

John F. Kennedy High School  
Senior Post-Secondary Planning Guide



**Class of 2021**



# Welcome to Your Senior Year!

As you enter your last year of high school, you will begin the steps to transition into your post-secondary opportunities. Whether you choose to go to an institution of higher education (either a two- or four-year college or university), the military, an apprenticeship program, and/or the workforce, you will have to start preparing yourself **NOW**. This booklet provides information for the various pathways you may choose.

## GOING TO A COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY

For those planning to attend a college or university, there are multiple steps to complete in the application process. The components involved in submitting a college application are:

- Naviance
- The college application
- College admissions tests (ACT or SAT)
- Transcript requests
- Financial aid applications and scholarships

### Naviance

Naviance is a tool available to all students to research and select colleges, track the progress of the college application, monitor transcripts, and request teacher recommendation letters. Students are required to create a login and complete tasks throughout their high school years. Please do the following:

- Obtain a username and password from the College and Career Center Coordinator
- Go to <https://student.naviance.com/kennedy>
- Click on “Colleges”
- Click on “SuperMatch”
- Enter the search criteria of your interest (ex. Location, Academics (Major), Cost) and review the matches. Click “Colleges I’m Thinking About” if you are interested in that college.
- Once you have a list of colleges, you can move them to “Colleges I’m Applying To”.
- Complete a Student Self-Evaluation Brag Sheet form in Naviance (About Me → Surveys)

### The College Application

College applications are the responsibility of the student. Many colleges and universities require students to submit their application online, but there are multiple ways to do so. The following are ways students can submit their applications to colleges or universities.

- **College or University Websites** usually have an online application for potential students to submit electronically. These websites will also notify applicants to other application platforms if necessary.
- **Common App** is the most popular college application website; it has over 700 colleges and universities as members. NOTE: Although you may be applying to multiple schools through this one site, each separate application has a fee. For more information, go to [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org).
- **Coalition for College** is another platform available to students to apply to 140 distinguished colleges and universities, *including the University of Maryland, College Park*. As with the Common App, each individual application has their own separate fee. For more information, go to [www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org](http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org).
- The **Black Common Application** is an application platform representing over 50 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). There is a one-time \$35.00 fee to apply to as many as 50 colleges. For more information, go to <https://commonblackcollegeapp.com>.

- **Hard copy applications** are used by some colleges and universities and must be mailed to the school. This information will be indicated on the college's website.

## ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS FOR THE COLLEGE APPLICATION:

### Teacher Recommendation Letters

- In Naviance, select teachers who have agreed to write recommendations on your behalf (Colleges I'm applying to → Teacher recommendations → Add). In the "Personal Note to Teacher" box, indicate the colleges to which you would like the teacher recommendation letter to be sent. Teachers will upload recommendation letters to Naviance to be sent electronically with your transcript.
- If the college does not accept documents electronically, you will need to provide the JFK Registrar with a stamped #10 envelope addressed to each school.

### College Essay

- Some colleges will require a college essay. They are usually between 250-600 words in length. Here are some common essay prompt questions:
  - Tell a story from your life, describing an experience that either demonstrates your character or helped to shape it.
  - Describe a time when you made a meaningful contribution to others in which the greater good was your focus. Discuss the challenges and rewards of making your contribution.
  - Has there been a time when you've had a long-cherished or accepted belief challenged? How did you respond? How did the challenge affect your beliefs?
  - What is the hardest part of being a teenager now? What's the best part? What advice would you give a younger sibling or friend (assuming they would listen to you)?

### *College Admissions Tests and Score Reports*

If you are planning on applying to any four-year college, you should take the ACT or SAT during the spring of your junior year and again during fall of your senior year. Most four-year colleges require either ACT or SAT scores as part of their application process. You should consult with your counselor to help determine which test you should take and when you should take it. For colleges that require the ACT or SAT, you have to send your scores directly to the colleges from the College Board or ACT websites.

Registration materials for all tests are available online or in the College and Career Center. If financial help is needed for testing fees, see the College and Career Coordinator for details. Fee waivers are available for students who meet specified eligibility requirements only. Waivers may be applied to the SAT, ACT, TOEFL, NCAA Clearinghouse registration, and College Application fees.

For 2-year colleges, you may be required to take the Accuplacer Test. The Accuplacer is a placement test to determine if you fit the criteria of being "College Ready". THIS TEST DOES NOT AFFECT YOUR ACCEPTANCE INTO A COLLEGE! It is a determinant for course levels once you enter that college.

## SAT vs. ACT

SAT or ACT? Do you know which test is right for you? Colleges accept both tests equally, so the choice is up to you! Here's what you need to know to compare the exams.

	SAT	ACT
<b>WHY TAKE IT</b>	Colleges use SAT scores for admissions and merit-based scholarships.	Colleges use ACT scores for admissions and merit-based scholarships.
<b>TEST STRUCTURE</b>	3 tests: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Math</li> <li>• Reading</li> <li>• Writing and Language</li> </ul> Essay (Optional)	4 tests: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Math</li> <li>• Reading</li> <li>• English</li> <li>• Science</li> </ul> Essay (Optional)
<b>LENGTH</b>	3 hours (without essay) 3 hours, 50 minutes (with essay)	2 hours, 55 minutes (without essay) 3 hours, 40 minutes (with essay)
<b>READING</b>	5 reading passages	4 reading passages
<b>SCIENCE</b>	None	1 science section testing your critical thinking skills (not your specific science knowledge)
<b>MATH</b>	Covers: Arithmetic, Algebra I & II, Geometry, Trigonometry, and Data Analysis	Covers: Arithmetic, Algebra I & II, Geometry, and Trigonometry
<b>TOOLS</b>	Some math questions don't allow you to use a calculator.	You can use a calculator on all math questions.
<b>ESSAYS</b>	Optional. The essay will test your comprehension of a source text.	Optional. The essay will test how well you evaluate and analyze complex issues.
<b>HOW IT'S SCORED</b>	Scored on a scale of 400–1600	Scored on a scale of 1–36

—The Princeton Review, March 2016

### Anticipated SAT and ACT Dates

SAT	ACT
June 6, 2020	June 13, 2020
August 29, 2020	July 18, 2020
October 3, 2020	September 12, 2020
November 7, 2020	October 24, 2020
December 5, 2020	December 12, 2020
March 13, 2021	February 6, 2021
May 8, 2021	April 17, 2021
	June 12, 2021

## College Transcript Request-Step by Step Guide

Each student will have a high school transcript created for them. A transcript is a grade sheet listing all high school courses completed with the final grades and credits earned for each semester. It also provides the student's cumulative (unweighted) and weighted grade point averages (GPA). Most colleges and universities will require an **official** copy of a student's transcript.

For each request, the Registrar will prepare a packet to be sent to colleges that includes:

- A. High school transcript
- B. John F. Kennedy High School Profile
- C. Secondary School Report, if required
- D. Letter(s) of Recommendation, if required, provided by your school counselor upon request through Naviance

Here are the steps to have an official transcript sent to a college or university:

### 1) Naviance

- Click on "Colleges"
- Click on "Colleges I am applying to". **ONLY LIST COLLEGES FOR WHICH YOU WILL BE REQUESTING A TRANSCRIPT.**
- Make note of application deadlines, application types (i.e., submission through Common App, eDocs, or by mail), and application fees.

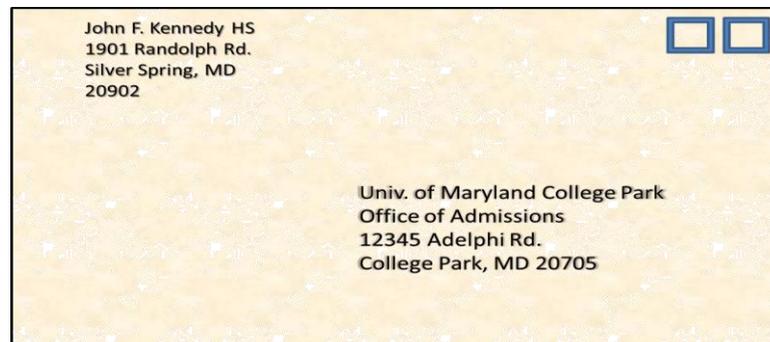
### 2) If it's a Common App College or University

- Create a Common App account at [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)
- **Use your personal email account.**
- Complete all three sections for each college (Questions; Recommenders & FERPA; Review)
- Complete all six Common App sections (Profile, Family, Education, Testing, Activities, Writing)
- **IN NAVIANCE!** List Common App schools (Required: My college → College search)
- Match Common Application to Naviance

### 3) Registrar's Office

- Submit one "Transcript Release" form to authorize the release of your transcript to colleges
- Submit one "Registrar Checklist" for the college application process.
- Submit a "Request for Transcript" form for *each* college listed in Naviance
- **PLEASE ALLOW FOUR WEEKS FOR PROCESSING AND MAILING!**
- If your school only accepts transcripts by mail, please submit a #10 (business sized) envelope addressed to the school you are requesting. **DO NOT WRITE A RETURN ADDRESS.**

Example:



#### 4) Transcript Fees

- First two transcripts are free. Any additional college transcripts are \$3.00 each.

#### 5) Scholarships

- Complete the "Request for Transcript" form and submit to the Registrar's office. All scholarship transcript requests are free of charge.

#### 6) Mid-Year Transcript

- If your school requires a mid-year transcript, please complete a "Mid-Year Request" form and submit to the Registrar's Office. There is no charge for this transcript. **NOT ALL SCHOOLS REQUIRE THIS TRANSCRIPT.**

#### 7) Final Transcripts

- If your school requires a final transcript, please also complete the "Final Transcript Request" form and submit to the Registrar's Office. There is no charge for this transcript. **NOT ALL SCHOOLS REQUIRE A FINAL TRANSCRIPT.**
- Provide a stamped #10 envelope addressed to the school you will be attending in the fall.
- Inform the College and Career Coordinator with your final list of college decisions, scholarship offers, and the school you plan to attend next fall.

### Financial Aid and Scholarships

#### FAFSA®

Students who are seeking financial aid to help pay for college will need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®). The FAFSA® is a federal application that gathers financial information about the student and their family to determine the student's financial need. Students are awarded grants, scholarships, loans and/or work-study programs based on their Expected Family Contribution. The FAFSA® application opens on October 1, 2020 and funding is first come, first serve. To get started, go to <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/FAFSA>.

#### MDCAPS

MDCAPS is the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC)'s comprehensive financial aid system that allows us to process Maryland state scholarship applications and allocate funds more efficiently using today's technology. MDCAPS is based on your FAFSA information. To use MDCAPS, you must first create a student login profile. To get started with a profile, go to <https://mdcaps.mhec.state.md.us>. Next, click "Create a Student Login" located below the yellow [Login] button on that page.

#### What features does MDCAPS offer?

Apply online for certain scholarship programs	Transfer and Add Schools
Check your To Do List	Change Enrollment Status
Check your Application Status	Change Housing Status
See if MHEC has received your FAFSA®	Send Help Requests to MHEC staff
Accept or Decline Awards	Update Your Contact Information
Check Award and Payment Status	And more!

Visit the following website for Maryland State Financial Assistance programs and applications:

<http://mhec.maryland.gov/preparing/Pages/FinancialAid/descriptions.aspx>

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are funds awarded to a student typically on the basis of academic merit, economic need, or community service. Scholarships are offered directly from the college, from an application, or through FAFSA®. Websites like [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) and [www.myscholly.com](http://www.myscholly.com) allow students to create a profile and match scholarships to their profile. They will send emails informing students of any additional scholarships that the student may qualified for.

## More information about college

Do you know the difference between a two-year vs. a four-year college or university?

**College vs. university:** In general, a college offers education in one specific area with various majors and does not have graduate school. A university offers many different schools within the university (i.e., School of Business, School of Medicine). Universities also have graduate programs where students can obtain Master's, Doctoral, and other graduate degrees.

**Four-year vs. two-year:** Four-year colleges or universities allow students to obtain, at minimum, a bachelor's degree for about 120 credit hours or more depending on the program and major. Two-year community colleges only require about 60 credit hours and allow students to obtain an associate's degree or certificate in a specific area. Most two-year community colleges have open admission. Test Optional schools do not require standardized test scores as part of the application process.

**Montgomery College:** Students applying to Montgomery College (MC) should apply online at [www.montgomerycollege.edu](http://www.montgomerycollege.edu) by March 1<sup>st</sup> and will automatically be eligible for an application fee waiver. Students attending MC do not need to take the SAT or other standardized tests, but instead take the Accuplacer. The Accuplacer is a College Board-affiliated placement test that measures students reading and math skills. It helps advisors know which classes students should be placed in as a freshman. Students can register for the Accuplacer at MC or at Kennedy High School in the College and Career Center. Students may be eligible to place into college level courses without taking the Accuplacer; check with the College and Career Coordinator for details.

## Additional Pathways

### **Enlisting in the Military**

Enlisting in military service right after high school is an option. The U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard provide job training in many fields, as well as opportunities for enlistees to take some college-level courses. The services can also help you build a college fund (Montgomery GI Bill).

The National Guard consists of two components: The Army National Guard (ARNG) and the Air National Guard (ANG). Its mission is to serve the state in times of natural disaster or civil disturbance, and the nation in time of war. Flexible scheduling makes it possible to serve one weekend per month and two weeks in the summer. Educational benefits are also offered by the U.S. National Guard.

Each service sets its own enlistment qualifications. Contact your local recruiters for information or visit their websites regarding qualifications and program opportunities. For additional information see the Military Career Guide at [www.militarycareers.com](http://www.militarycareers.com).

### **Applying to an Apprenticeship Program**

For students interested in learning a trade or receiving a certification or a license, there are apprenticeship programs. An apprenticeship is a paid period of training that allows you to learn a particular skill or set of skills. For more information, please go to <https://www.dol.gov/apprenticeship/toolkit/toolkitfaq.htm>.

### **Entering the Workforce**

The workforce provides current students with an opportunity to earn wages right after high school. Finding a job can be a job within itself. There are several websites that post employment opportunities such as [www.indeed.com](http://www.indeed.com), [www.monster.com](http://www.monster.com) and [www.ziprecruiter.com](http://www.ziprecruiter.com). Students may also want to take advantage of youth employment services and opportunities. WorkSource Montgomery is an organization that helps Montgomery County residents with career development. They offer services such as:

- Job preparation skills
- Apprenticeship opportunities
- Interview coaching/mock interviews
- Training opportunities
- Resume building
- Parenting workshops

## FAFSA® Glossary of Terms

**Award Letter** A notice from a financial aid office to a financial aid applicant that specifies the financial aid programs and dollar amount of each financial aid award.

**Bursar** The on-campus office where you pay your tuition and associated fees.

**Cost of Attendance** The total sum of a student's tuition, room/board, books, supplies, transportation, associated loan fees, and any other expenses.

**CSS/Financial Aid Profile** The CSS profile is information collected by the College Board in order for colleges to award non-federal student aid funds. Students are charged a nonrefundable registration fee for each college or scholarship program to which information is sent, unless they qualify for a fee waiver. Not required by all schools.

**Expected Family Contribution (EFC)** This amount indicates how much money the government estimates a student and family can afford to contribute toward the year's college costs. Income, assets, benefits, family size, and the number of family members in college are figured into the EFC. Most schools leave a "gap" or "unmet need" between the EFC and the student's aid award.

**FAFSA® Renewal** If you've already completed your FAFSA® in a previous year, you're eligible for a FAFSA® Renewal form. There is much less work involved with this form, as it mostly requires the student to simply update the information entered on their original FAFSA®.

**Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)** This form must be filled out in order to receive federal financial aid such as grants, loans, and work-study jobs. *For the 2019-2020 school year, it may be submitted beginning October 1, 2019, but some forms of aid are first come, first serve. So, the sooner you apply the better!* Also, remember that the FAFSA® is just an application – there is no such thing as a FAFSA® loan. Federal student loans such as the Stafford loan and PLUS loan are what you apply for after filing the FAFSA®.

### **FSA ID**

- A FSA ID gives you access to Federal Student Aid's online systems and can serve as your legal signature.
- Only create a FSA ID using your own personal information and for your own exclusive use. Both the student and the parent/legal guardian must create their own FSA IDs.
- To create your own personal FSA ID, go to <http://fsaid.ed.gov>.

- Sign your FAFSA®, Renewal FAFSA® or Corrections on the web electronically (no paper signature page needed).
- View the status and/or results of your FAFSA®, Renewal FAFSA® or Corrections on the web
- Access the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) website ([www.nsls.ed.gov](http://www.nsls.ed.gov)) and view information about loans and other federal student aid you may have received.
- Access the Direct Loan Servicing website ([www.dl.ed.gov](http://www.dl.ed.gov)) and view information about Direct Loans you may have received.
- Access the Direct Loan Consolidation website ([www.loanconsolidation.ed.gov](http://www.loanconsolidation.ed.gov)) to track the processing status of your online Consolidation Loan application.

**IRS Retrieval Tool** The IRS Data Retrieval Tool allows students and parents to access the IRS tax return information needed to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®), and transfer the data directly into their FAFSA® from the IRS Web site.

If you are eligible to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool, we highly recommend using the tool for several reasons:

- It's the easiest way to provide your tax data.
- It's the best way of ensuring that your FAFSA® has accurate tax information.
- You won't need to provide a copy of your or your parents' tax returns to your college.

**School Codes** The distinct six-digit number associated with each college. It is required for the FAFSA®. Students can look the school code up on the FAFSA® site or by searching the College website. Kennedy's school code is 210960.

**Signature Page** If you choose not to sign your FAFSA® electronically, then you (and at least one parent, if you are a dependent student) can sign a paper signature page. For renewing your FAFSA® or making corrections online, a signature page from the parent of dependent students is necessary only if parental data is provided or altered.

**Student Aid Report (SAR)** A document you receive after your FAFSA® is processed. Your SAR will list all of the answers you provided on your FAFSA®. You should review these answers carefully to make sure they are correct. If you need to make any changes, you can do so on the SAR and mail it back to the address provided, or you can go to [www.FAFSA.ed.gov](http://www.FAFSA.ed.gov) and select "Make Corrections to a Processed FAFSA®" from the FAFSA® Follow-up section.

**W2** IRS form that is sent your employer and includes salary information and taxes withheld for the prior year.

## College Glossary of Terms

**Advisor** Advisors help college students select courses that put them on the path to graduating on time and fulfilling major/minor requirements. Counselors at larger schools may have more students under their watch, so students have to ask for help early.

**AP** Advanced Placement courses are classes offered at high schools that mimic the course load of an introductory college course. A student may receive college credit if they pass the AP test at the end of the year. AP course offerings vary by school, but there is a test in virtually every academic subject – World Languages, English, History, Physics, Biology, Calculus, Statistics and Art, among others.

**Articulation Agreement** Some colleges will create a plan to ease a students' transition from a two-year program to a four-year. Some of these agreements will allow students to complete two years at a local two-year school and then transfer to a four-year campus with third-year standing. Others will streamline the application process so that a student would be granted acceptance if they hold a certain GPA. For specifics on the agreements, see the two-year school's guidance office.

**Associate's Degree** Students receive an associate's degree after completing coursework at a two-year college. Many popular jobs require this degree, including physical therapist assistant, web designer, paralegal, mechanic, cosmetologist, veterinary technician, registered nurse, administrative assistant, dental hygienist. You can also use your associate degree to jump into a bachelor's degree.

**Bachelor's Degree** Students receive a bachelor's degree after completing coursework at a four-year college or university. Teachers, journalists, engineers, translators, interpreters, account managers and copywriters all need bachelor's degrees. It is also required if you want to pursue a master's degree or a professional degree.

**Credit** Colleges and universities measure classes by credit, usually by how much time and work is required. Students must earn a certain number of credits to graduate, and they must accumulate a certain number of credits in one area to earn a major. Class standing usually depends on the number of credits collected, not the number of years completed.

**Drop** Most colleges and universities will allow you to drop a class if you do not like it or if you are not doing well in it. Each school has its own deadlines, so make sure you are aware of the latest date you may drop a class. Also, dropping a class could change a students' status from full-time to part-time, which may affect their financial aid.

**Early Action** Some schools offer applicants the option of submitting their applications a few months earlier to get a response more quickly. This is also referred to as a Priority Deadline. Students are strongly encouraged to apply Early Action in order to be considered for priority admission and scholarship opportunities.

**Early Decision** This is a legal binding contract. Be careful when heading down this road, as some schools will require you to commit to that institution, including financially, if you are accepted early.

**Expected Family Contribution (EFC)** After submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the government will determine how much a students' family can afford when it comes to college. The formula takes into account his/her family's income, assets, size of the household and the number of children that could potentially go to college. The government and colleges/universities will use your EFC to formulate a financial aid package.

**The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)** This is the form the government uses to determine how much grant money you qualify for. It also qualifies you for federal work-study and loans. Need-based scholarships will require a copy of the FAFSA® as proof of the student's financial situation. Schools will use it to determine their own financial aid package. You must submit it electronically at [www.FAFSA.ed.gov](http://www.FAFSA.ed.gov), and it comes online October 1st of your senior year. You must submit it every year you are in college, but the information will carry over from year-to-year. The FAFSA® requires information found on your family's taxes, so you must get those materials together before applying for financial aid.

**Full-Time Student** Full-time students take 12-18 credits per semester/quarter. Full-time status is generally a requirement for financial aid opportunities and normal tuition rates.

**General Ed Classes** Most colleges and universities have a core of general subject areas all students must take, regardless of major. So even if a student majors in History, they may have to take some math classes and some science classes.

**Grade Point Average** One way colleges/universities evaluate students' academic achievements is through their GPA. To calculate a GPA, a 4 is given for every "A," a 3 for every "B," a 2 for every "C," a 1 for every "D" and a 0 for every "F."

**Graduate Student** Students who have already obtained a bachelor's degree and are working toward a master's, PhD or professional degree are known as graduate students.

**Grants** Like scholarships, grants are a source of financial aid that does not need to be repaid. Students need to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid to receive many of these. Grants are only based on the student's financial situation, so grades are usually not a factor. They dry up quickly, so get your FAFSA® in ASAP.

**IB** International Baccalaureate is a small learning community that provides highly motivated students an opportunity to pursue a rigorous, comprehensive curriculum based on a global perspective. IB course offerings vary by school, but there is a test in virtually every academic subject – World Languages, English, History, Physics, Biology, Calculus and Art, among others. More information about the IB program can be found at [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org).

**Liberal Arts College** Liberal arts colleges stress the importance of a well-rounded education, and they require students to take classes from a variety of disciplines. Liberal arts colleges tend to focus on the “classical” education. Liberal arts colleges may be housed in a larger university, like the University of Wisconsin's College of Arts and Sciences, or they may be a free-standing institution, like St. John's College in Annapolis.

**Loans** Students who don't receive enough scholarships and grants may need to take out loans to afford college. These do need to be repaid, and with interest. They can be obtained through the federal government via the FAFSA®, or from private lenders and banks. The repayment schedule and interest rate vary by lender.

**Major** A major is a student's focus of study while in college, and they have to complete a certain number of credits in that area. It is usually either an area of interest, or it relates to a career of interest. Popular majors include business, psychology, biology, engineering and communications.

**Master's Degree** This is the degree you receive after completing a graduate program, which usually takes 2-3 years after completing a bachelor's degree. A master's program is generally more rigorous than bachelor's coursework, but it is required for some professions and it can unlock higher salaries. Librarians, economists, museum curators, nurse practitioners, community college professors, and school counselors all need a master's degree. You need to complete a bachelor's degree before entering a master's program.

**Minor** Some colleges and universities allow students to earn a minor along with their major. It will be in an area in which the student has interest, but does not have the time or energy to double-major. Minors typically require fewer credits than majors.

**Part-Time Student** Students who take less than 12 credits per semester/quarter are referred to as part-time students. Part-time students may not be eligible for as much financial aid as full-time students, and they may be charged different tuition rates.

**Pell Grant** These are federal grants given to the neediest of students, as determined by the FAFSA®. The maximum award fluctuates annually, but it approximately \$5,000. The amount a student receives in Pell depends on the Expected Family Contribution and the cost of his/her education.

**PhD** This stands for “Doctor of Philosophy.” However, all PhD student don't actually have to study philosophy. PhD students study and research any subject in great depth and for multiple years. Head down this path if you're interested in some advanced science, if you'd like to be a professor or if you'd like to be known as an expert in your field. You need a bachelor's degree before pursuing your PhD, and you also may need a master's before entering this program.

**Rolling Admissions** Some schools do not have a set application deadline, and they will continue to accept candidates until their classes are full. The lack of deadlines shouldn't prevent you from applying early on in the fall.

**Semester/Quarter** Colleges' and Universities' academic years are either divided into semesters or quarters. Students in semester institutions have two semesters (one in the fall, one in the spring) to go with an optional summer session, while students in quarters have three main quarters (fall, winter and spring) and an optional summer session. Students in the quarter system will take more classes than their semester counterparts, but they will have exams more frequently.

**Undergraduate** All college students pursuing an associate's degree or bachelor's degree are undergraduates.

**Work-study** Work-study is a form of federal financial aid that arranges for a student to get a job either on-campus or near-campus. These jobs may be related to a student's interests, and they may only work an allotted number of hours.

## 20 Most Popular Colleges Where Kennedy Students Applied

College	Deadline
Montgomery College	Rolling Admissions
University of Maryland, College Park	Priority – Nov. 1 Regular – Jan. 20
Towson University	Early Action/Honors College – Dec. 1 Regular – Jan. 15 Rolling Admissions
University of Maryland, Baltimore County	Early Action – Nov. 1 Regular – Feb. 1
Morgan State University	Priority – Nov. 15 Regular – Feb. 15 Rolling Admissions
Salisbury University	Early Decision – Nov. 15 Early Action – Dec. 1 Regular – Jan. 15
University of Maryland, Eastern Shore	Regular – April 15 Rolling Admissions
Bowie State University	Regular – Feb. 15 Rolling Admissions
Frostburg State University	Early Action – Nov. 15 Regular – Feb. 15 Rolling Admissions
Howard University	Early Action – Nov. 1 Regular – March 1
Pennsylvania State University, All Campuses	Regular – Nov. 30 Rolling Admissions
American University	Early Decision – Nov. 10 Early Decision II – Jan. 10 Regular – Jan. 10
George Mason University	Scholarships – Nov. 1 Early Action – Nov. 15 Regular – Jan. 20
Mount St. Mary's University	Early Action – Dec. 1 Regular – March 1 Rolling Admissions
Johns Hopkins University	Early Decision – Nov. 1 Regular – Jan. 2
St. John's University – Queens Campus	Early Action – Nov. 1 Early Action II – Feb. 1 Rolling Admissions
Stevenson University	Rolling Admissions
Virginia State University	Priority – March 31 Regular – May 1
The George Washington University	Early Decision – Nov. 1 Early Decision II – Jan. 1 Regular – Jan. 1
Hampton University	Early Action – Nov. 1 Regular – March 1

John F. Kennedy Counseling Department  
Junior Year Checklist

✓	TASK
	1. Review the Senior Post-Secondary Planning Guide.
	2. Take some type of SAT/ACT/ACCUPLACER preparation. *
	3. Register and take the SAT, ACT or ACCUPLACER in the spring as follows: <input type="checkbox"/> For SAT registration, go to <a href="http://www.sat.org/register">www.sat.org/register</a> <input type="checkbox"/> For ACT registration, go to <a href="http://www.actstudent.org">www.actstudent.org</a> <input type="checkbox"/> For ACCUPLACER registration, visit the College & Career Center
	4. Register for a Naviance account. *
	5. Visit Naviance <i>regularly</i> for important information on upcoming college visits, summer college tours, summer workshops hosted by the College and Career Center and other valuable information.
	6. Add schools to the list of “Colleges I’m thinking about” in Naviance (Required; Colleges→I’m thinking about). Use the “College Planning Worksheet” in your Senior Post-Secondary Planning Guide to make note of application deadlines, applications types and application fees.
	7. Schedule and visit college campuses.
	8. Begin completing applications for colleges to which you plan to apply.
	9. Become familiar with the Common Application by visiting the website at <a href="http://www.commonapp.org">www.commonapp.org</a> and attending the summer workshop in the College and Career Center (NOTE: <i>Application is available starting in August.</i> )
	10. Begin working on your college application essays and the Student Self-Evaluation Brag sheet in Naviance. The Common Application essay questions are available now.

\* Visit the College and Career Center or see your counselor for more information.

John F. Kennedy Counseling Department  
Senior Year Checklist

✓	TASK
	1. Make sure you are registered for Naviance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Add schools to the list of “Colleges I’m thinking about” (Required; Colleges → I’m thinking about)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Use the “College Planning Worksheet” to make note of application deadlines, applications types and application fees</li> </ul>
	2. Take an SAT/ACT/ACCUPLACER prep course or study for upcoming tests you plan to take. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Register for the SAT/ACT/ACCUPLACER in the fall as follows:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> For SAT registration, go to <a href="http://www.sat.org/register">www.sat.org/register</a></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> For ACT registration, go to <a href="http://www.actstudent.org">www.actstudent.org</a></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> For ACCUPLACER registration, visit the College and Career Center</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> See the College and Career Coordinator for a fee waiver if you have free/reduced lunch</li> </ul>
	3. Log onto Naviance to make sure that your senior year documents have been received and updated. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Student Self-Evaluation Brag Sheet/Questionnaire (Required; About Me→Surveys)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> List schools to which you are applying (Required; Colleges→I’m applying to)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> List teachers who have agreed to write recommendations on your behalf (Colleges I’m applying to→Teacher recommendations→Add). In the “Personal Note to Teacher” box, indicate the colleges to which you would like the teacher recommendation to be sent and the deadline. Four-weeks’ notice required!</li> </ul>
	4. Create a Common Application account at <a href="http://www.commonapp.org">www.commonapp.org</a> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Use the same email address as your Naviance account</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> List Common App schools (Required→My college→College search)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Complete all three sections for each college (Questions, Recommenders &amp; FERPA, Review)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Complete all six Common App Sections (Profile, Family, Education, Testing, Activities, Writing)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Match Common Application to Naviance</li> </ul>
	5. Submit transcript requests to the registrar for the colleges you listed in Naviance. Four-weeks’ notice required! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Submit a parent signed “Transcript Release Form”</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Submit a “Registrar Checklist” to ensure you have completed the necessary tasks to apply for college</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Complete a “Request for Transcript” form for each school to which you are applying. First two transcripts are free. \$3.00 for each additional request.</li> </ul>
	6. Have your SAT/ACT scores sent directly to the colleges to which you applied. SAT scores: <a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a> ACT scores: <a href="http://www.actstudent.org">www.actstudent.org</a>
	7. Send your college applications by the deadline indicated by each of the colleges to which you are applying. See the College and Career Coordinator for application fee waivers if you have free/reduced lunch.
	8. Visit the College and Career Center regularly and check Naviance daily for important information on upcoming college visits, scholarships, and other valuable information.
	9. Schedule and visit college campuses.
	10. Attend college visits in the College and Career Center: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Log onto Naviance</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Click on Colleges → “View all upcoming visits”</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Click on Sign Up → “Sign me up” for each visit</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Print confirmation page as your hall pass for each school</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ask your teacher during that specific period to sign as approval</li> </ul>
	11. Complete the FAFSA® (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) between October 1st and March 1st (deadline). Attend Financial Aid Night at Kennedy High School for more information and assistance.
	12. Notify the College and Career Coordinator of any college acceptances and scholarship awards throughout the year.
	13. Check in with your school counselor on a regular basis to ensure you are on track with the college application process!

John F. Kennedy Counseling Department  
College Planning Worksheet

College	Delivery Type	Level of Interest	Early Action/ Priority Deadline	Average GPA	Average SAT/ACT score	Teacher Rec 1 Requested	Teacher Rec 2 Requested	Transcript/ Counselor Rec Requested	Tests Scores Sent	Interview/ Portfolio	Application Submitted	Other

Special Notes:

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