



# Senior Year Overview

## Outcomes

- Students & families will know appropriate times to complete tasks throughout their Senior year, and understand postsecondary terminology
- Families will know how to support their students through the postsecondary planning process.
- Students will know their responsibilities & expectations when applying for postsecondary options.

## Senior Year Overview



## Senior Week Recap

- Students participated in Senior Week Presentations on Aug. 25 & 26 (in their Comm Arts classes)
- Presentation including information on:
  - Adding colleges to their SchoolLinks account
  - Requesting letters of recommendation within SchoolLinks
  - Signing-up for NNHS College Visits
- [Senior Week FlowDoc](#)

## Senior Year Overview





# **College Applications**



EASTERN ILLINOIS™



Columbia  
COLLEGE CHICAGO



Best School vs. Best Fit



Early Decision	Restrictive Early Action	Early Action / Priority	Regular Decision	Rolling Admission
<b>BINDING</b>	NON-BINDING	NON-BINDING	NON-BINDING	NON-BINDING
Students make a commitment to a first choice college. If admitted under Early Decision, the student must attend.	Students apply to a school of preference, and receive an earlier decision. Students may be restricted from applying ED or EA to other schools	Students apply early to a school or schools, and receive an earlier decision, ahead of the regular decision deadline	Last possible deadline a student can apply and still be considered for admission to a university.	Schools review applications as they are submitted, and issue admission decisions on a rolling basis.

# Application Deadlines



# COLLEGE-BOUND ATHLETES

- Find your high school's list of NCAA-approved core courses at [eligibilitycenter.org/courselist](https://eligibilitycenter.org/courselist).
- Check with your counselor or Ms. Murray to make sure you are on track to complete the required number of NCAA-approved courses and graduate on time with your class.
- Register for a Profile Page or Certification Account with the NCAA Eligibility Center at [eligibilitycenter.org](https://eligibilitycenter.org) and or and or register with the NAIA eligibility center at [PlayNAIA.org](https://PlayNAIA.org).

**Click here for more details**

[25-26 College-Bound Athletes](#)





Transcripts will not be sent out to colleges until the week of **Sept. 15**

**Requesting Transcripts**







**When will I know if I'm accepted?**



- You have NOT been accepted, but you are “admissible” if there is room later.
- **Make other plans!**
- Questions? Call the college’s admissions office.

**Waitlisted: What does this mean?!**





# Supporting Your Senior

## Visiting Colleges



- There is great value in seeing a college in person!
- Check a school's Admissions Office website about upcoming visit opportunities.
- Make sure if you visit a campus, you make it "official"
  - Either take an official tour from Admissions, or visit the Admissions Office to let them know you are on campus (**Demonstrated Interest**)

**Supporting Your Senior**

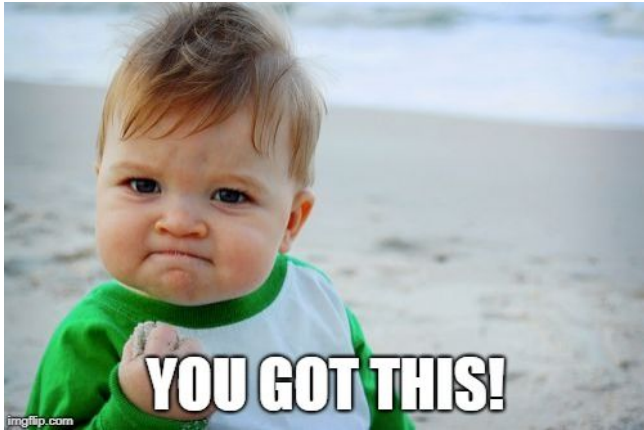


- FYI: State of Illinois Financial Aid Graduation Requirement
- **2026-27 FAFSA**
  - Received a MAJOR overhaul in 2023-24 School Year
  - Will not be available until October 1, 2025
- Net Price Calculators
- 3rd Party (National) Scholarships
- Watch Out for Scholarship Scams

**Supporting Your Senior**



# Social / Emotional Support



- **Encourage** your student(s) during postsecondary planning and research
- **Be supportive and communicate openly** with your student(s)
- **Be patient** with your student(s) throughout this process - this takes time

## Supporting Your Senior





# Senior Responsibilities



- **Every college/university has their own set of requirements for admission**
- **Follow their directions *carefully***
  - Schools look to see how well you follow directions
  - Don't send more, unless a school asks for more
  - Reach out to the college directly if you need clarification
- **Check the Letter of Rec Requirements**
  - **DO NOT** ask for a letter of rec if your schools do not need a letter
  - **DO NOT** ask for more letters than a school requires

# Senior Responsibilities



- **Make sure you submit your applications early**
  - On-time is too late
- **Make sure you submit all necessary documents**
  - Transcript
  - Test Scores (SAT, ACT, etc.) - *if required*
  - Letters of Recommendation (ONLY if needed)
- **Make sure to thank those who write you a letter of rec.**

# Senior Responsibilities



## Clean Up Social Media



**Senior Responsibilities**



- [NCompass](#)  
Dist. 203 Postsecondary Planning Guide
- [In-School College Visits](#)  
Instructions on how students can attend in-school college visits
  - [Upcoming College Visits](#) (Calendar for the next week)
  - [Upcoming College Visits](#) (Alpha list of ALL upcoming visits)
- [On-Campus College Visit Tips](#)  
Tips for students planning to visit college campuses
- [Guide for College-Bound Athletes \(NCAA / NAIA\)](#)

## Additional Resources



***Sign-up for the new NNHS Student Services Remind Group!***

**Text @nnhsdoss to 81010**

**REMIND**





# Upcoming Opportunities

- **Sept. 11: Financial Aid Night @ NNHS (NPAC)**  
A dedicated night for Dist. 203 Seniors & their families to receive updates regarding financial aid, including the 2026-27 FAFSA
- **Sept. 13: [NACAC National College Fair @ Navy Pier \(Chicago\)](#)**  
A national college fair, featuring more than 200 colleges & universities from across the country.
- **Oct. 14: [Illinois Regional College Fair @ College of DuPage \(Glen Ellyn\)](#)**  
Another college fair opportunity, bringing in additional colleges & universities from across the country.
- **Nov 6: 2nd Annual Career Takeover (NNHS)**  
An even more robust program to help students in exploring postsecondary career opportunities!



# Evening Schedule

Room	Session 1 (6:00 - 6:35pm)	Session 2 (6:40 - 7:15pm)	Session 3 (7:20 - 7:55pm)
Large Cafe	Senior Year Overview	What's Next?	What's Next?
Small Cafe	Junior Timeline	Postsecondary Resources	Postsecondary Resources
Learning Commons	Sophomore Timeline	Counselor Connection (A - Lez)	Counselor Connection (Lf - Z)

## Next Sessions

