Class of 2017 – SENIOR COLLEGE APPLICATION GUIDE

Your School Counselor is: **If your name begins with:**

Mr. Chris Stiel	A - Co, Career Center Juniors	stielc@gjps.org
Ms. Kristen Dickerson	Cp – Hi, Career Center Seniors	dickersonk@gjps.org
Mrs. Melissa Monnig	Hj – Mi	monnigm@gjps.org
Ms. Jenny Savakinas	Mj – Sc	savakinasj@gjps.org
Ms. Lauren Sommers	Sd – Z	sommersl@gjps.org
Mrs. Kalena Falk	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 (Family Connection)
- ☐ 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 Family Connection by Friday, November11th!
- ☐ Begin the FAFSA by setting up your account on www.studentaid.ed.gov (after 10/1)
- ☐ Attend the College Financial Aid Meeting on September 15th at 7:00 PM in the GLHS Auditorium
- ☐ Research scholarships in the community, church, high school, and the colleges you have applied
- ☐ Parents complete and submit the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
- ☐ Keep track of your college acceptances and financial aid awards
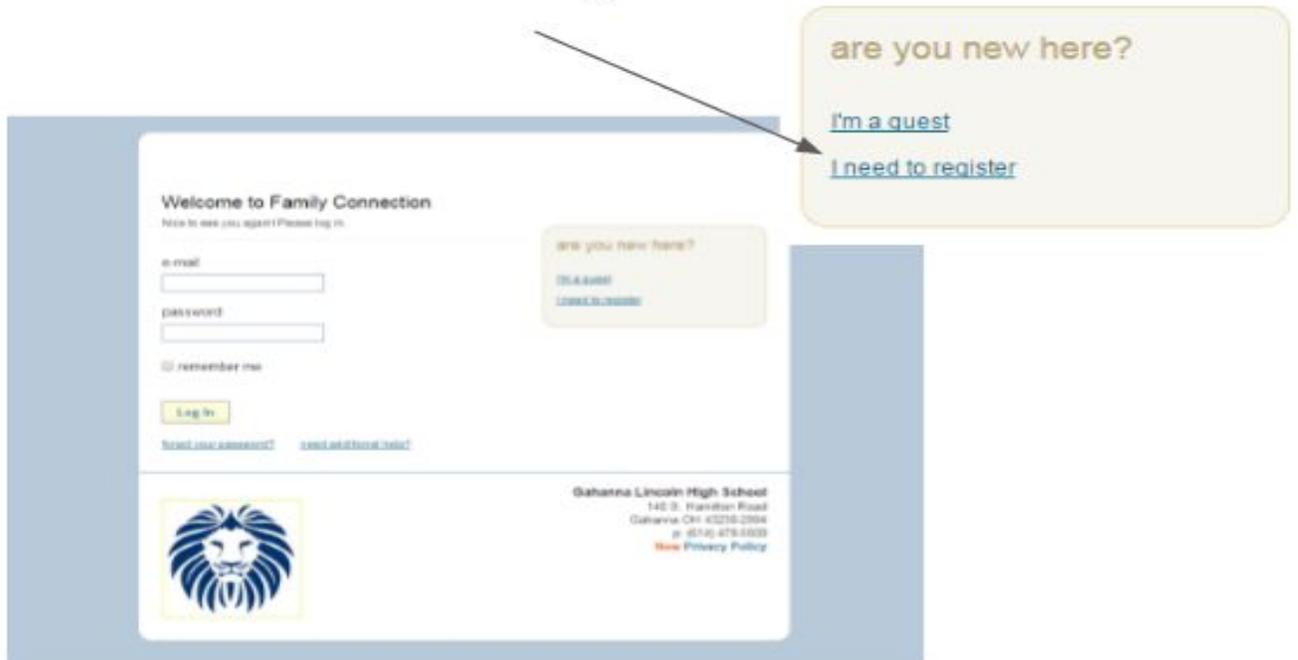- ☐ Make sure you do not miss important deadlines for acceptances!!!

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 Family Connection
- ☐ Complete the Senior Survey
  - o May 27, 2017 – GRADUATION !!!

Task 1: Create an account on Family Connection

http://connection.naviance.com/lincoln

Your counselor will give you a personal Registration Code used to activate your account during your senior meeting

First You will need to register

are you new here?

I'm a guest

I need to register

Welcome to Family Connection
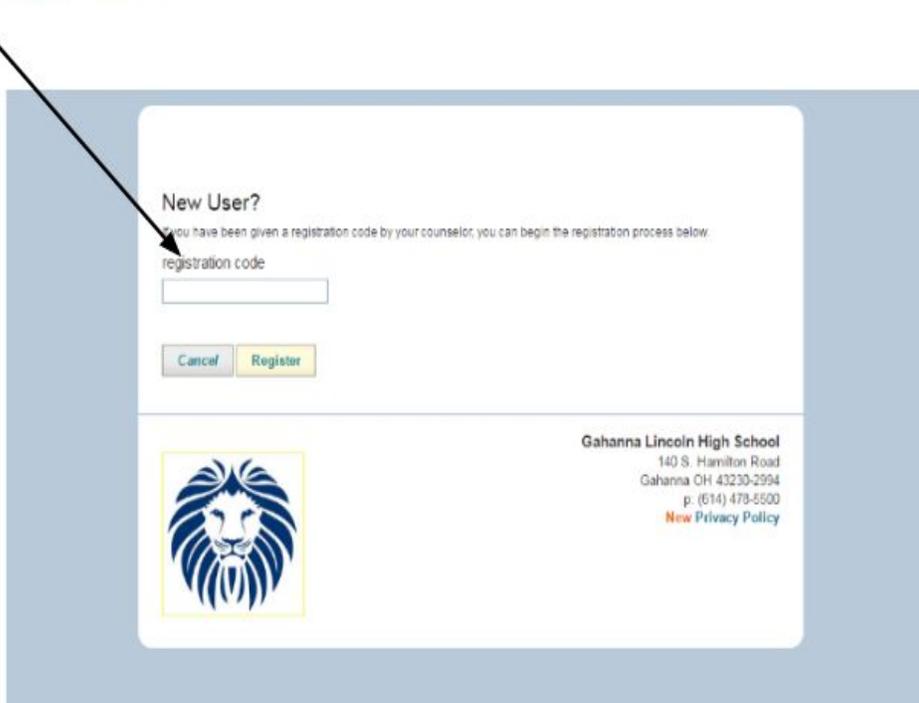
Nice to see you again! Please log in.

e-mail

password

□ remember me

Log In

Forgot your password?   need additional help?

are you new here?

I'm a guest

I need to register

Gahanna Lincoln High School
140 S. Hamilton Road
Gahanna OH 43230-2994
p: (614) 478-5500
New Privacy Policy

Next: Enter your Personal Registration Code

New User?

If you have been given a registration code by your counselor, you can begin the registration process below.

registration code

Cancel   Register

Gahanna Lincoln High School
140 S. Hamilton Road
Gahanna OH 43230-2994
p: (614) 478-5500
New Privacy Policy

How will you use Family Connection?

1. **Research** and **compare** colleges
2. Sign Up to meet **college reps** visiting LHS
3. Create your **"College List"**
4. Request **Transcripts**
5. Request **Letters of Recommendation** from your teachers
6. **Track** the status of college applications and transcripts
7. Research local and national **scholarships**
8. Receive **updates** from the School Counseling Office
9. FREE **ACT prep!**

ONE STOP SHOP

Task 2: Continue/Finalize Researching 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 **Family Connection** 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 Family Connection to meet with College Representatives when they visit GLHS in the Fall

This is a great way to get personal with a an admissions representative!

my colleges

> colleges I'm thinking about

> colleges I'm applying to

> Upcoming college events

Upcoming college visits

- 09/06/16 Elon University details »
- 09/08/16 University of South Carolina details »
- 09/13/16 Cleveland State University details »

view all upcoming college visits

college visits

	College	Date	Location	Registrations	Registration Deadline
information | sign up	Elon University	9/6/16 8:00 AM		-	9/5/16
information | sign up	University of South Carolina	9/8/16 11:00 AM		-	-
information | sign up	Cleveland State University	9/13/16 11:00 AM		-	9/12/16
information | sign up	The Ohio State University	9/15/16 10:00 AM		-	9/14/16
information | sign up	Bowling Green State University	9/15/16 11:00 AM		-	9/14/16
information | sign up	The University of Akron	9/15/16 12:00 PM		-	9/14/16
information | sign up	Wabash College	9/19/16 11:00 AM		-	9/18/16
information | sign up	Ursuline College	9/19/16 1:00 PM		-	9/18/16
information | sign up	Ohio Dominican University	9/21/16 10:00 AM		-	9/20/16
information | sign up	American University	9/21/16 11:00 AM		-	9/20/16
information | sign up	Wake Forest University	9/21/16 1:00 PM		-	9/20/16
information | sign up	University of Pittsburgh	9/27/16 9:00 AM		-	9/26/16
information | sign up	Purdue University North Central	9/27/16 10:00 AM		-	9/26/16
information | sign up	Indiana Tech	9/27/16 11:00 AM		-	9/26/16
information | sign up	Baldwin Wallace University	9/28/16 10:00 AM		-	9/27/16
information | sign up	Elmhurst College	9/28/16 11:00 AM		-	9/27/16
information | sign up	Indiana University at Bloomington	10/7/16 9:00 AM		-	10/6/16
information | sign up	Furman University	10/12/16 10:00 AM		-	10/11/16
information | sign up	Vanderbilt University	10/19/16 11:00 AM		-	10/18/16
information | sign up	Wittenberg University	11/1/16 10:00 AM		-	10/31/16

Once you are ready to apply to your prospective colleges:

1. Apply online via The Common App or the college or university online application
2. Update your "**colleges I'm applying to**" list in Family Connection
   a. Are you using The Common Application?
   b. Are you applying Early Decision?
   c. **Request a transcript**
   d. Indicate if you have officially submitted your applications
   e. Request Letters of Recommendation from your teachers

3. Send your ACT/SAT scores directly from the ACT/SAT websites

Use Family Connection to stay organized and request transcripts

Add colleges to the "colleges I'm applying to" to link

Request your TRANSCRIPTS here!!!

Task 6: Finalize Testing
ACT/SAT

GLHS Code Number <u>362 235</u>

<u>ACT 2016 – 2017</u>
www.actstudent.org
*Refer to website for most current information

Apply online at www.actstudent.org

Test Date	Registration deadline
October 22, 2016**	September 16, 2016
December 10, 2016	November 4, 2016
February11, 2017	January13, 2017
April 8, 2017**	March 3, 2017
June 10, 2017	May 5, 2017

**At Gahanna Lincoln High School

<u>SAT 2016 – 2017</u>
sat.collegeboard.org
*Refer to website for most current information

Apply online at sat.collegeboard.org

Test Date	Registration deadline
October 1, 2016	September 2, 2016
November 5, 2016	October 7, 2016
December 3, 2016	November 4, 2016
January 28, 2017	December 30, 2017
March11, 2017	February 10, 2017
May 6, 2017	April 7, 2017
June 3, 2017	May 5, 2017

Looking for additional resources to prepare for these tests?
- KAPLAN – www.Kaptest.com or 1-800-KAP-TEST
- Princeton Review – 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

Task 7: Transcript Requests / Payments

Transcript Request Payment Forms 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

PLEASE WATCH YOUR College Application Deadlines Carefully!

The Guidance Office recommends all college transcripts ARE ordered and applications are completed by November11th 2016.

(This assures you are meeting most college deadlines)

Task 8: Letters of Recommendation

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

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. Contact the individual and set up an appointment to meet with them. (Some individuals will like to have a personal interview with you prior to writing the letter)

2. Tell them about the school and/or program you are applying

3. 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*

4. Remember to follow up with a thank-you note

** In September we expect that students will be able to request teacher recommendations through Family Connection **

Task 9: 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.

2016-2017 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 failure can be fundamental to later success. Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?

3. Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again?

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 or event, formal or informal, that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood within your culture, community, or family.

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.

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

Thursday October 20th, 2016
Test taking strategies specific to the ACT
GLHS Auditorium

College Fairs

Suburban College Fair (Open for All)
September 25, 2016
1:00 p.m. — 3:30 p.m.
Otterbein College – Clements Center

Learning Disabilities College Fair (Open for All)
October 4, 2016
6:30 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.
Gahanna Lincoln High School Cafeteria