



College Application Process



PAC 2/9/2021



Freshman & Sophomore Year

- Choose the correct courses
- Keep up with your grades
- GET INVOLVED! – Join extracurricular activities and/or sports
- Guidance lesson on Exploring Careers and Colleges and introduction to Naviance website in grade 10
- Start thinking about careers - take assessments on Naviance
- Optional - take the PSAT in your sophomore year
- Start building your resume - add accomplishments, activities, community service, and awards to your resume
- Develop your relationships with teachers and your counselor

Junior Year

- Take the PSAT in October of your junior year to prepare for the SAT in the Spring
- Visit colleges virtually or in-person if available and/or attend virtual college fairs
- Attend the QPS College Fair in October
- Sign up to take the SAT and/or ACT in spring of your junior year
- Use Naviance to research and start developing your college list
- Make an appointment with your counselor to discuss your plans
- Keep up with your grades and continue to develop your resume
- Guidance lesson on post-graduate planning and introduction to the Common Application

Senior Year

- College Planning Presentation for Families and classroom lesson on post-graduate planning
- Finalize your college list – add schools to Naviance and link it to Common App
- Begin to fill out the Common Application or specific school applications
- Review your transcript with your counselor
- Write your college essay
- Ask your teacher(s) and counselor for a letter of recommendation
- Meet with your counselor early and often
- Pay attention to deadlines
- Fill out the FAFSA application and/or CCS profile– opens October 1st

What is Naviance?

- <https://student.naviance.com/nqhs>
- Naviance is a web-based resource for students and parents that encourages and supports post high school career and college planning
- Family Connection is specific to our school



Naviance - How can I use it?

- Career Planning
- Assessments: Career Cluster Finder, Strengths Explorer, Career Interest Profiler
- Resume Building
- College Planning
- College Search, Application Process, College Major Exploration, Scholarship/Financial Aid Resources



What is new with the College Admissions Process?

- Colleges are flexible with grades - Understand pass/fail or credit/no credit grades for spring of 2020 and will not be held against students
- Many colleges are offering virtual visits, open houses and tours
- Guidance offers virtual college visits to seniors through Naviance
- Many college fairs are virtual through NACAC & College Board
- New Common App Covid optional essay prompt - Community disruptions such as COVID-19 and natural disasters can have deep and long-lasting impacts. If you need it, this space is yours to describe those impacts. Colleges care about the effects on your health and well-being, safety, family circumstances, future plans, and education, including access to reliable technology and quiet study spaces.

What has changed with SAT and ACT in Admissions?

- Many colleges were test-optional for the 2021- 22 applications - which means that students can choose to apply without submitting test scores for SY; some have chosen to remain test optional
- Website to find out which schools are test optional: www.fairtest.org
- Make sure to check requirements for each school, as some schools may have other requirements
- SAT is no longer offering SAT Subject tests
- SAT will discontinue the optional SAT Essay after the June 2021 administration
- Check SAT and ACT websites for updated information on testing locations, dates and to keep up on cancellations:
 - www.collegeboard.org (For SAT)
 - www.act.org (for ACT)

SAT Update

- NQHS is offering a school-day SAT on Tuesday, April 27
- Register with the school (details are forthcoming)
- The March 13th SAT administration at NQHS is cancelled

Every class has a Guidance Google Classroom for students and Social Media!



North Quincy High
School



nqhsguidance



NQHS Guidance