-level athletics you will need to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center. If you have not, you should do so **before the school year ends** (transcripts sent to the NCAA in June).
- Website: [NCAA Eligibility Center](#)
- BHHS CEEB School Code: 232447
- It is your responsibility to track and monitor NCAA requirements



NAIA

- If you are planning to participate in NAIA collegiate-level athletics you will need to register with the NAIA Eligibility Center. If you have not, you should do so **before the school year ends** (transcripts will be sent to the NAIA in June).
- Website: [PlayNAIA](https://www.playnaia.com)
- NAIA Eligibility Center ACT/SAT code is 9876
- BHHS CEEB School Code: 232447
- It is your responsibility to track and monitor NAIA requirements

# Things To Do Over the Summer

- Take advantage of the summer to visit colleges
- Complete [Student & Parent/Guardian Questionnaire](#) (only if a counselor letter is required by the college).
- Do some community service, participate in an internship, get a job, etc
- Create a resume or activities list. Templates: Google, Canva, etc
  - This can be a helpful resource for your teacher or counselor



# Things To Do Over the Summer

**\*\*It is not recommended to send your application to a college before school starts in the fall\*\***

- Create an application account and begin working. Only work on the Common App tab until August 1
  - Completely updated Common App opens August 1
  - Use an appropriate email address
- Follow directions carefully
  - Provide the information that is requested
- For non-Common App schools, watch for the Fall 2027 college applications to be posted to college websites (July/ August)
- Create a Parchment account (if you have not done so already)
- [\*\*SIGN UP HERE\*\*](#) to attend summer College Boot Camp on August 3

# Fall: Application Process & Tasks



- Attend mandatory senior meeting in September
- Create your Parchment account if you have not already done so
- You must request a copy of your transcript through your Parchment account to review for accuracy. Errors should be reported to the teacher
- Send ACT/SAT, if applicable
- If you have not yet created your Common App or other college application account, do so ASAP
- Watch deadlines and do not wait until the last minute to submit
- Transcripts will not be sent before the senior meeting regardless of when you added your counselor to your Common App

# After Applications are Submitted...

- RELAX AND TAKE A DEEP BREATH!
- Don't catch senioritis – stay healthy and do well
- **Check the status of your application (transcript/rec letters, etc) on your Common App AND each college's online portal** to make sure your application is complete – **THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT**

When in doubt, call the college directly

Be patient, it may take some time for your application status to be updated

**\*Junior year gets you in,  
senior year keeps you in!\***

# Outcomes: Admitted, Deferred, Postponed, Waitlisted?

<b>Admitted</b>	<b>Deferred/Postponed</b>	<b>Waitlisted</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Congratulations! If you plan to attend, submit your deposit and enroll</li><li>● If you know you will not attend, withdraw your application</li><li>● If you applied ED, you MUST withdraw all other applications</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● The school has not made a decision yet</li><li>● They might want more information such as a transcript, updated information, letter of continued interest, etc.</li><li>● Your application has been moved to the next review cycle and you will receive a final decision in the spring</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● You were admissible, but the college is out of space</li><li>● Respond to confirm if you want to accept your spot on the waitlist</li><li>● Send in your deposit to another school and get <u>EXCITED</u> about it</li><li>● Admission off a waitlist is highly unlikely</li></ul>

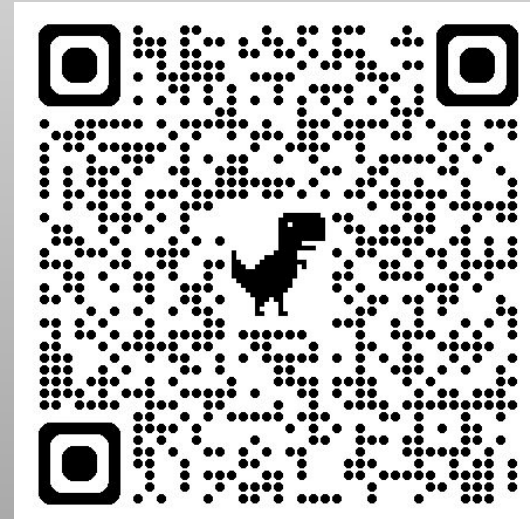
## College Decisions



- As soon as you have made a decision on which school you will attend, send a deposit right away
- Inform the schools whose offer you are declining that you will not be attending. This helps for admission of deferred students

# Summer/Fall 2026 Events & Opportunities

- [Sign up here](#) or use the QR code to register for College Boot Camp on August 3. Only STUDENTS can sign up, parents cannot register for their students, deadline to register is July 1
- College Night: October 2026 (date TBD)
- Financial Aid Night: September 28
- College Rep Visits – During school day
- Attend in-person or virtual campus tours
- Apply for scholarships



# Staying Informed and Connected

## **EMAIL**

Counselors will be doing a great deal of corresponding with students using your Bloomfield email account. You **MUST** check your Bloomfield email regularly and frequently to stay informed and updated on various items

## **CANVAS PAGE**

Use the resources on your Class of 2027 Canvas page for support and information. Stop and **READ** your Canvas email announcements!

# Paying for College

- Scholarships:
  - Canvas
  - Colleges' Websites
  - [Fastweb](#)
  - [Appily](#)
  - [Niche](#)
  - [Student Scholarships](#)
- BHHS Counseling Website: Financial Aid & Financial Aid Night
- FAFSA
- State of Michigan: [MiSSG](#)



# Helpful Resources

[College Board Big Future](#)

[Niche](#)

[Common App Help Page](#)

[Exploring Colleges](#)

[Common App Essay Prompts](#)

[College Essay Guy Resources](#)

[NACAC Resources for Students](#)

[Test Optional Schools & Information](#)

[Planning for College](#)

[Free Essay Writing Resources](#)

[Parent/Guardian Questionnaire](#)

[Student Questionnaire](#)

[Understanding College Application](#)

[Deadlines](#)

[Teacher Letter of Recommendation](#)

[Brag Sheet](#)

Thank You For Attending!

Have a

Wonderful Summer!

