



***JUNIOR TO
SENIOR YEAR
TRANSITION!***

HELLO!



WHAT WILL WE COVER:

College Visits

Timeline for Fall

College Application Process

Requesting Transcripts

SAT/ACT Testing & Scores

College Admissions Essays

Letters of Recommendation

Scholarships

Playing Sports in College

Working With Your Counselor

Questions

We go over all of these
topics in detail with
Juniors in the spring

HOW CAN I SEE THE SCHOOLS I'M INTERESTED IN?

- × All schools have some way to visit
 - × (2 yr, 4 yr & Trade/Technical)
- × Online presentations
 - × Many will have virtual tours if you cannot physically make it on campus

HOW CAN I SEE THE SCHOOLS I'M INTERESTED IN?

- × Virtual vs. In-person tours – which is best?
 - × While virtual tours are convenient there is really no replacement for physically stepping foot on campus and getting a sense for how the campus feels and whether it will be a right fit for you.
- × Spring Break and Summer Visits vs. Fall Semester
 - × High School breaks are historically popular times to visit colleges.
 - × But also try to tour campuses when classes are in session (e.g., Fall Session) to get a sense of what a fully operating college feels like.

HOW CAN I SEE THE SCHOOLS I'M INTERESTED IN?

- × Spring college fairs
 - × This is a great way to gain exposure to many different colleges at one time.
 - × We advertise the various local college fairs each year.
- × Excused absences during visits
 - × We treat college visits as field trips so if you bring back a note from the college you visited we'll get that excused and it won't count against your total absences.
 - × The admissions offices are used to giving these notes to families.
- × College rep visits & college fairs in the fall
 - × Colleges come and visit the high school throughout the year.
 - × These will be posted and available for students to sign up for during the school day.

SENIOR CALENDAR

Spring/Summer

- × Visit college campuses
 - × Get a head start and explore campuses before you begin your senior year.
- × Decide where you will apply
 - × Ideally, you'll have narrowed down where you want to apply before senior year.
- × Start sections of your applications
 - × You can start the process in August but we won't be processing applications until the school year is up and running.

SENIOR CALENDAR

September

- × Submit applications (still pretty early, though)
- × [Request transcripts](#) & test scores
 - × We go over how to request transcripts multiple times. You can follow the link for more information.
 - × Test scores are on students transcripts but SOME colleges will require them to be sent directly from the testing agency.
- × **Follow up** with recommenders
 - × It's important to ask your teachers and counselors before you add them as a recommender but it's equally important to follow up to make sure they received your request after you've inputted their email information.
 - × Many students misspell email addresses and their requests never reach the recommenders.

SENIOR CALENDAR

October

- × Finish your applications
 - × This is the peak season to finish up applications.
- × Complete FAFSA (Free Application for Student Aid)
 - × It becomes available in during this time
 - × Must be filled out to be eligible for need-based AND merit based aid. It's the gateway to ALL financial aid.
- × Start scholarship searches & applications

HOW TO APPLY AND WHICH APPLICATION IS "BEST"

Option 1: College's Own Application

Option 2: Common App

Option 3: Coalition Application

HOW TO APPLY AND WHICH APPLICATION IS "BEST"

Option 1: College's Own Application

- × 2 step process (maybe 3)
 1. Complete the college's own application on the College's website.
 2. Transcript request (parchment.com)
 3. Send test scores (Can be an added step but it's unlikely)
 - × If the college wants the scores directly from the testing agency, you need to send them from the testing agencies website. Fees often involved.
- × Fee waivers are available if you need some assistance
 - × Just ask your counselor

HOW TO APPLY AND WHICH APPLICATION IS "BEST"

Option 2: Common App

- × Complete the [Common Application](#)
 - × Single application used by around 900 schools in the country.
 - × There will still be individual essays for different schools, if requested.
 - × Students will [link their Parchment and Common App](#).
- × Counselor section
 - × The counselors will add important information once the student adds their counselor on the application.
- × Teachers & Recommenders
 - × Be careful not to misspell emails. Once you've entered someone, double check they received the link and information they need.
- × Send test scores
 - × Some schools may require them directly from the testing company.
- × Fee waivers are available if you need some assistance
 - × Just ask your counselor

HOW TO APPLY AND WHICH APPLICATION IS "BEST"

Option 3: Coalition Application

1. Rarely needed
2. Most of the time, especially here in Michigan, if a college accepts the Coalition Application, they also accept the Common Application and in those cases we ask students to use the Common Application.
3. If the college only accepts the Coalition application, then that is what you'll use.

HOW TO APPLY AND WHICH APPLICATION IS "BEST"

So, which is best?

- × When in doubt, as a counselor.
- × If you only plan on apply to a small number of colleges, then applying directly on the colleges' websites might be the easiest and most user friendly.
- × If you are applying to a college that ONLY accepts the Common App (e.g., UofM –Ann Arbor, Western Mich. University), then you'll have to use the Common App. At that point, using the Common App for the rest of the applications makes sense, as well.
- × If you are applying to many different colleges, the Common App can save you some time in the long run.

REQUESTING YOUR TRANSCRIPT

Transcripts are required:

- × Without one, your application is **INCOMPLETE** & will not be reviewed.
- × It is the student's responsibility to make sure the schools receive their transcripts
- × We help students make their account in the Fall

The Common App:

- × Your counselor will add your transcript as part of their section.
- × Students also submit their transcripts by [linking the Common App with Parchment.](#)

Other applications:

- × The student must order a transcript by going to [Parchment](#)

SAT/ACT TESTING

1. Which test is best?

- × All colleges accept both tests. (This applies to both in-state and out-of-state schools.)
- × The SAT is taken during the school day at Hartland

2. When will I be able to take the SAT?

- × All Juniors take during the school day in April.
- × To Retake: the SAT has monthly testing Aug-Dec. (Sign up on [Collegeboard](#)) using Hartland's school code: 231900

3. Should I plan to test more than once?

- × What is a "good" score?
 - × The score you need in order to get into the school you are going to.
- × Colleges will use the best score.
- × Some colleges will "Superscore" and take the best section of different exams to create the best total score.

SAT/ACT SCORE REPORTING

- × Your test scores are always on your high school transcript
- × **BUT** not all colleges will accept them on your transcript!
 - × Order SAT scores: www.collegeboard.org
 - × Order ACT scores: www.actstudent.org
- × Send them to four schools for free when you register
- × Fee to send score reports is \$12–16 per college
- × Fee Waivers
 - × See your counselor

COLLEGE ESSAY WRITING

Your English teacher is planning to address college essay writing. You will be given a variety of online resources, directions for writing college essays and essay samples to review. You will be able to submit your college essays to your English teacher for feedback if you would like.

Your counselors can also help with your essays and review how your essay sounds, how your voice comes across and make sure it has its intended effect.



HOW TO ASK FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Not all applications need letters of recommendations
2. 1-2 recommenders
3. Ask in advance with a minimum of two weeks notice! This is critical.
4. Nov 1st deadline? Deadline to ask is **Oct 18th**
5. Follow up with your recommenders. Especially for the common app!
6. Your counselor & teachers need a list of activities for letters of recommendation and the Common App. Use the form on the next slide.

~ Request for Recommendation/Evaluation ~

If you would like me to complete a recommendation/evaluation, please provide the following information...

- **Name**
- **Deadline to have the recommendation/evaluation completed by** (please give a minimum of 2 weeks notice)
- **Future Plans & Goals**
 - What colleges are you applying to, major/course of study, career goals, etc.
- **Extra-Curricular Activities (Sports, Clubs, etc.)**
 - Include which grades/year, which level – Freshman/JV/Varsity, leadership positions held – Captain/Co-Captain, President/Vice-President, Secretary, etc., special activities/events participated in
 - What did you gain from these experiences?
- **Honors/Awards (Academic, Athletic, Attendance, Club, Recognition, etc.)**
 - Include the grade/year(s) you earned the award, # of times earned, etc.
- **Community Involvement (community service, volunteer work, church involvement, etc.)**
 - Include the activity/events & dates (month/year)
 - What did you gain from these experiences?
- **Work Experience**
 - List your employer & position(s) held
 - Include your dates of employment (month/year) & average # hours per week
 - Include your responsibilities
- **Interests/Hobbies (outside of school)**
- **Personal Qualities**
 - List and explain 3-4 qualities that you feel you possess
- **References**
 - List the Hartland teachers/coaches to whom I might go to for further reference.

OPTIONAL INFORMATION...

- **Personal Achievements/Experiences**
 - Do you have any special achievements in or out of school that you are especially proud of?
 - Do you feel that your grades are a fair representation of your academic ability? If not, please explain.
 - Are there any factors that have come up during your high school career which you feel have put you at a disadvantage or have impacted you in some way? If so, please explain.
 - Have you participated in any special programs, summer workshops, camps, etc.? If so, please list and explained what you gained from these experiences.
 - Explain your personal contribution to the high school community.
- **Special Circumstances/Additional Information**
 - Are there any special family circumstances? ...Single parent household? Death of a parent or sibling? Siblings who will be in college at the same time? Extended family that live in your home?
 - Are there any financial hardships that I should be aware of?
 - Are there any other special circumstances that you would like me to communicate on your behalf?
 - Is there any additional information that you think would be important for me to know when completing your recommendation/evaluation?

FIND THE FORM AT THIS LINK:

[HHS Counseling](#)
[Senior Quick Links webpage](#)



\$5,518,151

That's how much scholarship money was offered to
the Class of 2022!!

Want to find scholarships? Explore the [Financial Aid and Scholarships](#)
tab on Hartland High School's Counseling website.



PLAYING SPORTS IN COLLEGE

Division I or II:

- × Register with the [NCAA Clearinghouse](#).
- × NCAA Clearinghouse needs your SAT scores. Make sure you send them your scores when you register for the SAT.
- × NCAA has a great student resource called the [Guide for the College-Bound Student Athlete](#).
 - × It is free online and extremely helpful!

What is Core Course GPA?

- × Your membership is provided by Hartland High School and is free to you.
- × This will calculate your “core” GPA to make sure you are on-track.
- × Go to: corecoursegpa.com
- × Click: “FREE New Member Account”
- × Enter School ID: 231900
- × Enter School Code: 718303377

**Make sure your counselor knows
you want to be a College Athlete!**

***YOUR COUNSELOR IS HERE TO HELP.
EMAIL US WITH QUESTIONS OR TO
SCHEDULE A TIME TO TALK ABOUT YOUR
SPECIFIC PLANS.***

A-C: NICOLELUSK@HARTLANDSCHOOLS.US

D-HH: HEATHEROSTERHOUT@HARTLANDSCHOOLS.US

HI-MD: LUKEMOORE@HARTLANDSCHOOLS.US

ME-SB: HELENKENNEY@HARTLANDSCHOOLS.US

SC-Z: ERICAEMPIE@HARTLANDSCHOOLS.US

THANKS!

