

ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

JUNIOR PLANNING



**SPRING
2022**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Table of Contents	1
Junior Year Timeline.....	2
Myths About The College Selection Process.....	3
Types of Colleges (HBCUs).....	4
Certificate Programs.....	5
Criteria in College Selection	6-7
Application Types	8
College Admissions Criteria	9
Standardized Tests	9
Reminders About Test Taking	10
Questions to Ask When Meeting with College Representatives.....	10
The Essay	11-12
Students with Disabilities.....	13
Colleges Our Students Have Been Accepted To.....	14
Naviance.....	15
Common Application.....	16
Common Black College Application.....	16
Coalition for College Application.....	16
Career Vocational and Business Schools.....	17
Apprenticeship.....	18
Athletic Talent.....	19
Military.....	20
Understanding Financial Aid	21
Resources.....	22
Glossary.....	23-24
Notes	25

JUNIOR YEAR TIMELINE

SPRING SEMESTER:

_____ Junior parent conferences begin in April. To set up an appointment with your child's counselor please call:

Mrs. Richardson at 516-345-7070

_____ Take the SAT and/or ACT, if appropriate.

_____ Request letters of recommendations from *two teachers* whom you wish to write your college recommendations (suggested two teachers). Be sure to have these conversations early as many teachers get busy with the second half of the school year and need to balance these requests.

_____ Attend college fairs and participate in virtual and in-person sessions. Roosevelt High School hosts individual college and trade school meetings throughout the year. Stop into guidance for a pass and/or to register. Information on college fairs is available on the Guidance website and in Naviance.

_____ Visit colleges.

_____ Update your resume in Naviance and take the Strengths Explorer and Interest Profiler (under the 'Self Discovery' tab).

_____ Student Athletes (NCAA I and II) set up an account at www.ncaa.org (Click on 'Student-Athletes' and then 'NCAA Eligibility Center').

SUMMER

_____ Continue to visit colleges.

_____ Work and save money!

_____ Volunteer and complete community service hours. This will help to alleviate having to meet the minimum requirements during senior year (when things can get hectic and busy)!

_____ Continue to research. Contact colleges to request applications and obtain financial aid Information (this can also be done through Naviance). A lot of information can also be found on the college and trade school websites.

_____ August 1- Begin working on the Common Application and/or Common Black College Application, as well as SUNY and CUNY applications.

_____ Register for ACT and SAT tests (if needed).

MYTHS ABOUT THE COLLEGE SELECTION PROCESS

Learning about colleges is an arduous task, one to which many students simply do not allocate sufficient time and thought. The beginning of the college selection process is also fraught with many myths and misconceptions. The most common myths are:

- **THERE IS ONE PERFECT COLLEGE FOR ME:**
Understanding that there is no one perfect college for you but several good alternatives will make the application process more exciting. If you narrow your sights to only one college, you may spend too much time worrying about getting into that school. This will prevent you from making a systematic search for a variety of institutions where you would be happy.
- **I NEED TO DECIDE ON A CAREER BEFORE I CAN CHOOSE A COLLEGE:**
The average college student changes majors two or three times over four years of college, and most college graduates change careers three to five times in their lifetime.
- **WE CAN ONLY AFFORD A LOW-PRICED COLLEGE:**
Do not let initial costs alone determine your future. Too often students rule out some colleges because the total cost appears to be more than the family can afford. This may not be the case when all resources of financial aid are explored. Private colleges, in order to attract students from all income levels, offer significant amounts of financial aid and, in the long run, may be more affordable than a less expensive public institution.
- **MOST STUDENTS GET REJECTED BY THE COLLEGE OF THEIR CHOICE:**
Not so! Some 92% of all students go to their first or second choice college. Searching for a variety of colleges where your needs can be met and ensuring that the colleges to which you apply include different levels of selectivity, can increase your chances for acceptance and ultimately, your happiness.
- **INVESTIGATING COLLEGES IS AN UNPLEASANT CHORE:**
Looking at colleges should be part of an exciting search for your future. It is wise to approach the admissions process with optimism and excitement for two reasons:
 - It will make the process more interesting.
 - Your enthusiasm and optimism will show in your application essays. Some components of the research process can be fun as well, such as the campus visit. The selection and application process is also a time for self-discovery that may prove to be more beneficial than selection of a particular college.
- **I'VE NEVER HEARD OF THIS COLLEGE, SO IT CAN'T BE ANY GOOD:**
Most people know very little about colleges in the United States. The average self-educated individual can probably name only 100 of the 3,500 plus colleges and these tend to be the older eastern colleges, the large state universities, those with outstanding athletic teams and those that happen to be near their home. It is important to remember that a college which might be a good match for you may be one which is unknown to you now. And some of the schools you have heard the most about may prove not to be a good match for you. Try to keep an open mind throughout the entire process.

TYPES OF COLLEGES

- **Universities** are large institutions composed of undergraduate and graduate or professional schools. Usually, the largest part of the university is the undergraduate college of liberal arts and science. Other schools often include architecture, business, engineering, law, journalism, medicine, dentistry, library, science, education, agriculture, and others.
- **Colleges** are four-year undergraduate institutions which grant bachelor's degrees in a variety of academic disciplines, usually, but not exclusively, in liberal arts.
- **Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)** are institutions that were established before the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and offer students an opportunity to pursue higher education.
- **Technical Institutes** are four-year schools, and more, that offer the Bachelor of Science degrees and advanced degrees.
- **Community Colleges** (otherwise known as Junior Colleges) are two-year schools that usually offer transfer programs and terminal programs.
 - **Transfer programs**, as the name implies, do not end at the community college level, but must be completed at a four-year college.
 - **Terminal programs** usually are completed within one to two years. Upon completion a certificate, diploma, or an associate degree may be issued.
- **The Military Academies:** Students receive a bachelor's degree and a commission as an officer upon graduation. Students who graduate from these schools serve in the armed forces for a number of years after they graduate to fulfill their obligation to the government, as tuition is free at the "academies."
- **Vocational Training Schools** provide programs that may be completed in several months or in one or two years. No degree is granted, but the graduate receives a certificate or diploma.
- **Accelerated and/or Combined Programs:**
Undergraduate/Undergraduate or Undergraduate/Graduate exist in many fields or specialty areas. These programs generally allow students to earn two degrees upon completion of the combined program. Two bachelors' degrees or a bachelor's degree and a master's degree are given to the student upon graduation. Examples of this type of combined program may be found in typical "3/2 Programs," such as a combined liberal arts/business administration, liberal arts/engineering program, or liberal arts/health sciences programs. In programs such as these students earn both degrees in five years' time from one college or university, or from two colleges who have agreed to cooperate.

Accelerated and/or Combined Programs also exist in the fields of law, dentistry, and medicine. These programs allow students to earn a bachelor's degree and a law degree, or medical/dental degree, in either six, seven, or eight years. These **extremely** selective programs admit only the most qualified students into both the undergraduate college and the professional school at the same time. Some programs are completed at one college while others are done in cooperation between two colleges. Advantages of these special combined programs may include: time savings, monetary savings, and elimination of the application process and standardized tests.

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Many community colleges offer programs of study for entry into specific careers. A certificate program is usually two or three semesters in length and does not lead towards a degree. Students enrolled in certificate programs typically take courses only in the area of interest.

Suffolk Community College offers certificate programs in:

Accounting
Baking and Pastry Arts
Business Management
Culinary Arts: Restaurant Management
Drafting (Computer-Assisted)
Fire Investigation
Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Technology
Hotel and Resort Management
Information Technology
Paralegal Studies
Practical Nursing

Nassau Community College offers certificate programs in:

Administrative Business Technology
Business Administration
Cisco Certified Entry Networking Technician
Computer Information Systems
Construction Management
Cybersecurity
Desktop Publishing
Dietary Management
Disability Studies
Food Service Technology
Health Information Technology
Information Technology
Interior Design
Paralegal Studies
Photography
Studio Recording Technology
Teaching Assistant

For a complete list of certificate programs, be sure to review the course catalogs for the respective schools.

CRITERIA IN COLLEGE SELECTION

The factors listed are important as you begin to examine schools and make choices. Please review the criteria that are important to you.

Your College Selection preferences:

- A. Geographic Area**
 - Commuting area
 - Schools in New York State
 - Schools in the Northeast/Mid-Atlantic area
 - Other

- B. Campus Setting**
 - Urban
 - Suburban
 - Rural

- C. Enrollment Size**
 - Very small (under 1000)
 - Small (1000 – 4999)
 - Medium (5000 – 9999)
 - Large (10,000 – 20,000)
 - Very Large (over 20,000)

- D. Type of School**
 - Two-year
 - Four-year
 - Public: State University of NY (SUNY) or
City University of New York (CUNY)
 - Private
 - Religiously affiliated

- E. Admission Selectivity**
 - Most selective
 - Very selective
 - Moderately selective
 - Minimally selective
 - Non-competitive/open admissions

F. Campus Life

Sports

List: _____

Newspaper

Drama

Radio Station

Greek Life: Fraternities/Sororities

Religious Affiliation

Other: _____

G. Majors

Identify: _____

Minors

Identify: _____

H. Cost

Scholarships:

Grants:

State:

Government:

I. Special Programs

Study Abroad

Honors

Work/Study

Tutoring Assistance

J. Program for Students with Learning Disabilities

Type of Disability: _____

How long has the program been in existence? _____

Number of students in program? _____

Services available such as curriculum modifications:
individualized instruction; special resource centers.

K. Admission Policies

Regular Decision

Rolling Admission

Early Decision (I & II)

Early Action

Early Action Restricted

Priority

APPLICATION TYPES

Early Decision (ED): This is a binding agreement. Students make a commitment to a first-choice institute where, if admitted, they **MUST** enroll. While pursuing admission under an Early Decision plan, a student may apply to other institutions, but may have only one Early Decision application pending. The institute will respond to an application for financial aid at or near the time of an offer of admission. **Early Decision I and II have different deadlines; and students cannot apply to both at the same time due to binding agreements.**

Restrictive Early Action (REA): Only one application may be submitted early. Students apply to an institution and receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular response. This type of application may appear to be the same as Early Decision, however, a student is "not bound" to the college. Students who submit a Restrictive Early Action application *may not* apply ED or EA to any other private college or university.

Early Action (EA): Students can apply to as many schools under Early Action. When students apply to an institution, they receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular response date. Students who are admitted under Early Action *are not* obligated to accept the institution's offer of admission, or to submit a deposit prior to May 1.

Rolling Admissions (RA): An institution reviews applications as they are completed and renders admission decisions to students throughout the admissions cycle. A student may apply to other institutions without restrictions.

Regular Decision (RD): A student applies to an institution by a specified date and receives a decision within a reasonable and clearly stated period of time. A student may apply to other institutions without restrictions.

Subject to the changing admissions protocols, students are strongly encouraged to contact admission officers for specific information regarding their programs' applications.

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

In order to better understand what criteria is most important when a student's application is evaluated, please see below the feedback received from colleges and universities, in order of priority.

Primary Criteria:

- Rigor of classes
- Student GPA (grade point average)
- SAT or ACT scores – test optional and test flexible do weigh in.

Other criteria for consideration:

- Student essay(s)
- Depth of commitment to an extra-curricular activity
- Student leadership
- Variety of activities
- Counselor recommendation
- Teacher recommendation
- Student employment
- Showing demonstrated interest

STANDARDIZED TESTS

1. SAT

There are three sections for which students will receive a score of 200 to 800 (Reading/Writing and Language Test, Math, and Optional Essay). The Reading and Writing and Math sections will be used to produce the composite score (maximum score of 1600). The test is approximately three hours (without the essay) and three hours and fifty minutes with the essay. To register and/or obtain additional information, please log on to www.collegeboard.org.

2. ACT

An exam that offers four multiple choice sections in the academic areas of English, mathematics, reading and science. Students receive four scores (representing each section), plus a composite score, which averages all sections. An optional writing section is also available. To register and/or obtain additional information, please log on to www.act.org.

3. AP (Advanced Placement Tests)

Exams are three hours in length and are based on college level courses taken in high school. Tests are given once a year during the month of May. Each exam has a cost and students are responsible for payment. AP Exams may be used for college credit and/or college placement.

4. TOEFL (Tests of English as a Foreign Language)

The TOEFL test is the most widely respected English-language test in the world, recognized by more than 9,000 colleges, universities and agencies in more than 130 countries, including Australia, Canada, the U.K., and the United States. Students who demonstrate limited English language proficiency may use the TOEFL in support of other standardized test scores.

REMINDERS ABOUT TEST TAKING

1. Check colleges for specific SAT/ACT requirements.
2. Allow adequate time:
 - a) Registration - register as early as possible to secure a seat at the most convenient location.
 - b) Reporting - it takes two to four weeks for scores to be received by the colleges.
3. Be sure to bring with you photo identification and your registration ticket.
4. Students must log onto College Board and/or ACT to request that their test scores be directly sent to each college, as well as the NCAA (if applicable).
5. It is recommended that Early Decision or Early Action applicants take the SAT and/or ACT exam no later than October of senior year.

QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN MEETING WITH COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES

Below is a list of questions that you might consider when visiting colleges and/or speaking with admissions representatives. College representatives are a wealth of information so ask as many questions as you can. Don't be shy, and don't assume you can't get into a school. Go ahead and ask!

1. I am interested in (major). Do you have any programs in that area?
2. What kind of GPA and test scores do you look for? Are you a test optional school for Admissions? Do you require SAT subject tests?
3. What criteria other than grades are important in the admissions process?
4. What are the most popular extra-curricular activities on your campus?
5. Do most students stay on campus on weekends?
6. What are the most popular academic programs on your campus?
7. Are there some characteristics common to most students at your school?
8. What percent of your students receive financial aid?
9. I am uncertain regarding a possible major. What opportunities are available to explore different majors during my first year or two at your school?
10. What are some of your school's strengths and weaknesses?
11. What type of housing is on your campus?
12. What percent of students are involved in Greek Life?
13. Do you offer academic tutoring and/or support services?

THE ESSAY

Almost all four-year colleges and universities require/recommend a personal essay/statement.

The essay allows the admissions committee to gain a clearer picture of you and assess how you would complement the incoming class. Answer the essay to the best of your ability. Pay careful attention to the directions regarding length, style, and format. English, spelling, grammar, syntax, and usage count! Think carefully about what you want to say and how you will say it. You may want to ask others to review your essay so they can comment and provide feedback. Take the time to write several drafts before submitting the completed essay.

Each college may prompt students to write about different topics. Below is a sampling of what colleges and universities have frequently asked applicants to write about. Please also refer to the next page for a list of Common Application essay prompts.

- *A personal statement that gives the admissions committee a sense of you as an individual*
- *A significant interest or experience that has special meaning for you*
- *How you have grown and developed*
- *Why you have selected this college*
- *Why you have chosen a particular career, profession or major*
- *An important issue of personal, local, or national concern*
- *A prominent person – living, deceased or fictional – who you would like to interview and explain why*
- *A person who had a significant influence on you and explain why*
- *Write a speech to deliver before a group, or write an article or editorial for a publication about a particular topic*
- *A book that has special significance for you*

THE 2022-2023 COMMON APPLICATION ESSAY PROMPTS

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, and an ethical dilemma - anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with individual needs, who wish to attend a post-secondary school, may seek out resources available to them. Students can request accommodations in writing or verbally, and documentation provided should be recent (within three years). Documentation typically includes an IEP, medical diagnosis, and/or neuropsychological.

Students do not have to be classified as special education or receiving 504 services in high school to request accommodations at the college or university level; and once accommodations are approved at the post-secondary level, students are expected to inform their professors, as well as the office/building of student support services and programs. This can be done prior to enrolling at the school, shortly thereafter, and/or during the admissions process.

Success in college for students with disabilities relies heavily on self-advocacy and students must learn to be their best advocate as accommodations received in high school are not necessarily accommodations that will be received in college. While services received in high school are those that are determined by the Committee of Special Education (CSE), in college, there is no CSE. Rather, accommodations are reviewed by an individual or small group of people and are decided on what is considered to be reasonable (Part 104 of the U.S. Department of Education). Hence, typical accommodations that a student may receive can include extra-time, adaptive technology, distraction-reduced environment, and note taking.

For the most part, accommodations received at the post-secondary level are categorized into two areas: Fee-Based and Non-Fee-Based.

Fee-Based programs include accommodations that incur additional costs to students. Such accommodations require additional services that go beyond extra-time and an environment with minimal distractions. Some examples include ongoing counseling services, therapeutic services to support executive functioning, etc. Please check with the individual school or facility as each institution sets their own rules.

Non-Fee-Based programs are those that do not incur additional costs for students with individual needs. Hence, accommodations approved at the college level are based on a current diagnosis of a student's disability and students are responsible for undergraduate tuition and fees.

Students with disabilities who are in need of financial and academic support should connect with Adult Career and Continuing Education Services-Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCESS-VR), as they support students maintain independent living through training, education, career development, and rehabilitation.

If a student's employment objective requires college training, ACCESS-VR can provide tuition assistance for required materials, fees, books, and partial room and board. For additional information, please visit <http://www.acces.nysed.gov/vr> and/or see your counselor.

COLLEGES OUR STUDENTS HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED TO

Adelphi University
Alabama A & M University*
Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Alfred University
Art Institute of Chicago
Bethune-Cookman University*
Bowie State University*
Bridgeport, University of
City University of New York (CUNY)
 -Brooklyn College
 - John Jay
 -Queens College
 -Lehman
 -York
Clafflin University*
College of Saint Rose
Curry College
Delaware State University*
Delaware, University of
Fairleigh Dickinson University
Fayetteville State University*
Fisher College
Fisk University*
Five Towns College
Fordham University
Georgia State University
Harris-Stowe State University*
Hartford, University of
Hartwick College
Hofstra University
Iona College
Jackson State University*
Johnson and Wales University
Kean University
Keystone College
Le Moyne College
Lincoln University*
Long Island University
Louisiana State University
Loyola University Maryland
Maine College of Art
Maine, University of
Manhattanville College
Maryland Eastern Shore, University of*
Marymount University
Mercy College
Merrimack College
Mohawk Valley Community College
Molloy College
Monroe College
Moore College of Art and Design
Morgan State University*
Mount Saint Mary College
Mount Saint Vincent College
Nassau Community College
Neumann University
New England Institute of Technology
New Haven, University of
New Mexico State University
New York Institute of Technology
North Carolina A & T State University*
North Carolina at Charlotte, University of
North Carolina Central University*
Ohio State University
Pace University
Penn State University
Quinnipiac University
Siena College
Saint Francis College
Saint John's University
Saint Joseph's College
Saint Peter's University
Saint Thomas Aquinas College
State University of New York (SUNY)
 -Albany
 -Binghamton
 -Brockport
 -Buffalo
 -Buffalo State
 -Canton
 -College of Technology at Alfred
 -Cortland
 -Delhi
 -Farmingdale
 -Geneseo
 -Old Westbury
 -Oswego
 -Plattsburg
 -Potsdam
 -Purchase
 -Stony Brook
Stevenson University
Suffolk Community College
Susquehanna University
Temple University
Tennessee, University of
Towson University
Utica College
Virginia State University*
William Paterson University
Xavier University of Louisiana*

*Indicates a Historically Black College and University (HBCU)

NAVIANCE

Naviance is our college and career exploration program that supports students in their current and future planning. Additionally, this communication platform allows students to self-discover hidden talents, as well as other personal, academic, and vocational developments. Naviance is a free platform for all current Roosevelt High School students.

To access Naviance, log onto the Roosevelt Union Free School District website at www.rooseveltufsd.org and click on 'District', then 'Guidance', 'Forms and Files', and then 'Important Links', and select 'Naviance'.

About Me

- Complete the **Game Plan Survey**. The results of this survey will allow your counselor to assist in your post-secondary planning.
- Click on **Résumé** to create a list of extracurricular activities, achievements, leadership, community service and work experience. This résumé (activity sheet) can be printed and/or saved to submit with your college, work, and scholarship applications.

Planner

- Clicking on the '**Planner**' tab allows students to create short- and long-term goals as well as important 'To-do' lists to help students stay on track. It also allows students to review tasks that have been assigned by your guidance department to ensure that students stay on track.

Colleges

- Click on **SuperMatch College Search** and select the criteria you want to use to narrow the database of colleges down to a usable list. Make sure to save your search! Review the list of schools that match your search criteria. You can also look up a college and create a list of prospective colleges by adding it to your favorites. This can be done by clicking on the heart icon.

Careers

- Click on **Explore Careers** as well as **Explore Road Trip Nation Videos** to view over 9,000 videos that follow some of the most prominent leaders of our world. Tudents may also search by themes and interests.

Self-Discovery

- **Click on the StengthsExplorer** to learn about your hidden talents and potential strengths. This assessment can only be taken once so be sure you are in the right mindset when taking this survey. You should also take the **Career Interest Profiler** and learn about your personality traits and suggested careers. This assessment may be taken more than once. As always, be sure to click "**save and continue**" at the bottom of each page.

When you have completed each assessment, click on "**view results**" and then on **View Matching Occupation List**. The results of each of these surveys may be reviewed at any time by clicking on **Career Interest Profiler** or **StrengthsExplorer**.

COMMON APPLICATION (CA)

Colleges and universities have worked together to develop and distribute a uniform application - known as the Common Application. Many of the colleges and universities use it *exclusively*, and members encourage its use and give equal consideration to those who apply. There are various application deadlines and fees for each of the schools, and fee waivers are available.

The Common Application is one of the ways students may apply to colleges and universities, and students must apply on-line and submit electronically to select colleges (those who participate with the Common Application). The Common Application consists of over 900 members (including public and private schools) and can be accessed at www.commonapp.org. Students may create an account as early as April of junior year but be sure to write down usernames and passwords in a secure location. Please also keep in mind that over the summer the Common Application refreshes; during this time students may not have access to their account. However, not to worry; any information previously entered is saved and will become available again when the platform is refreshed in August.

The “Application for Undergraduate Admission” should *only* be completed once, and students are expected to write an essay. A confusing feature of the Common Application is that some colleges require “supplements.” This means that additional information is requested and requires students to submit and follow-up respectively with those schools. For a complete list of colleges and universities that participate in the Common Application, please log on to the URL (listed above).

THE COMMON BLACK COLLEGE APPLICATION (CBCA)

The Common Black College Application is similar to the Common Application except that this platform is exclusive to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Of the 107 HBCU colleges and universities, there are 67 member schools (public and private) that participate with the Common Black College Application. To access the Common Black College Application, please visit www.commonblackcollegeapp.com

Similar to the Common Application, students may create a CBCA account as early as April of their junior year and should secure their username and password. Students apply online to any of the participating schools by paying a single fee of \$20. This allows students to select up to four institutions of interest; however, once an application has been submitted, all member institutions have access to view a student’s application. Please keep in mind that there are no fee waivers available for the Common Black College Application. To view the complete list of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), please log on to www.thehundred-seven.org.

COALITION FOR COLLEGE APPLICATION (CAAS)

The Coalition for Access, Affordability, and Success created the Coalition for College Application, to help students as they build and develop their college list and applications. The platform provides a single, centralized toolkit for students to organize and refine their applications to numerous institutions. Coalition schools graduate at least 70 percent of their students within six years, with many having higher graduation rates. There are currently over 150 Coalition member colleges across the country.

The application is completed online and can be accessed by logging onto www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org. Some schools will accept the Coalition application in addition to other applications, such as the Common Application, while other schools are exclusive, and therefore require students to use the Coalition application. For a complete list of colleges and universities that participate with the Coalition Application, please log on to the Coalition Application URL (listed above).

CAREER, VOCATIONAL, AND BUSINESS SCHOOLS

Some students want the most concentrated, short-term training for a career and do not want to take any extra coursework that may be required by a community college. Many hundreds of occupations require training that may be obtained through specialized career-training institutes.

Your counselors can suggest names of reputable schools where you can study everything from cosmetology to computer programming after high school graduation. You should also know that eligible students can use federal and state financial aid for career schools as well as colleges. All career-focused schools require a transcript of the student's record, and often want teacher and counselor recommendations. Specialized schools generally do not require an examination like the SAT or the ACT, but many will recommend that a test be taken at their school so that students are placed in appropriate classes.

Things to consider before choosing a specialized school:

- Where is the school located? How will you get there?
- If the school is not within commuting distance, what are the living arrangements?
- What is the total cost of the program? Remember, supplies, materials, and travel are part of the expenses.
- Are there any special course requirements needed in addition to a high school diploma (for example, two years of college preparatory mathematics)? Perhaps such preparatory courses are less expensive at a community college.
- What kind of financial aid is available? Only government approved Schools are eligible for government aid.
- Is the school accredited by the state in which it is located? **THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT.** It means that an independent evaluator has determined that the program of study is appropriate for entry into the target career. It also means that you are eligible to take any required licensing examinations when you have completed the program.
- Is the school set up to duplicate a real work environment? Hands- on training helps you acquire experience.
- Does the school operate a successful job placement office? Check this out with students who are very close to graduation and with recent graduates.

A good placement officer will have established relationships with local businesses who employ the school's graduates. Are the employers satisfied with the level of training received by graduates they have hired?

APPRENTICESHIP

Apprenticeship is training in occupations that require a wide and diverse range of skills and knowledge, as well as maturity and independent judgment. Apprenticeship involves planned, day-to-day training on the job, under the supervision of a skilled worker. It may also include technical instruction.

Apprenticeship programs may be sponsored by an employer, a group of employers, or a union. It is common for employers and unions to form joint apprenticeship committees which determine industry needs for particular skills, the kind of training required, and the standards for acceptance into the programs.

Apprenticeship occupations can be found in such industries as electronics, construction, service, metal working, public administration, and medical and health care. There are a significant number of apprentice-type occupations currently recognized by the United States Department of Labor Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training and the State Apprenticeship Agencies.

The length and content of training vary by occupation and are determined by standards adopted by the industry. Some apprenticeships are so comprehensive that they are given college credit by a program called PONSI (Program on Non-Collegiate-Sponsored Instruction).

The minimum term of apprenticeship is usually one year. Wages paid to an apprentice begin at approximately half those of a fully trained worker and usually advance at 6-month intervals until the apprentice completes training, whereupon the apprentice is paid the full entry-level wage.

Your school counselor can help you explore apprenticeships available in areas that interest you.

ATHLETIC TALENT

If you are athletically talented you may want to participate on a college varsity team. You should know that the NCAA governs three separate divisions. Division I, the most competitive athletically, provides full scholarships; Division II, the next level of competition, has varying guidelines when distributing scholarships; and Division III, the lowest level of competition, provides no scholarships.

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) are two other athletic associations that govern the conduct of collegiate sports. It is important to inquire from the college coach recruiting you which association the school belongs to and what rules it must follow.

You must work closely with your coach to:

- Develop an athletic profile.
- Participate in an honest evaluation of your athletic skills and ask for a recommendation about the appropriate level of college competition, for which you are best suited.

Your coach will be able to be active on your behalf by responding to questionnaires sent by recruiters and by calling or writing to college coaches.

Your counselors can then use the coach's recommendation to help you develop a list of schools for which you are suited academically and athletically.

MILITARY SERVICE

There are innumerable job training and college savings opportunities in the armed services. Men and women can serve by enlisting full-time in the armed services or by being part-timers in the “reserves.”

Recruiting officers from all branches of the Armed Services are available to visit you at Roosevelt High School or in your home. If you are interested, speak with your counselor to set up an appointment. You can also seek additional information by visiting a recruiting office.

The guaranteed training and travel opportunities, signing bonuses and college-savings possibilities available in the military are determined by a student’s score on the ASVAB. The ASVAB is a group of tests designed to measure your ability to be trained in certain military occupations. The tests are General Information, Numerical Operations, Attention to Detail, Work Knowledge, Arithmetic Reasoning, Space Perception, Mathematics Knowledge, Electronic Information, Mechanical Comprehension, General Science, Shop Information, and Automotive Information.

Your composite ASVAB score is expressed in “percentile” form – which is a comparison of your performance with that of a representative sample of other students who have taken the test. Students with higher percentile scores will have more options than those with lower scores.

Taking the ASVAB *does not* obligate you to the military in any way. You are free to use your test results in whatever manner you wish. Additionally, ASVAB results will not be used to enter your name in any draft registration system.

You will, however, be required to sign a statement authorizing release of your test score to representatives of all the military services, and you will probably be contacted by a service member sometime before you graduate. Students should expect such contact whether or not they ever take the ASVAB.

UNDERSTANDING FINANCIAL AID

Financial Aid is monetary assistance to help you meet the cost of your college, vocational or trade school education, both direct costs (tuition, fees, and books) and living expenses (food, housing, transportation and personal expenses).

Don't rule out any educational program based on cost alone. If you or your family are unable to fund the full cost of attending college, you may qualify for financial assistance.

There are three kinds of financial aid:

1. **Grants and Scholarships:** These funds are called gift-aid, and as such, they do not require students to pay them back. Grants and scholarships are generally based on need, but scholarships also have other criteria such as academic achievement and/or special talent. Local scholarships are available and offered to graduates and residents of the Roosevelt School District. *Local scholarship applications are available through Naviance, as well as in guidance throughout the year.*
2. **Loans:** Money that must be repaid after graduation or leaving school. Student loans have lower interest rates than commercial loans (example: Stafford Loan, Perkins Loans, etc.).
3. **Work Study:** Students secure paid jobs on college campuses and money earned is tax free.

Loans and work aid are called self-help. Financial aid administrators generally put together an aid package that combines gift aid and self-help.

Eligibility for financial aid depends on how much you and your family can pay toward your total estimated costs. Figuring out that amount is a complicated process called need analysis. Everyone who applies for aid receives a needs analysis which examines what you and your parents can contribute.

To apply for financial aid, students MUST complete several forms. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (www.fafsa.ed.gov) is required to apply for federal student aid programs. The CSS Profile is used by many institutions and states to award their own funds and is located on the College Board website. **CSS (College Scholarship Service) charges a fee to process and report data from their financial aid form. You and your family will provide financial and other information on these forms. Please be advised that some colleges or universities may also require completion of their own institutional form.**

Financial Aid is intended to supplement, not replace, family resources. Families should think of themselves as the first and primary source of college funds. Most colleges, government agencies, and programs expect students to contribute as much as possible. Remember, the best single source of financial aid information is the Financial Aid Officer at the colleges to which you will apply. **FAFSA becomes available as early as October 1st of senior year.**

Several weeks after completing and submitting the FAFSA, you will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) which contains the Expected Family Contribution (EFC). The EFC is the annual amount of money the government thinks your family should contribute towards the cost of your college education. A new FAFSA needs to be submitted for each year you are requesting aid.

RESOURCES

There are many materials that contain valuable sources of information about colleges, universities, and trade schools; and many that are available in the Guidance Office, libraries, and bookstores. Some of the more popular resources include:

- Barron's – Profile of American Colleges
- Fiske – The Fiske Guide to Colleges
- Lovejoy's – College Guide
- Peterson's – Guide to Four Year Colleges
- Peterson's – Guide to Two Year Colleges
- Peterson's – Colleges with Programs for Students with Learning Disabilities
- The College Board – Index to Majors
- The College Board – The College Handbook
- Yale Daily Press – The Insider's Guide to Colleges

In addition, you may also use the following:

- Individual College Catalogs
- College Preview Books
- College WEB pages

INTERNET SITES

Exploring College Options

www.collegeboard.org

www.schoolsintheUSA.com

www.collegeview.com

www.collegenet.com

www.usnews.com

<https://student.naviance.com/roosevelths-ny> (Naviance Student Connection)

<http://fairtest.org/> (Test optional college & university information)

Exploring Financial Aid

www.finaid.org

www.collegeboard.org

www.salliemae.com

www.fastweb.com

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ASVAB	The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) measures developed abilities and helps to predict Future academic and occupational success in the military.
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT (EOP)	A New York State Aid program for academically and economically disadvantaged students at the SUNY.
FAMILY CONTRIBUTION	The amount of money a student and his/her family are expected to contribute towards school
FINANCIAL AID “PACKAGE”	Used to describe the combination of grants, scholarships or loans used to pay your educational expenses.
FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)	Federal form used to gain information about a student’s total family income, assets, and expenses. This is analyzed to assess the family’s contribution toward college expenses.
GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)	Student’s overall scholastic performances. It is compute at the end of the junior year and includes “weighted” and “unweighted” grades.
HIGHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM (HEOP)	An aid program for academically and economically disadvantaged students at private colleges and universities.
HONORS PROGRAM	Any program offering opportunity for superior students to enrich their educational experience through independent, advanced or accelerated study.
INDEPENDENT STUDY	Allows the student to earn college credit through individual study, usually planned with and supervised by a faculty advisor.
LIBERAL ARTS	A program of diverse general education including English, social studies, history, philosophy and literature.
MAJOR	The subject of study in which the student chooses to specialize. A series of related courses taken primarily in the junior and senior years.
NAVIANCE	A communication, college, and career readiness software that provides students with the tools needed to plan for their future. Aside from college and career planning, students can create resumes, take surveys, engage in self-discovery, and watch videos of some of the most prominent leaders in the world, representing various fields.

NEED ANALYSIS FORM	A financial information document for parents of dependent students to supply information about their income, assets, expenses, and liabilities. Independent students file these forms for themselves. The information is used to determine how much money a family or student can contribute.
OPEN ADMISSIONS	The policy of some colleges of admitting virtually all high school graduates, regardless of academic qualifications such as high school grades and admissions test scores.
PELL GRANT	Financial assistance, awarded by the Federal Government based on need. The Pell Grant requires no repayment.
PSAT-PRELIMINARY SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE TEST	Aptitude test offered to students in the fall of junior year. Like the SAT (see definition). The test is used to compute the National Merit Scholarship selection index and is the basis for awarding the National Merit Scholarships.
RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORP.	Air Force, Army and Navy programs on certain campuses which combines military education with baccalaureate degree study, often with financial support for those students who commit to future services in the Armed Services.
ROLLING ADMISSIONS	The practice of processing an application for admission as soon as all required forms and credentials are received, rather than announcing all admission decisions on the same date.
SCHOLARSHIPS	Money awarded for achievement in academics, leadership, citizenship and/or athletics. Usually applied to post-high school education. Information available in the Counseling Office.
SAT	Tests of critical reading, writing and mathematics administered throughout the year for college admissions.
STUDENT AID REPORT (SAR)	FAFSA summary report indicating financial aid eligibility.
STUDENT LOANS	Money loaned for higher education through either state and federal funds, private banks or colleges.
TRANSCRIPT	Official record of high school or college courses and grades
TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP)	A grant program for NYS residents attending degree granting institutions in NYS institutions in NYS.

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