

# **B-CC Guide to College and Career Planning**



This handbook was developed by the B-CC Counseling Department and the PTSA's Counseling Advisory Committee as a companion to the more comprehensive "Passport to Success," created by Cheryl Feldsott, who directed the College and Career Center for many years. It is in her memory that we distribute this handbook to all B-CC juniors.

For more information:

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# A RANGE OF PATHWAYS

This handbook is designed to be a reference tool for you and your family as you move through your last years at B-CC and explore your options for life after graduation. It is a condensed version of the **more** comprehensive *Passport to Success* binder, which is available for your use in the B-CC College and Career Center.

The first, and most important step is to take a deep breath – and relax! This can be a challenging time for you and your family, especially in light of everything you have undoubtedly heard about the stress and competitiveness of the college application process. There is a school for everyone, and the B-CC Counseling Department is committed to helping you find the right one for you. Your individual counselor will help guide you through the college application process. In addition, the College and Career Center has many resources that are available to all students.

In this handbook you will find information on:

- $\rightarrow$  The range of pathways available
- $\rightarrow$  Resources at B-CC and beyond
- $\rightarrow$  A timeline for juniors and seniors
- $\rightarrow$  Terms to know
- → Detailed procedure for college admissions at B-CC
- $\rightarrow$  Developing a financial plan
- $\rightarrow$  College visit tips
- $\rightarrow$  College information, evaluation and comparison sheets
- $\rightarrow$  Notes

You and your classmates may have different priorities as you begin to consider your post-high school pathway. Among the many options that you need to explore are: a four-year college, a community college, a technical school, a gap year, a military academy or enlistment, and employment.

**Four-Year Colleges**: Finding the "right college" is all about fit. There are many factors that students need to consider during the college search process including admission requirements, campus life, size, location, types of programs, access to professors, cost, facilities, extracurricular opportunities, graduation rate, retention rate and security.

**Community Colleges**: The Associate Degree, a two-year degree in the arts or sciences, is an option. Community colleges offer a wide variety of programs that train students in specialized fields. For students who want a four-year degree, community colleges often work with four-year colleges to ensure a smooth transfer process.

**Career and Technical Colleges:** Career and technical colleges are designed to prepare students for "gainful employment" in particular careers, such as practical nursing, computer-related fields, auto mechanics, plumbing and heating, cosmetology, the culinary arts and more. The federal government has recently implemented new rules for these programs to ensure that students are getting what they pay for: solid preparation for today's jobs. Students should check out these programs carefully before enrolling, including their default rates, accreditation, job-placement rates, track record with employers, and whether the training program is also offered at a community college for a fraction of the price.

**Gap Year:** There are many options are available for taking a year off between high school and college, including travel, internships, volunteer work, or a job. The key to a successful gap year is having a goal and planning. It is important and easier to go through the college search and application process while still in high school, and, once admitted, to contact the college you have selected and ask that your admission be deferred.

**U.S. Military Academies:** Military academies require that applicants be American citizens and at least 17 years old. Each academy has specific entry requirements; detailed information with respect to entry criteria, as well as application forms, is available on the web or by writing to the academy of your choice. Appointments to the U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Military Academy, and U.S. Merchant Marine Academy are by Congressional nomination. Admissions to these four academies and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy are highly competitive.

**Military Enlistment:** The U.S. military has five active duty Services: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard as well as their respective Guard and Reserve units. Today's military offers many high-tech occupations as well as other job opportunities that prepare young men and women for a career in the military or following military enlistment.

**Colleges for Artists:** Visual and performing art students may consider conservatories and stand-alone art schools, which offer a BM (Bachelor of Music) or BFA (Bachelor of Fine Arts). In addition to completing a typical college application, students in the visual or performing arts are required to prepare a portfolio or audition.

**College and the Athlete:** The National College Athletic Association (NCAA) has developed a process for all participating colleges and universities that ensures that all prospective athletes are academically eligible to participate. There is no such thing as a four-year athletic scholarship; all NCAA athletic scholarships must be renewed. Scholarships are typically split and distributed to a handful of athletes. The NCAA also restricts by sport the number of scholarships a college is allowed to distribute. Students who wish to participate in collegiate athletics at the Division I or II level must apply for certification with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Eligibility Center after their junior year in high school. Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School counselors can assist students in completing the paperwork necessary in this process. NCAA Division III (D3) institutions do not offer athletic scholarships, although students may receive aid on the basis of academic merit or financial need.

**Colleges for Students with Special Needs:** Students who are currently receiving services under Section 504 or Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) should contact their guidance counselor early in their junior year to discuss the possible pathways post-graduation. Generally, there are two levels of support to help students with learning disabilities be successful: Structured Programs and Self-Directed Programs. Structured Programs are more likely to have separate admissions processes, charge fees for their services, and have specific limits on their enrollment. These programs provide students with a structured environment in which they are involved in developing plans to meet their particular needs. In the Self-Directed Programs category, colleges have special programs but usually do not require a separate application process; rather, the student must first be accepted by meeting the minimal admission requirements of the school and then submit documentation of the disabilities. The level of support is dependent upon the initiative of the student.

From a legal perspective, in college, Section 504 and the American Disabilities Act require access to programs and services but do not mandate a free and appropriate education. From a documentation perspective, in college, decisions about qualification are made by college representatives who then decide on accommodations for students. Individualized Education Plans (IEP) from prior years will no longer be in force.

From a curriculum and services perspective, the college has the right to approve or deny services requested by the student which are not reasonable or which constitute an undue burden. Additionally, colleges are not required to modify or waive course or program requirements.

From the advocacy perspective, in college students are responsible for making all disclosures and contacts, not the parent or guardians. A student may choose to disclose his/her disability on a college application, but he/she is not required to do so.

# **RESOURCES AT B-CC**

# The B-CC Counseling Department:

The Counseling website (www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bcchs/counseling) should be your first place to look for information about college visits, upcoming deadlines, and links to other resources.

# Individual Counselors:

B-CC counselors play a key part in the college search and application process. As early as the freshman year, counselors meet with all students to introduce the transcript and to discuss the importance of building a solid academic record and being involved in the school and local communities. Each subsequent year, counselors meet with students to continue the discussion, to help plan a course of study, and to acquaint students with a myriad of college search tools. The focus on the college process gains momentum in the spring of junior year with a presentation by counselors, the distribution of the guidebook, and the scheduling of individual college meetings for the summer and for the fall. At the meeting counselors discuss B-CC's process for requesting transcripts, help students narrow their college list, and offer suggestions about colleges. At any time during the process, counselors are available for and welcome questions from students and parents.

Counselors are assigned by student last name:

Colleen Desmond:	A - Bec
Rina Palchick:	Bed - Dox
Brett DeMunter:	Dr – Hen
Richard Gordon:	Heo – Luo
Tammy Mayo-Blake:	Lup – Pen
Mia Hemmer:	Peo – Sprin
Nancy Keller-Klothe	Spro - Z

# The B-CC College and Career Center:

Patricia Parmelee, College and Career Coordinator

Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School's College/Career Center is a resource room for college and career planning. It is located within in the Counseling Department, in room A-201. The College/Career Center is open to students and parents from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm daily, including summers, under the supervision of the College/Career Coordinator.

**Barons Listserv** is a message board for B-CC juniors and seniors set up by the College/Career Center to keep students up to date on job opportunities, colleges coming to visit in the fall, financial aid information for colleges, scholarships, etc. If you are interested, please email Cathie Goltz, Counseling Assistant (<u>Catherine F Goltz@mcpsmd.org</u>) By sending her your email you give her permission to add your email to the listserv.

**College Tracks** is a program at B-CC for those who are first-generation college-bound or who are the most at risk of not attending college, offering advice and support with the admissions and financial aid process.

Tuesday afternoons 2:15 – 4:00 pm B-CC College and Career Center

# Coffield Center CollegeTracks

Wednesday evenings 7:00 – 8:30 pm 2450 Lyttonsville Road, Silver Spring, Maryland

**PTSA Counseling Advisory Committee (CAC).** The Counseling and Advisory Committee is a PTSA-sponsored committee that supports the B-CC Counseling Department and assists with programs related to the college preparation process and other guidance topics. Programs of the committee include College Admission Night, College Process, Practice SAT and Practice ACT tests, FAFSA Night and Maryland Financial Aid Night. The CAC also arranges for practice ACT and SAT tests for sophomores and juniors.

# OUTSIDE RESOURCES

**Family Connection**, http://connection.naviance.com/bcc, is an internet-based college (and career) search program. The program offers various features to assist you in developing a college strategy, such as college searches, college lookup, virtual college visits, and college stats. If you use the scattergram, you will see the admissions history of B-CC students at individual schools. Students will need an internet email account and will be given a temporary registration code, which they may change. Students may share the user name with their parents.

**Choice Planner (internet-based career finder program).** Gaining insight into who you are is the first step in career exploration. The Choices Planner is an internet-based career-finder program which helps you narrow a list of hundreds of careers to only the ones matching specific characteristics.

www.bridges.com Site ID: 0025983 Password: chevy (lo

Password: chevy (lower-case letters only)

- 1. Click on Create a new portfolio.
- 2. Click on Create your portfolio.
- 3. On next screen, click on red arrow in the blue box entitled Choices Planner.
- 4. On next screen, in the left blue box entitled Work, click on Career Finder link.

Cooperative Colleges and Universities: www.co-op.edu.

Information on the Military: www.myfuture.com/beyond/jointhemililtary\_all.html

**Maryland Higher Education Commission Career and Workforce Education:** www.mhec.state.md.us./utilities/PCS\_Search/pcs\_results.asp?T=A&ID=ALL

Montgomery College General Information Phone: 240-567-5000;

www.montgomerycollege.edu

# Montgomery College

Gudelsky Institute for Technical Education 51 Mannakee Street Rockville, MD 20850 Phone: 240-567-7905 www.montgomerycollege.edu/giterv//abouthome

# **MCPS College Fair**

April (date and times to be announced) at Montgomery County Fairgrounds

# NCAA Eligibility Center

PO Box 7136 Indianapolis, IN 46207 Phone (toll free): 877-262-1492 <u>www.ncaaclearinghouse.net</u>

# TIMELINE FOR JUNIORS

#### SEPTEMBER

Register for PSAT.

Attend college representative visits in College and Career Center (CCC) throughout the fall. Make sure you know your Social Security Number (or get one if you don't have one)

#### OCTOBER

Take the PSAT

#### NOVEMBER

Attend Prep for Test program at B-CC.

#### DECEMBER

Receive results for the PSAT. Attend Alumni Panel program. Visit local colleges to get the feel for different college environments.

#### JANUARY

Attend College Process Night.

#### FEBRUARY

Register for ACT (February, April, June) and/or SAT (March, May, June). Do a computer college search to identify colleges that are a good match (help is available in CCC). Formulate a preliminary list of colleges. Do virtual tours or write/email colleges for view books and catalogs.

#### MARCH

Register for SAT and/or SAT Subject Tests (May, June) and/or ACT (April, June). Begin to evaluate college information. Make plans for spring break college visits (check times of campus tours and information sessions on college websites or visit CCC to access information). Arrange a campus interview, if available. Register for AP tests.

#### APRIL

Evaluate materials from your spring break college visits and eliminate some schools from your original list. Attend Montgomery County College Fair at Montgomery Fairgrounds. Attend College Admissions Night program at B-CC.

If you have not done so already, register for SAT and/or SAT Subject Tests (June) and/or ACT (June test date).

#### MAY

Take AP and/or IB tests.

Check email or lists posted around school for date and time of Graduation Agreement meeting with counselor.

Complete Self-Assessment on *Family Connection*, prepare resume of achievements/awards, and email these documents to counselor.

Schedule a college meeting with counselor.

Ask two teachers if they would be willing to write you a college recommendation letter

#### JUNE

Visit college campuses.

#### JULY

Continue to narrow the college list.

#### AUGUST

Outline personal statement/essay required by many colleges.

# TIMELINE FOR SENIORS

#### SEPTEMBER

Start a calendar; be attentive to important dates and deadlines.

Register for October SAT or ACT and/or November SAT or SAT Subject tests.

Attend college representative visits in College and Career Center (CCC) throughout the fall. Turn in "Release of Information" form to school registrar.

Visit college websites to request, download, or complete application forms on-line. Make final college visits, attend classes, and set up interviews, if available.

Explore scholarship opportunities in the CCC.

#### OCTOBER

For early decision, submit transcript requests on Family Connection four weeks prior to due date. Attend test prep class (optional) or use MCPS Triumph tutorial program. Register for November or December SAT, SAT Subject Tests, or ACT. Attend Financial Aid Night program at B-CC.

#### NOVEMBER

For regular decision submit transcript requests on Family Connection four weeks prior to due date.

#### DECEMBER

Submit transcript requests on Family Connection. Receive early decision notification and inform school registrar of school's decision.

#### JANUARY

Continue submitting college applications with later due dates

#### **FEBRUARY**

For mid-year report, give school registrar the mid-year request form (found on website or in the Counseling Department) Submit a FAFSA for financial aid after January 1st.

Double check that each school has received all necessary materials.

#### MARCH

Visit colleges where you were accepted when they are in session; stay overnight and attend some classes. Complete College Visit Comparison/Evaluation Sheet to help you decide.

#### APRIL

Check mail (email and regular) for regular decision notification. If accepted, check deadlines, housing options, meal plans, etc. Finalize decision.

#### MAY

Mail decision(s) to colleges. Withdraw application from colleges where you were accepted but are not choosing. Notify B-CC school registrar of your decision so we will know where to send your final transcript,

#### JUNE

Final grades are sent to colleges in July; admission is provisional pending these.

## JULY

Turn your attention to creating list of items to take to college!!!

# **TERMS TO KNOW**

**ACT:** A college admissions test covering four standard sections of English, Math, Reading, and Science, plus an optional Writing section. All colleges in the United States now accept this test's results for college admission purposes. To register go to www.actstudent.org. The B-CC School Code is 210250.

Accuplacer: A computerized placement tool used by community colleges and designed to provide placement and advising information for students entering college.

Advanced Standing: For students who score highly on AP/IB exams or who have taken college-level classes. A student may gain credit for up to a year of collegiate study, or certain introductory courses may be waived.

Award Letter: The total amount of financial aid awarded to an accepted student. Sources include merit scholarships, Pell Grants, Stafford Loans, and Work-Study.

School/CEEB Code: The high school code used by students for all of their testing and college applications. The B-CC School Code is 210250.

**College Board**: An organization that designs, administers and scores the AP, PSAT, SAT, and SAT Subject Tests. To register for tests go to www.CollegeBoard.com. The B-CC School Code is 210250.

**Common Application:** A college application that is accepted by more than 300 colleges and universities. A number of these schools require that a "supplement" be filled out that asks school-specific questions. The common application is available online at www.commonapp.org

**Cooperative Education:** A combination of classroom study and work experience directly related to the classroom study offered by some universities in special programs.

**CSS/ PROFILE:** A financial aid application required by mostly private colleges that is used to determine how much of a school's financial resources will be offered to individual students. This is not a substitute for the FAFSA. It may be required earlier than the FAFSA by some schools.

**Deferral:** A term used by colleges to handle Early Decision candidates who are neither accepted nor rejected but will be considered for admission during the regular admission cycle.

**Deferred Admission**: A policy by which a college allows an admitted student to defer enrollment for one year to pursue other interests.

**Early Action:** A plan in which a student submits his college application early in the fall semester of his senior year to get a decision earlier. Early Action is not binding.

**Early Decision:** A binding admission plan under which a senior submits one college application, typically no later than November 15th, and receives a decision by the end of December or beginning of January. A student may apply to only one ED school.

**EFC (Estimated Family Contribution):** Amount of college costs a family is expected to pay after a needs analysis has been completed.

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid):

A form submitted by a student to the Federal Government to determine Estimated Family Contribution. Colleges use this information to put together financial aid packages for admitted students. The FAFSA is available on January 1st.

Financial Aid Package: Money derived from grants, scholarships, and loans to help pay college costs.

**Financial Need:** The difference between the cost of education and the amount that a student and his/her family can reasonably be expected to pay.

**Merit awards, merit-based scholarships:** Awards that are based on excellence in academics, leadership, volunteerism, athletic ability, and other areas determined by the granting organization. They are not based on financial need.

**Mid-Year Admission:** An option some colleges are now offering to some students allowing them to begin their studies in the spring/second semester. The University of Maryland at College Park offers this option.

**Mid-Year Report:** A report of a senior's fall semester grades required by many colleges.

**Need Blind:** Admissions decision made without knowledge of a student's financial need.

**Open Admissions:** A policy adopted by a number of institutions that allows almost all applicants to enroll. Montgomery College has a version of this policy.

**Rolling Admissions:** A student's application is evaluated by the college as soon as it is received and a decision is delivered soon after.

**SAT:** A college admissions test administered by the College Board that is comprised of three parts: Critical Reading, Math, and Writing.

**SAT Subject Tests:** One-hour exams offered in a variety of subjects that are typically required by some colleges.

Secondary School Report: A form required by most colleges, filled out by a student's counselor, that includes information on the student's academic performance and the high school.

**TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language):** Test for a student who doesn't speak English as his/her native language. Colleges require this test to ensure that applicants demonstrate a basic ability to communicate in English in both verbal and written form.

**Transcript:** A student's academic record showing all courses taken and grades earned, including cumulative non-weighted and weighted grade point averages.

Wait List: List of acceptable candidates who are not initially admitted to a college. Colleges make a final decision on a wait-listed applicant after they see how many accepted students enroll.

**Work-Study:** A form of financial assistance in which a student works, typically on campus, to help pay for tuition costs.

# **B-CC'S ON-LINE TRANSCRIPT REQUEST PROCESS:**

→ Before transcripts are sent, you will need to complete the "Authorization for Release of B-CC records" form and submit it to Ms. Peebles, Registrar. You can print it from the B-CC website/Counseling or pick up a copy in the Counseling Department.

## Part I: Log-in and Senior Survey

- Go to the B-CC Web page, <u>http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bcchs/</u>
- Click on the **Counseling** tab at top of the page.
- Click on the Family Connections (Naviance Program) link under Applying to College (If you don't remember your log-in or password, ask one of the counselors to re-set it)
- Click on the About Me tab/Click on the Fall 2012 Senior Survey on the left side of your screen.
- Complete the survey and save it.

## Part II: Create Common Application log-in and password and complete Privacy Waiver

- Go to the Family Connection home page.
- Click on the link to the Common Application (on left side of screen).
- If you haven't already done so, create a Common App log-in and password.
- Return to the Family Connection home page.
- Click on the Colleges tab/Click on the Colleges I'm Applying to link.
- Enter your Common App user name and password and complete the FERPA/Privacy Waiver. We recommend you waive your rights to access your information.

## Part III: Add Colleges and Request Transcript

- Go to Family Connection home page.
- Click on **Colleges I'm Thinking About**.
- You may already have colleges listed that you've been thinking about. If not, add colleges by clicking on the Add to this List link at the top. Click on Lookup, select college(s) and click on Add Applications. You will now be back on the Colleges I'm Thinking About page.
- Click on the box(es) next to the schools you are applying to.
- Now click on the Move to Application List tab. You will now be on the Colleges I am Applying to page/Click on Request Transcript at the top of the page.
- Scroll down and click on the **Request Transcript** box for each school. Also click on **Send Mid-Year** report and **Send Final** transcript boxes. Click on **Add Applications**.
- Go to the Colleges I'm Applying to tab to see the status of your transcript requests.

## Part IV: Requesting Teacher Recommendations

- **\*\*Please talk to teacher first before submitting an electronic request**; some teachers may prefer to mail their recommendation letters.
- Go to Colleges I Am Applying to on the left hand side of the screen.
- Scroll down to Teacher Recommendations.
- Click on Add/Cancel Requests.
- Select a teacher, add a note, and click on Update Requests.

## Part V: For transcripts that are to be mailed only

• Please meet with Ms. Peebles, Registrar, before school, after school, or during lunch to complete a paper transcript request form. You will submit this with a 9 x 11 stamped envelope addressed to the college.

## Part VI: Payment

- Your first three transcripts are sent for free. For additional transcripts there is a \$5.00 per transcript fee.
- You will need to submit payment to Ms. Peebles, Registrar, before transcripts are sent.
- You may request a fee waiver if needed.

# THINGS TO REMEMBER

Sign up in the College/Career Center to meet with college representatives, whose visits to B-CC begin the third week of school.

Submit your portion of the college applications directly to the schools.

Be sure that your ACT, SAT, SAT Subject Tests, and/or TOEFL test scores are sent to all of the schools that you are applying to.

Submit the required financial aid documents to your schools by their deadlines. All colleges require the FAFSA, while some also require the CSS/Profile and their own institutional forms.

Write a thank you note to the teachers who wrote your recommendations. Try to put something personal in to let them know how much you appreciate their help.

# WRITING A THANK YOU LETTER

You may have had an interview either with a college administrator or local alumnus. Perhaps you spent the night in a student's room or spoke with a professor about your field of interest.

All of these situations require a thank you letter. The thank you letter is an opportunity to demonstrate your interest in the school and to help you stand out from the other candidates.

# A good thank you letter is:

- $\rightarrow$  **Timely:** Written within 48 hours of your visit or interview.
- $\rightarrow$  **Brief:** Just a few, usually three, paragraphs.
- $\rightarrow$  **Polite:** Thank the individual for their time and use appropriate language.
- $\rightarrow$  **Positive:** Emphasize what you liked about the school.
- → **Informative:** Add any new information you feel may strengthen your application. It could be as simple as restating why you like that particular school.

# Remember to:

- Make sure you have the individual's name, title, and correct address.
- Consider a hand-written note. Email is fine but a hand written note will go in your application folder.
- There are three important elements to every thank you note:
  - 1. A thank you
  - 2. A personal note
  - 3. An interest expressed in the college, university, or organization.
- Send a note to anyone who has written you a recommendation or been helpful to you in your search.

# **DEVELOPING A FINANCIAL PLAN**

## 1. Determine college costs.

## 2. Investigate all possible sources of funding.

- $\rightarrow$  Financial Aid from federal and/or state government
- $\rightarrow$  School student will be attending
- → Private sources.
- $\rightarrow$  Grants: federal, state
- $\rightarrow$  Loans: federally subsidized, banks, or other lenders
- $\rightarrow$  Parents
- $\rightarrow$  Savings
- $\rightarrow$  Summer earnings
- $\rightarrow$  Work-Study

## 3. Gather tax documents as soon as possible after January 1.

## 4. Secure necessary financial forms and meet deadlines.

- → FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). We recommend filing online between January 1st and February 15th. Get a PIN number at www.pin.ed.gov and then file the FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov
- → CSS/Profile: required by mostly private colleges and scholarship programs. Recommend filing in the fall (available online at www.CollegeBoard.com). Update when FAFSA is complete.
- $\rightarrow$  Individual College Financial Aid Application (if required).
- 5. **Refer to Passport to Success binder**. Found in the B-CC College and Career Center, it includes information about eligibility requirements for Federal Student Aid, types of Federal Student Aid, and the steps for applying for Federal Student Aid.

#### **Financial Aid Websites**

<u>http://studentaid.ed.gov/</u> is available in both English and Spanish, and includes a link to FAFSA4caster. Even before your senior year, you can use the FAFSA4caster to estimate the federal financial aid you are likely to receive

## Application Sites:

- → http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/
- → http://profileonline.collegeboard.com/index.jsp

#### Information sites:

- → Collegenavigator.gov provides information on over 7000 postsecondary schools and numerous search tools to help find the college right for you.
- → <u>http://collegecost.ed.gov/</u> provides information about schools with the highest and lowest net prices (not sticker price).
- → www.fastweb.com www.finaid.org http://www.studentaid.com/ http://www.students.gov.

# COLLEGE VISITS

A campus visit to the schools that interest you is highly recommended. It is the best way for you to determine whether the school is a good match for you and it communicates your interest to the admissions department. If it is not feasible for you to arrange to visit a school, contact the admissions office to find out if there is someone local, such as a regional admissions officer or an alumni representative, that you can meet to learn more about the school and express your interest.

Every fall, the B-CC College and Career Center invites admissions representatives from a wide variety of campuses throughout the United States to present information and meet with students. These sessions give students an opportunity to learn about the school, to demonstrate interest, and to make a connection with the admissions representative – the very one who may make the admissions decision.

# **HELPFUL TIPS:**

- $\rightarrow$  Visit when the college is in session. Spring break of junior year is typically a good time.
- $\rightarrow$  Attend the Office of Admission presentation
- $\rightarrow$  If available, attend the financial session.
- $\rightarrow$  Take a walking tour of the campus.
- $\rightarrow$  If permitted, schedule an interview and/or sit in on a class.
- $\rightarrow$  Eat lunch in the student dining facility.
- $\rightarrow$  Ask about study abroad, internships and career placement.
- $\rightarrow$  Visit academic departments that interest you.
- $\rightarrow$  Evaluate the school as you leave the campus.
- $\rightarrow$  Complete the College Visit Comparison Sheet.
- $\rightarrow$  Send thank-you notes to individuals who spent time with you.

COLLEGE INFORMATION SHEET						
COLLEGE / ADDRESS / WEBSITE				ADMISSIONS CONTACT INFO / PHONE		
ADMISSION	DEADLIN	NE	NOTIFICATION	NOTES		
Early Decision						
Early Action						
Regular						
Rolling						
ITEM SAT scores 1	SE	NI	DATE SENT	NOTES		
		-				
SAT scores 2		-				
ACT scores		-				
ACT scores 2		-				
SAT subject test scores		-				
Teacher Recommendation		-				
Teacher Recommendation		-				
Recommendation 3		-				
Essay		-				
Application (mail)		-				
Application (online	e)	-				
Transcript Secondary Schoo Counselor Recom	ol Report	-				
Financial Info		_				
FAFSA Application		_				
Payment		_				
		_				
Interview		_				

<u>\_\_\_\_</u> ----

# **COLLEGE EVALUATION SHEET**

COLLEGE	DATE VISITED	WEATHER	
My first impression was	1		
The students looked			
My tour guide was			
The dorms were			
The campus was			
The town was			
My favorite academics/classes were			
The athletics were			
The food was			
The Greek influence was			
All the hype I heard was			
The atmosphere was			

NOTES