Class of 2019 – SENIOR COLLEGE APPLICATION GUIDE

Your School Counselor is:
- Mr. Anthony Rivello
- Dr. Julie Nelson Slagle
- Mrs. Melissa Monnig
- Ms. Jenny Savakinas
- Mrs. Lauren Himmel
- Mrs. Kalena Falk

If your name begins with:
- A - Co, Career Center Juniors rivelloa@gjps.org
- Cp – Hi, Career Center Seniors nelsonslaglej@gjps.org
- Hj – Mi monnigm@gjps.org
- Mj – Sc savakinasi@gjps.org
- Sd – Z himmell@gjps.org
- Freshmen A-Z falkk@gjps.org

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 9th!
- Begin the FAFSA by setting up your account on www.studentaid.ed.gov (after 10/1)
- Attend the College Financial Aid Meeting on September 13th 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 1st 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
  - 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!
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

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.

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)

<table>
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<th>Registration deadline</th>
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<td>May 3, 2019</td>
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**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)

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<td>April 5, 2019</td>
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<td>June 1, 2019</td>
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**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://sat.collegeboard.org)
- [http://www.actstudent.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 9th, 2018.

(This assures you are meeting most college deadlines)
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.

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.student.naviance.com/lincoln)
  - [http://www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)
  - [http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/](http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/) (Possible alternative application)
## Scholarship Search Sites

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