

# Applying to College 101

**PRESENTER NAME**

Education & Career Counselor, The NHHEAF Network



THE  
**NHHEAF**  
NETWORK

Center *for* College Planning

# CENTER FOR COLLEGE PLANNING APPOINTMENTS

Individual **In-Person** or **Virtual**  
appointments available.

Schedule online:

[calendly.com/nhheaf\\_ccp](https://calendly.com/nhheaf_ccp)

Or call:

**603.227.5444**

## FAFSA Filing - In Person

High School Seniors/Current College Students: The 2023-2024 FAFSA is available starting October 1st! If you are a high school senior, current college student, or pe...

## FAFSA Filing- Virtual

High School Seniors/Current College Students: The 2023-2024 FAFSA is available starting October 1st! If you are a high school senior, current college student, or pe...

## Financial Aid Conversation - In Person

Whether you're new to financial aid or have specific questions, this appointment is for you. We'll walk through the basics or dig into details- whatever works for y...

## Financial Aid Conversation- Virtual

Whether you're new to financial aid or have specific questions, this appointment is for you. We'll walk through the basics or dig into details- whatever works for y...

## Exploring Options for After High School - In Person

Take a dive and start the exploration into plans after high school. Gain a roadmap in navigating the college search and application process, discover different sear...

## Exploring Options for After High School- Virtual

Take a dive and start the exploration into plans after high school. Gain a roadmap in navigating the college search and application process, discover different sear...

## Reviewing Financial Aid Offer Letters - In Person

Are you already accepted to college and received an offer letter? Then this appointment is for you! Learn to compare offers from all accepted schools, calculate you...

## Reviewing Financial Aid Offer Letters- Virtual

Are you already accepted to college and received an offer letter? Then this appointment is for you! Learn to compare offers from all accepted schools, calculate you...

## Career and Aptitude Exploration - Virtual

# THE COLLEGE SEARCH

# IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU

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Location

Size

Majors

Academic  
Opportunities

Academic Services

Cost

Outcomes

Student Body

Activities

Campus Culture



The “Best Fit” Colleges  
for YOU

# ASK YOURSELF . . .

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- Why do I (really) want to go to college?
- What are the three most important experiences I want to have in college?
- Who do I want to learn with and from?
- What are the things that are non-negotiable for me in this process?



# DO YOUR RESEARCH

## COLLEGE SEARCH ENGINES:

[Big Future - collegeboard.org](https://collegeboard.org)

[College Navigator - nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator](https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator)  
[petersons.com](https://petersons.com)

The screenshot shows the Big Future website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for SAT, PSAT/NMSQT, AP, College Planning, College Search, YouCanGo!, CLEP, and More. Below this is a search bar with the text "Find Colleges, Advice and More" and a "Search" button. To the right of the search bar are links for "Sign up" and "Sign in". Below the search bar is a row of links: "Get Started", "Find Colleges", "Explore Careers", "Pay for College", "Get In", and "Make a Plan". Below this row is a social media sharing section with "ShareThis" and "Like" buttons, and a "5.7K" count. The main section is titled "College Search" and includes a "Save Selections" button, a "Clear All Selections" button, and a "SELECT FILTERS" button. Below these are several filter categories: "Test Scores & Selectivity", "Type of School", "Location", and "Campus & Housing". A large green semi-circle graphic contains the text "You have 3,856 college options. Choose a". A pink circular callout bubble says "Not sure where to start? Go to College Search Step-by-Step, an interactive guide."

## MEET WITH YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR WHO CAN:

- Assist in scheduling courses that meet graduation AND college admissions requirements
- Help you set realistic goals based on your personal background and academic history
- Introduce you to colleges you may never have considered
- Write you a letter of recommendation
- Provide professional advice and guidance through the college search and application processes FOR FREE

# GET TO KNOW THE COLLEGES

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## Attend College Fairs

- Review the list of schools
- Ask thoughtful questions
- Take notes
- Collect contact information from the college representatives

## College Admissions Reps at Your High School

- Do your research – ask appropriate, authentic questions
- Leave your contact information with the representative and ask for his/hers

## Visit Campus

- Information session, tours, open houses, virtual tours
- Attend an athletic event, play, or concert
- Do your research – ask thoughtful, pointed questions
- Dress appropriately

# BUILD YOUR LIST

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## Build your list intentionally

For each school you add, have at least 2-3 specific reasons why it made the list

## Balanced approach

Probable  
Target  
Reach

What is a 'safety' school **REALLY**?

## Consider the type of financial aid offered

Do they **ONLY** offer need-based aid?

Do they offer **BOTH** need-based **AND** merit-based aid?



# APPLYING TO COLLEGE

# DEADLINES

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- Pay attention to both application and financial aid deadlines for each school
- Majority of deadlines are between December 1<sup>st</sup> and March 15<sup>th</sup>
- Decide YOUR method of keeping track of all college-related deadlines
  - Spreadsheet
  - Paper or online fillable calendar
  - Folders
  - Phone app



# ADMISSION OPTIONS

## WHICH COLLEGE ADMISSIONS PROCESS BEST SUITS YOU?

Admission Type	Details	Deadline	Commitment
Rolling Admission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>First-come, first-served</li><li>Applications are reviewed as they are received, so applying later may mean you miss out (even if you are a qualified candidate)</li></ul>	Within specified time frame until class is filled	Non-binding
Regular Admission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>All applications are reviewed prior to decisions being sent</li></ul>	November - January	Non-binding
Early Action (REA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular response date</li></ul>	October – December	Non-binding
Restrictive Early Action (EA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Restricted from applying ED or EA or REA to other institutions</li><li>Demonstrates strong interest in college</li></ul>	October – December	Non-binding
Early Decision (ED)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Cannot apply to more than one school ED</li><li>If admitted, student agrees to enroll and withdraw all other applications</li></ul>	October - December	Binding

# APPLICATION OPTIONS

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## Common Application

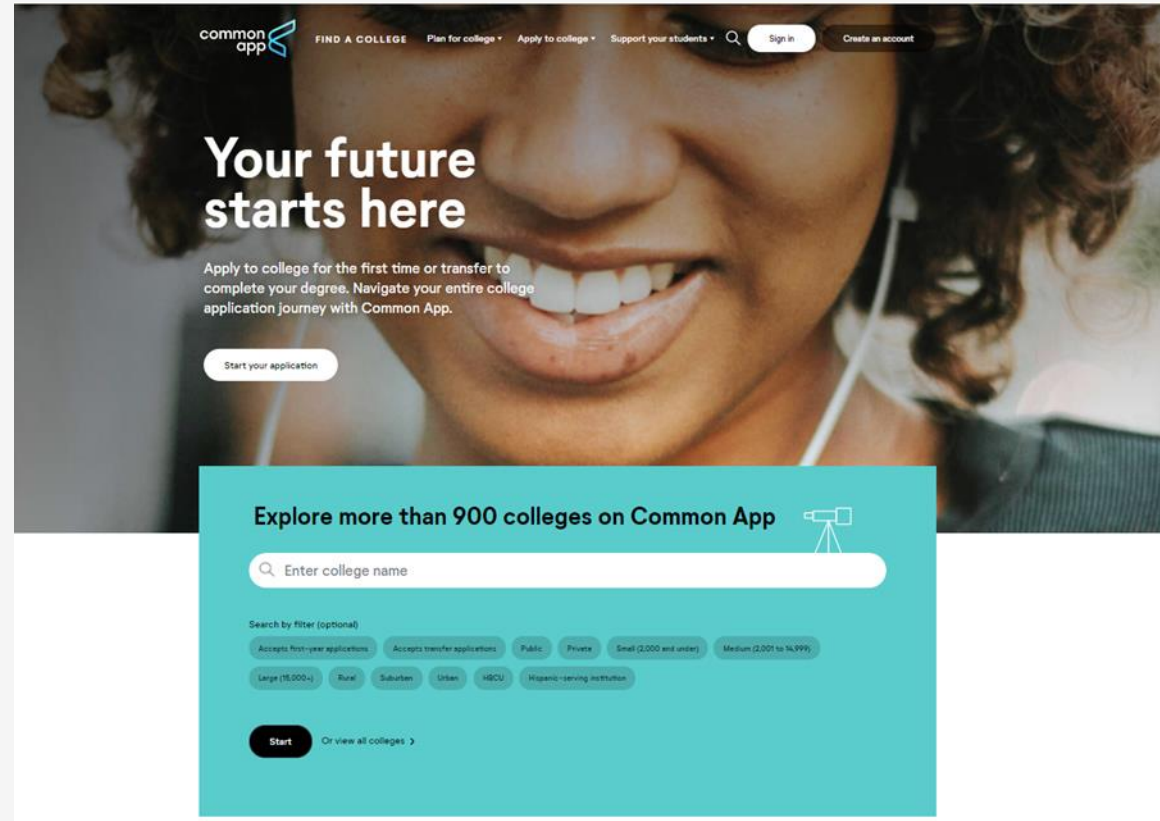
- Opens August 1<sup>st</sup>
- Accepted by over 900 schools
- Fee waivers available

## Coalition Application

- Opens August 1<sup>st</sup>
- Utilized by 150 colleges
- Fee waivers available

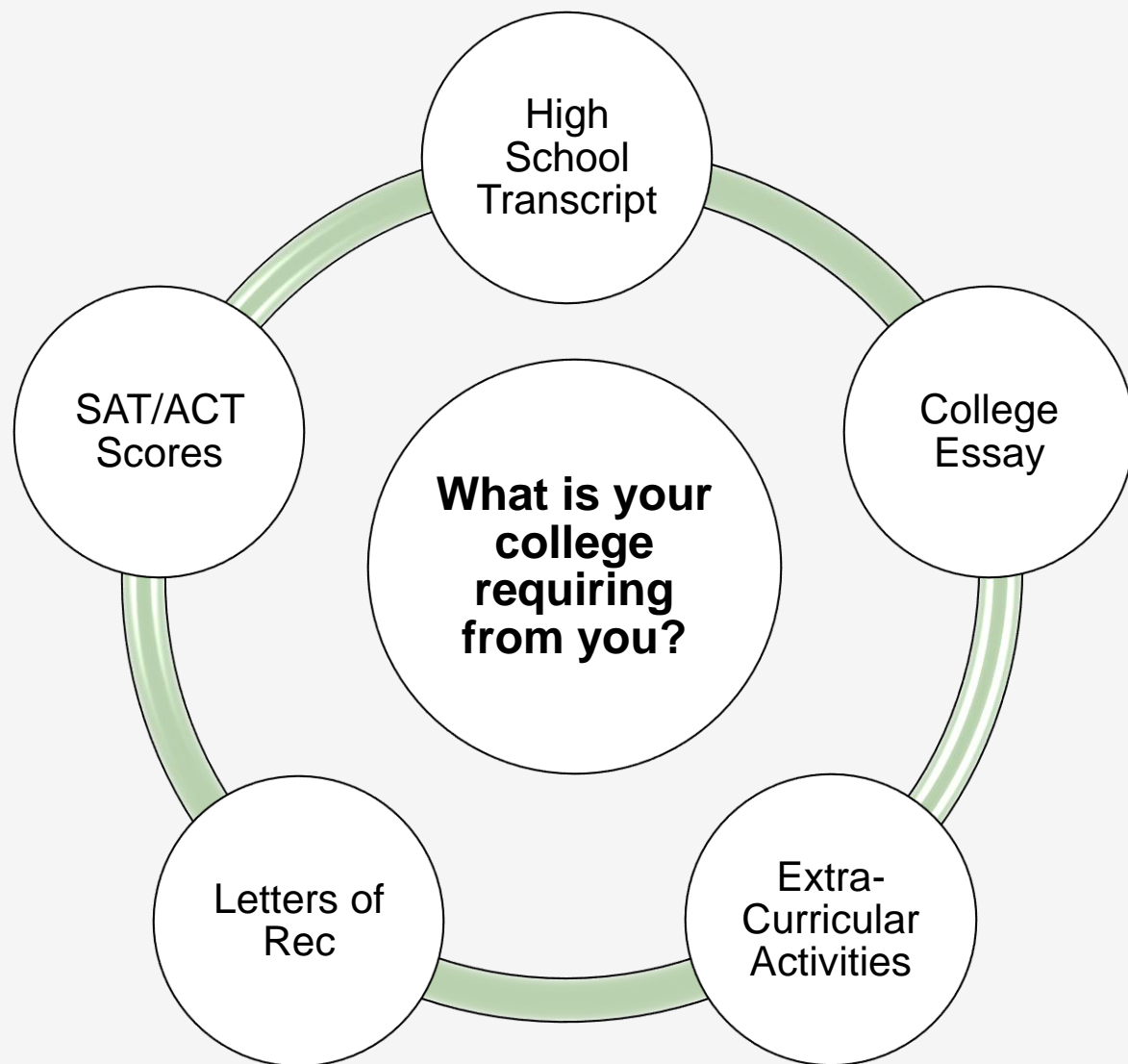
## College-Specific Application

- Found on college website
- May waive application fee



# ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE APPLICATION

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# STANDARDIZED TESTING

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## TEST-OPTIONAL ADMISSIONS:

- You decide whether you want to submit test scores
- May be required for merit scholarship consideration

## TEST-BLIND ADMISSIONS:

- Test scores are never considered

## TEST-FLEXIBLE ADMISSIONS:

- You choose which type of test (or tests) to submit
- Can submit SAT, ACT, IB or AP scores

## FREE TEST-PREP RESOURCES:

[khanacademy.org](https://www.khanacademy.org)

[act.org](https://www.act.org)

## LIST OF TEST-OPTIONAL, TEST-BLIND, TEST-FLEXIBLE SCHOOLS:

[fairtest.org](https://www.fairtest.org)

# ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS TO CONSIDER

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## Auditions

- Which majors require these?
- When should you plan to audition?

## Portfolios

- Is this part of the application process?
- How are portfolios submitted?
- Check individual schools for portfolio workshop options

## NCAA Eligibility

- Are you planning on playing a Division I or Division II sport?
- Register with the Eligibility Center - [ncaa.org](https://www.ncaa.org)

# **STUDENTS TAKE THE LEAD**

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## **OPPORTUNITIES TO BUILD YOUR “SOFT SKILLS” AND SHOW ADMISSIONS YOU ARE READY TO TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR EDUCATION**

- Email or speak to college admissions representatives
- Fill out college applications and paperwork
- Develop strategies for staying organized
- Check email regularly
- Stay in communication with parents, school counseling office, college admissions, and financial aid offices



# DESTINATION COLLEGE



Destination  
College<sup>SM</sup>

FREE COLLEGE PLANNING EVENT FOR NH HIGH  
SCHOOL JUNIORS AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS

**All attendees must register** –  
space is limited

For more information and to register  
visit [destinationcollege.org](https://destinationcollege.org)  
or scan the QR code with your  
smartphone

Registration opens in early **February**



Destination  
College<sup>SM</sup>

24<sup>th</sup> Annual Free Statewide  
COLLEGE PLANNING EVENT  
for HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS  
and PARENTS/GUARDIANS

**FREE**  
College Workshops  
& College Fair

Saturday, March 25, 2023  
8:30am - 2pm

REGISTER EARLY!  
SPACES LIMITED

Registration is required  
at [destinationcollege.org](https://destinationcollege.org)  
Registration opens February 1



HOST CAMPUS:

Plymouth State  
UNIVERSITY

# CCP SUMMER PROGRAMMING

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**COLLEGE ESSAY WORKSHOP** for rising high school seniors

**STATEWIDE COLLEGE PLANNING WEBINARS** for students and parent/guardians

In-person and virtual options  
available

Visit [nhheaf.org](https://nhheaf.org) for more  
information and to register



# UNSURE ABOUT YOUR COLLEGE MAJOR?

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- Explore and identify a student's natural aptitudes, strengths, and skills
- Match a student's aptitudes and interests to best fit careers
- Affirm interests or open new avenues of possibility

Book an Appointment



# CONTACT US



- Book an appointment at [calendly.com/nhheaf\\_ccp](https://calendly.com/nhheaf_ccp)
- Email us at [collegeplanning@nhheaf.org](mailto:collegeplanning@nhheaf.org)
- Call us at 888.747.2382, x119
- Join us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube
- Learn more at [nhheaf.org](https://nhheaf.org)!



**Book an Appointment**