

# **Class of 2019 - SENIOR COLLEGE APPLICATION GUIDE**

## **Your School Counselor is:**

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Dr. Julie Nelson Slagle  
Mrs. Melissa Monnig  
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Mrs. Lauren Himmel  
Mrs. Kalena Falk

## **If your name begins with:**

A - Co, Career Center Juniors  
Cp - Hi, Career Center Seniors  
Hj - Mi  
Mj - Sc  
Sd - Z  
Freshmen A-Z

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## **Senior Year Checklist**



### **September-April**

- Continue / Finalize researching Universities and Colleges
- Finalize testing with ACT and SAT
- Make sure your scores will be issued by the college application deadline (EXAMPLE: OSU Early Action date of Nov. 1)
- Visit prospective colleges
- Sign up to meet college reps coming to GLHS (Naviance Student)
- Attend college fairs
- Begin college applications- usually late Sept. / October
- Ask appropriate teachers for recommendations (please give minimum of 2 weeks notice)
- Write and revise college essays
- Request transcripts through Naviance Student by Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup>!
- Begin the FAFSA by setting up your account on [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov) (after 10/1)
- Attend the College Financial Aid Meeting on September 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the GLHS Auditorium
- Research scholarships in the community, church, high school, and the colleges you have applied (Local Scholarships will arrive in February 2019).
- Keep track of your college acceptances and financial aid awards
- Make sure you do not miss important deadlines for acceptances!!!

### **May - June**

- May 1<sup>st</sup> is National Acceptance Day – many colleges require that you tell them if you plan to attend.
- Finalize plans with the college you will attend (housing applications, new student orientation, etc).
- Request your final transcript in Naviance Student
- Complete the Senior Survey on Naviance Student
  - o May 25, 2019 – GRADUATION !!!

## Task 1: Access your account on Naviance Student

<http://student.naviance.com/lincoln>

This website is mobile and tablet friendly!

Your counselor gave you this login information last year during your junior meeting!



**Naviance Student** is your one stop shop for college application needs

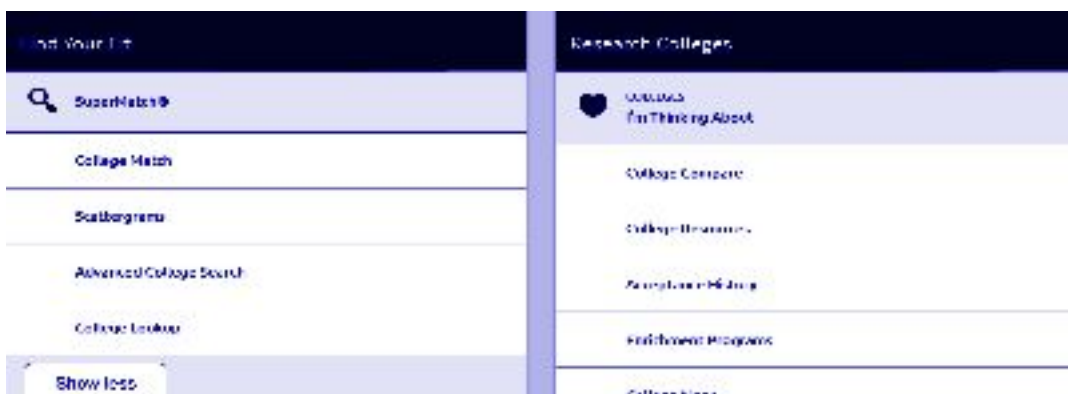
- **Research** and **compare** colleges
- Sign up to meet **college reps** visiting GLHS
- Create your list of colleges you are applying to
- Request **transcripts**.
- Request **Letters of Recommendation** from your teachers.
- **Track** the status of your college applications and transcripts.
- Receive important **updates and information** from your school counselors.
- **FREE** ACT Preparation tools.

## Task 2: Research Colleges

A. Ask yourself some important questions when looking at Colleges:

1. **Why am I going to college in the first place?**
  - *To prepare for a career? Will it lead to a good job? For the intellectual challenge?*
2. **What do I want out of life?**
3. **Who am I?**
4. **What are my abilities and what do I have to offer?**

B. Use **Naviance Student** to research and compare colleges



## Task 3: Finish Visiting Prospective Colleges

Students have THREE excused days off for planned college visits

Schedule your visits online or call the admissions office

Please complete a Planned Absence Form from the Attendance Office before going on your visit

### College Visit Tips

- Visiting a college campus is the best way to learn about the many qualities of the college and get a true feel for what it would be like to live and study there. Contact the admissions department ahead of time to make arrangements for the visit and to schedule an interview with admissions personnel, a financial aid officer, and possibly a professor in your major area of interest.
- Study the college website before your visit and develop a list of questions to ask and things to look for while you are there. Be sure to take a campus tour.
- Plan a visit when classes are in session and talk with students and faculty about the college environment, academic opportunities, extracurricular opportunities, and social life.



# Task 4: Sign-Up on Naviance Student to meet with College Representatives when they visit GLHS in the Fall

This is a great way to get personal with an admissions representative and ask specific questions about their school! Mrs. Pedrotty in the Guidance office will send a pass for you to attend if you have signed up prior to the visit.

Sign up here under the colleges tab > college visits!

The screenshot shows the Naviance Student interface. The top navigation bar includes Home, Courses, Colleges, Careers, About Me, and My Planner. The main content area is divided into a left sidebar and a main panel. The sidebar has 'Quick Links' with sections for 'MORE SEARCH OPTIONS' (SuperMatch®, Advanced college search, College lookup) and 'MY COLLEGES' (Upcoming college visits, Colleges match, Colleges Visits). The main panel is titled 'College Visits' and features a search bar. It displays a list of four college visits:

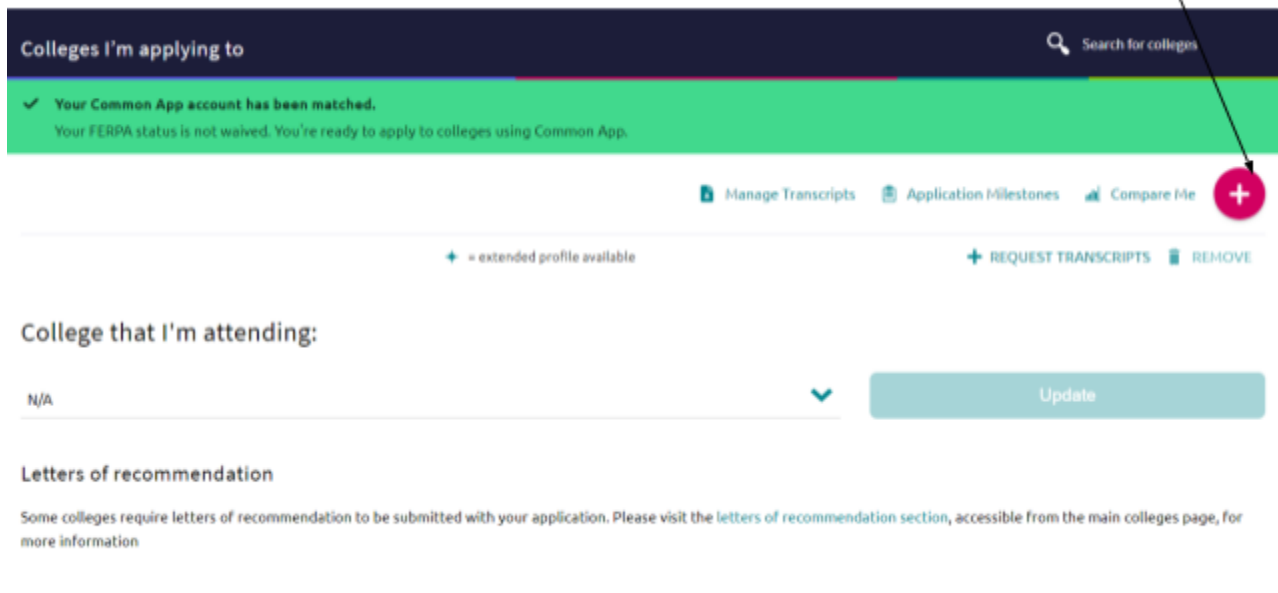
Month	Date	Time	University	Location	Registration Deadline	Action
SEPTEMBER	Wed 05	11:00AM	Mount St. Joseph University	Guidance Office	REGISTER BY SEP 05 2018	Register Now View Details
SEPTEMBER	Tue 18	11:00AM	Bowling Green State University	Guidance Office	REGISTER BY SEP 18 2018	Register Now View Details
SEPTEMBER	Thu 20	10:00AM	Wright State University	Guidance Office	REGISTER BY SEP 20 2018	Register Now View Details
SEPTEMBER	Thu 20		University of Cincinnati	Guidance Office	REGISTER BY SEP 20 2018	Register Now

## Task 5: Begin College Applications

1. Complete college applications by filling out the Common Application or each college's individual application.
  - a. Do not forget to add your colleges to your list on Naviance Student!
    - i. Successfully matched Common App and Naviance Student accounts will automatically fill this list.

Use Naviance Student to stay organized and request transcripts

Add colleges to the “colleges I’m applying to” link here



Colleges I'm applying to

Search for colleges

✓ Your Common App account has been matched.  
Your FERPA status is not waived. You're ready to apply to colleges using Common App.

Manage Transcripts Application Milestones Compare Me +

+ = extended profile available + REQUEST TRANSCRIPTS REMOVE

College that I'm attending:

N/A

Update

Letters of recommendation

Some colleges require letters of recommendation to be submitted with your application. Please visit the letters of recommendation section, accessible from the main colleges page, for more information

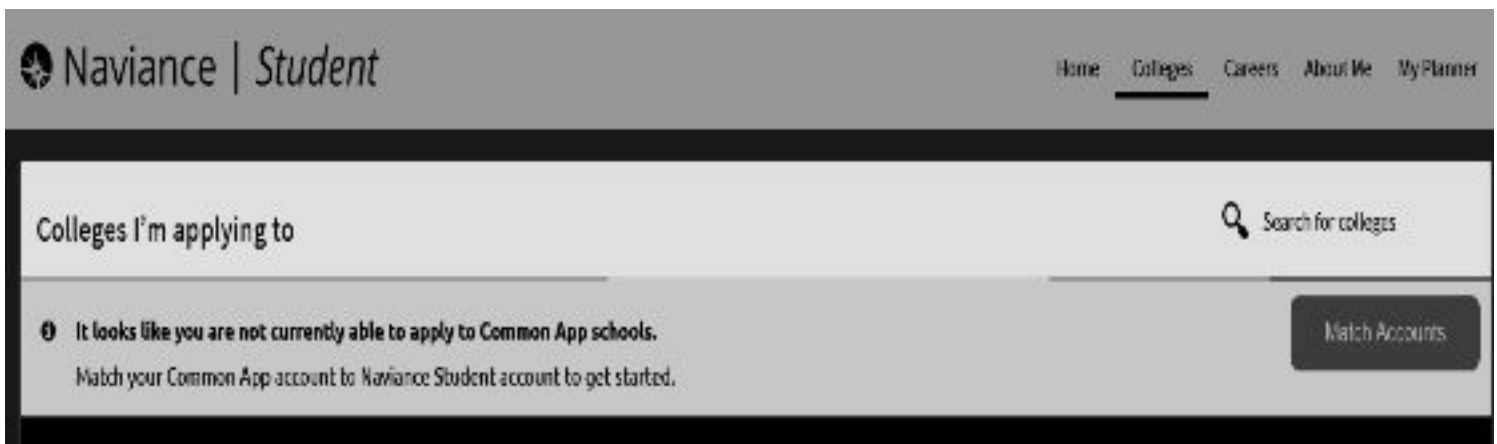
You will also request transcripts to be sent to colleges from this page.

## Task 6: Common App Matching

This is only if you are applying to a school using the Common Application.

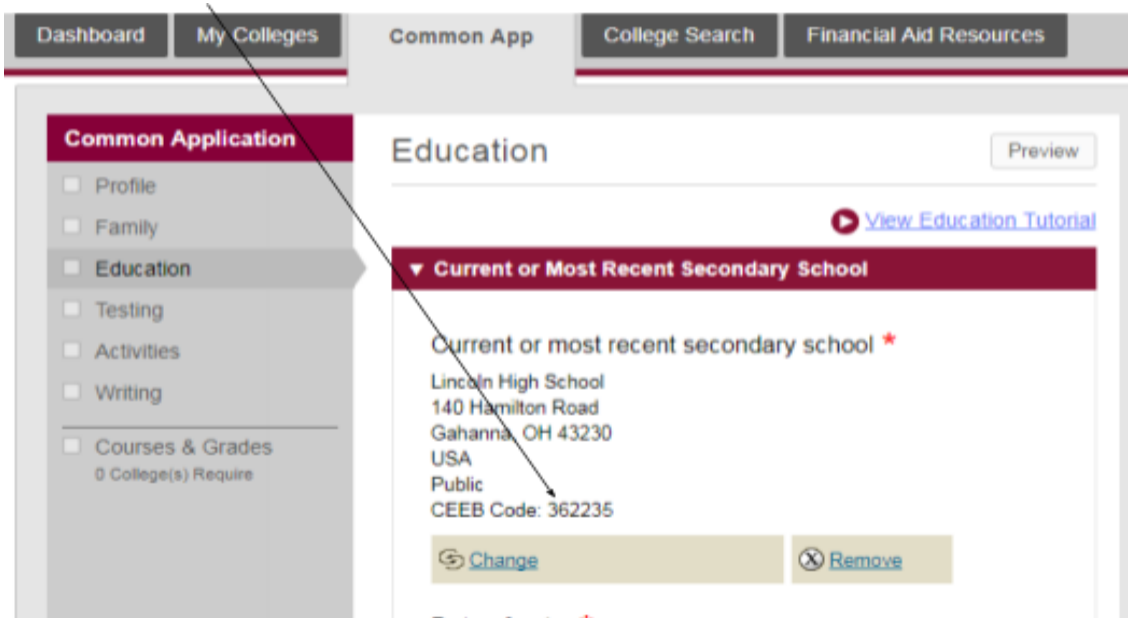
In order to synchronize your Common Application and Naviance Student account, you must “Match” your accounts as shown below.

Under the “Colleges I’m applying to” tab.



In your Common Application account, this is how you will successfully match.

**Step 1: Make sure you are using the school code, 362235, to find your school. If you type in Gahanna Lincoln it will not find us because our name is listed as “Lincoln High School”**



# Common App Matching (cont'd, if you can't tell already, this step is really important!)

Step 2: Once you have added a college you will need to release authorization for counselors and teachers to submit recommendations.

The screenshot displays the Common App dashboard for a user. The top navigation bar includes 'Dashboard', 'My Colleges', 'Common App', 'College Search', and 'Financial Aid Resources'. The left sidebar shows a list of colleges: Brown University (expanded), Case Western Reserve University, Miami University (Ohio), Ohio University, Stetson University, Swarthmore College, The Ohio State University, and University of Cincinnati. The main content area is titled 'For All Colleges' and features a 'FERPA Release Authorization' section with a 'Release Authorization' button. Below this is an 'Invite Recommenders' section with an 'Invite and Manage Recommenders' button. A 'Recommenders for Brown University' section follows, with a note that all dates are Eastern Time. Underneath, there is a 'Counselor' section explaining that the school uses Naviance eDocs and provides a list of PDF forms: School Report, Counselor Recommendation, Optional Report, and Mid Year Report. The right sidebar contains 'Instructions and Help' with links to 'What happens if I do not waive my FERPA rights?', 'What is the FERPA Waiver?', 'Who can I list if I do not have a counselor?', and 'I am out of high school. Who do I list if I no longer have a counselor?'.

You will notice if you are properly matched, you will not be able to add a counselor or teacher email for a recommendation in the Common App, and Common App will prompt you to return to Naviance.

## Task 7: College Essays

Please check your prospective college application requirements. Not all colleges require essays. The main purpose of an application essay is to give the college a glimpse of **who you are as a person**. Do not simply re-state your resume or accomplishments. Tell a story about yourself!

### What are colleges looking for in an essay?

- Answer the writing prompt succinctly
- Students who take the time to think about the essay and intelligently answer the question.
- What does this student care about (Interests and Passions)?
- Can the student use language appropriately and correctly?
- It allows the student to give an explanation for anything that may have happened in their life that influenced their grades.

## 2018-2019 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, 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.



# Task 7: Finalize Testing ACT/SAT

GLHS Code Number 362 235

## **ACT 2018 – 2019**

[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

\*Refer to website for most current information

Apply online at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

Test Date	Registration deadline
September 8, 2018	August 10, 2018
October 27, 2018	September 28, 2018
December 8, 2018	November 2, 2018
April 13, 2019	March 8, 2019
June 8, 2019	May 3, 2019
July 13, 2019	June 15, 2019

## **SAT 2018-2019**

[sat.collegeboard.org](http://sat.collegeboard.org)

\*Refer to website for most current information

Apply online at [sat.collegeboard.org](http://sat.collegeboard.org)

Test Date	Registration deadline
August 25, 2018	July 27, 2018
October 6, 2018	September 7, 2018
November 3, 2018	October 5, 2018
December 1, 2018	November 2, 2018
March 9, 2019	February 8, 2019
May 4, 2019	April 5, 2019
June 1, 2019	May 3, 2019

### **Looking for additional resources to prepare for these tests?**

- KAPLAN – [www.Kaptest.com](http://www.Kaptest.com) or 1-800-KAP-TEST
- Princeton Review – [www.princetonreview.com](http://www.princetonreview.com) or 614-448-2929
- Tutoring by a College Professor (Matt Marx) 614-264-1112
- Huntington Learning Center – 614-475-5905
- Tutoring Club – 614-428-8886
- <http://sat.collegeboard.org>
- <http://www.actstudent.org>

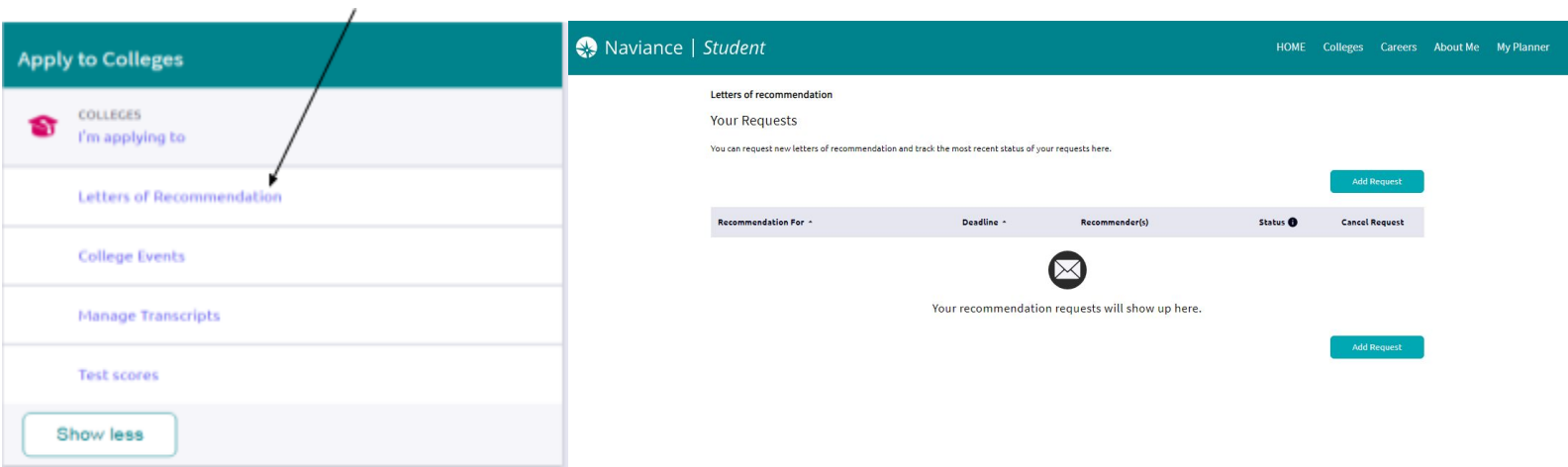
- **Many great books in your school library, local library, and retail book stores/vendors. Check with your School Counselors.**

## Task 8: Letters of Recommendation

Please check your prospective college application requirements. Not all colleges require letters of recommendation.

**YOU WILL REQUEST ALL LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION IN NAVIANCE STUDENT, NOT IN THE COMMON APP!** If you request the letter in Common App, this will prevent your letter and transcript from being sent.

Navigate to the Colleges tab, and scroll down until you find, “Letters of Recommendation.” Here, you will find the area where to organize and request your recommendations.



### Who should I ask to write my letters of recommendation?

Your letters of recommendation should come from individuals who will represent you well to your prospective school.

- Teachers
- Club Advisors
- School Counselors
- Community Service Leaders
- Church Leader
- Athletic Coach

### When should I ask for a letter of recommendation?

**At least 2 weeks prior** to your deadline. Remember that the individuals you are asking have jobs, families, etc. They need ample time to write a good letter of recommendation for you!

### How do I ask for a letter of recommendation?

1. **Remember to personally ask first before sending a request in Naviance!**
2. Tell them about the school and/or program you are applying and give them a copy of your resume or list of awards, clubs, athletic teams, and co-curricular activities. *Provide them with enough information so that they can share some unique information with the college. **This info can be added to the Resume tab in Naviance!***
3. Remember to follow up with a thank-you note.

## Task 9 (Final Step!): Transcript Requests / Payments

Transcript Request Payment Forms (“Brown Half Sheets”) are available in the Guidance Office on the “College Counter”



### Family Connection College Transcript Request Payment Form

DATE REQUESTED \_\_\_\_\_ NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT ID# \_\_\_\_\_ has requested Official Transcripts through NAVIANCE FAMILY CONNECTION. I understand transcripts are \$2 for each school and will not be sent until payment is submitted to LHS Guidance Department.

Check below the number of schools that you requested transcripts through NAVIANCE for, and attach payment to this form.

1/\$2     2/\$4     3/\$6     4/\$8     5/\$10     6/\$12

**We suggest you submit your applications first online and then come to the Guidance Office to request your transcripts and pay the processing fees.**

**Please WATCH YOUR College Application DEADLINES Carefully!**

**The Guidance Office recommends all college applications are submitted online and transcripts are requested by November 9<sup>th</sup> 2018.**

(This assures you are meeting most college deadlines)

## **Additional Information**



### **Important Information for Student-Athletes**

If you wish to participate in **NCAA Division I or II** athletics, you need to be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center. You need to qualify academically and will also need to be cleared as an amateur student-athlete. To register, go to [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org).

Please request a transcript for the **NCAA Eligibility Center** through Family Connection.

Please have your ACT/SAT test scores sent to the **NCAA Eligibility Center** from the ACT/SAT websites.

### **ACT Boot Camp**

Tuesday October 16th, 2018  
Test taking strategies specific to the ACT  
GLHS Auditorium

### **College Fairs**

#### **Suburban College Fair (Open for All)**

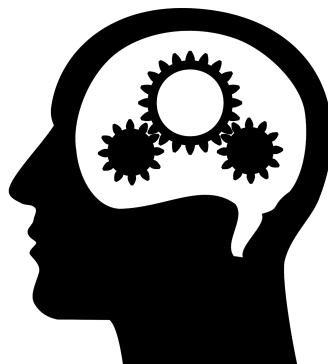
October 7, 2018  
1:00 p.m. — 3:30 p.m.  
Otterbein College – Clements Center

#### **Learning Disabilities College Fair (Open for All)**

October 10, 2018  
6:30 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.  
Gahanna Lincoln High School Cafeteria/Library

## Simplified College Application Process Checklist

- ❑ Research Colleges (college visits, Supermatch, College rep visits, etc.)
- ❑ Add colleges to “Colleges “I’m applying to” list within Naviance Student.
- ❑ Apply to colleges. Either directly on the college’s website or via the Common Application (make sure account is matched).
- ❑ Ask teachers in person and then request Letters of Recommendation in Naviance Student (don’t forget to provide teachers with a resume!)
- ❑ Request Transcripts in Naviance Student once you have completed applications
- ❑ Bring Transcript Requests/Transcripts (Brown half sheets) to Guidance Office and place them in the college drawer with payment once you complete applications. \$2 per college.
- ❑ Helpful websites:
  - ❑ <http://www.student.naviance.com/lincoln>
  - ❑ <http://www.commonapp.org>
  - ❑ <http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/> (Possible alternative application)



# Scholarship Search Sites

<b>College Scholarships</b>	<b>National Database</b>	<b>www.fastweb.com</b>
<b>College Scholarships</b>	<b>Scholarship Database</b>	<b>tuitionfundingsources.com</b>
<b>College Scholarships</b>	<b>The Columbus Foundation</b>	<b>www.columbusfoundation.org</b>
<b>College Scholarships</b>	<b>Scholarship search and financial aid</b>	<b>www.scholarships.com</b>
<b>College Scholarships</b>	<b>State Scholarships</b>	<b><a href="http://www.collegescholarships.org">http://www.collegescholarships.org</a></b>
<b>College Scholarships</b>	<b>Scholarships and More</b>	<b>www.CollegeAnswer.com</b>
<b>College Scholarships</b>	<b>Scholarship search</b>	<b><a href="https://www.raise.me">https://www.raise.me</a></b>