

Chardon



Senior FAQ
Class of 2024

Senior Google Classrooms

Guidance Class of 2024:

Class Code – 6jdlikt

Class of 2024 Graduation Seals:

Class Code – zmjcz7w



FAQ Overview

- What is the college application timeline?
- Should I retake my ACT?
- What does test optional mean & when to use it?
- What do the application deadline terms mean?
 - Early Decision, Early Action, Rolling Admission
- What is the Common App?
 - When to use Common App vs direct institution application
- What is Naviance?
- Do I need letters of recommendation?
 - How many? Who do I ask? How do they get uploaded?
- When do I complete the FAFSA?
- How do I apply for scholarships & where to look?
- What are some common mistakes?
- What comes next?



What is the college application timeline?

September–November:

- Senior meetings with school counselor
- Complete Bio Form & share with recommenders/counselor
- Finalize college lists
- College visits/fairs
- Register/retake ACT (if desired)
- Create Common App account (if applicable)
- Match Naviance to Common App
- Request transcripts in Naviance
- Request letters of recommendation (if applicable)
- Submit applications before deadlines
 - **November 1st** – important deadline for many



What is the college application timeline?

December-February:

- Attend Financial Aid night
- Complete FAFSA
- Apply for scholarships
- Register with NCAA (Division I or II sports)
- Continue college visits

March-May:

- Review financial aid packages
- Finalize decision &
- Notify school of commitment/submit financial deposit
- Request final transcript
- NCAA final transcript (if applicable)



Should I retake my ACT?

- Personal decision
- When you'll receive your score/application deadline

2023-2024 Test Dates (National)

Test Date	Regular Registration Deadline Late Fee Applies After This Date	Late Registration Deadline
September 9, 2023	August 4	August 18
October 28, 2023	September 22	October 6
December 9, 2023	November 3	November 17
February 10, 2024	January 5	January 19
April 13, 2024	March 8	March 22
June 8, 2024	May 3	May 17
July 13, 2024*	June 7	June 21



What does test optional mean?

Many colleges and universities adopted test optional policies due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Most colleges and universities still have test optional policies for the Class of 2024 students.

Things to consider:

- Is your score an accurate reflection of your academic achievement?
- How does your score compare to the average score of the college
- Merit based scholarships
- College class placement
- CHS transcript with test scores

*It is important to know that once you decide to go test optional you cannot change your decision.



What do application certain terms mean?

<u>Early Decision</u>	<u>Early Action</u>	<u>Rolling Admissions</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• COMMITS a student to go to that school• Is a contract between the student and the school• Student promises, with acceptance to this school, to withdraw all other applications• Student can apply Early Decision to only one school	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Student applies to an institution of preference• Not a contract between student and school• Student is not obligated to accept school's offer• Student will typically receive decision well in advance of school's regular response date	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Receives and responds to college applications during a larger window of time or "as they roll in."• Most schools have a few rolling admissions dates throughout the year.• Earlier is always better - scholarships!



What is Common App?

- Helpful tool for students who are applying to multiple colleges at once
- Saves time
- All application requirements in one location
- Recommended to use if applying to 3+ schools
- Requires college essay
- Direct institution application if:
 - Applying to 1 or 2 schools
 - Plan on attending a community college
 - Know which school they are attending
- FERPA release/agreement
- Use a personal email address



What is Naviance?

A web-based program to which CHS has subscribed to help students with college and career readiness. Students can use it to search for colleges, scholarships, and learn about careers/majors.

College Application Uses:

- Enrollment statistics for colleges and universities
- Matches with Common App
- Requests for transcripts
- Letters of recommendation
- Status updates on requests information



Do I need letters of recommendation?

Whether you need letters of recommendation, how many, and what kind/from whom will be differ for each college or university

- Optional vs required
- Maximum number permitted
- When to submit optional letters....considerations
- Who to ask - teachers (think of major), coaches, advisors
- How to ask (in person first!)
- Where to submit request
 - Common App - outside of district
 - Naviance - CLSD teacher

*Don't forget to share your completed Bio Form!



When do I complete the FAFSA?

The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is the form you need to complete to receive any financial aid from the federal government to help pay for college. Colleges and universities use this information to guide the student's financial aid packages.

The FAFSA is undergoing major changes. Typically it's available after October 1st, but this year it will not be available until **December**.

LEAF will host a Financial Aid Night for CHS parents and students in December once we know when the FAFSA will be available.

Christine Jankowski (LEAF) is here every Friday to meet with seniors!



How do I apply for scholarships?

Mrs. Giddings posts local scholarship information in the Guidance Class of 2024 Google Classroom regularly. We also have a scholarship wall by Mrs. Giddings' desk in the media center counseling office.

Most local scholarships are due between January and March.

Naviance has scholarship search features for national scholarships (colleges > scholarships & money)

Check college specific scholarships, major/career-related scholarships, clubs & organizations for scholarships. Apply, apply, apply!



What are common application mistakes?

- Failing to meet college deadlines
- Not requesting transcripts through Naviance
- Forgetting to submit applications
- Misspelling and grammatical errors
- Misreading application directions
- Giving inaccurate information
- Using your Chardon email address in applications
- Not regularly checking your email
- Having a parent complete your application
- Not communicating with your school counselor



I applied to colleges, now what?

- Continue to visit colleges – Many schools will have Accepted Student Days or offer overnight visits. You can even sit in on classes!
- Review financial aid packages, talk to those in the Financial Aid offices at your potential colleges
- Meet with LEAF at CHS
- Apply for scholarships!
- Regularly check personal and Chardon emails
- Maintain grades – postpone Senioritis!



Important Dates:

- October 13th & 16th - No School - Great Days for College Visits!
- October 20th - Capstone Project Proposals are due
- November 1 - Early Action deadline for many schools
- December TBD - Financial Aid Night at CHS
- March 5th - Capstone Day
- May 1st - College Decision Deadline
- May 3rd - Final Capstone documents are due
- May 9th (tentative) - Senior Award Night
- May 25th - GRADUATION!



What Questions Can We Answer?

