

Plainedge High School

Senior College Planning Night

September 9, 2025



Where is the Class of 2025 going?

CUNY Colleges

Baruch * Brooklyn * City College * Hunter * Macaulay Honors * Sophie B Davis

SUNY Colleges and Universities

Albany * Binghamton * Stonybrook * Geneseo * College of Technology at Delhi * Cortland *
Farmingdale * Fredonia * Geneseo * Maritime * Old Westbury * Oneonta * Oswego *
Potsdam * Purchase * University at Buffalo



Where is the Class of 2025 going?

Adelphi University	James Madison University	St. Joseph's University Brooklyn	
Ball State University	John's Hopkins	Stevens Institute of Technology	
Barry University	Long Island University	SUNY Albany	
Boston University	Louisiana State University	SUNY Binghamton	Tennessee Tech University
Coastal Carolina University	Marist University	SUNY Stonybrook University	The University of Tampa
CUNY Baruch - Macaulay Honors	Military	SUNY College at Geneseo	University at Buffalo
CUNY Brooklyn College Macaulay Honors	Molloy University	SUNY College of Technology at Delhi	University of Delaware
CUNY City College	Monroe University - New Rochelle	SUNY Cortland	University of Florida
CUNY City College/Sophie Davis Program	Montclair State University	SUNY Farmingdale State College	University of Hartford
Dominican University	Nassau Community College	SUNY Fredonia	University of Mississippi
Employment	New York Institute of Technology	SUNY Geneseo	University of Rhode Island
Fairfield University	Ohio State University	SUNY Maritime	University of Scranton
Fashion Institute of Technology	Pace University	SUNY Old Westbury	University of South Carolina
Five Towns College	Palm Beach State College	SUNY Oneonta	University of Tampa
Flagler College	Penn State University	SUNY Oswego	West Virginia University
Florida Atlantic University	Quinnipiac University	SUNY Potsdam	
Florida Gulf Coast University	Roger Williams University	SUNY Purchase	
Fordham University	Russell Sage College	SUNY University at Buffalo	
Gap Year	Sacred Heart University	Syracuse University	
Hofstra University	St. John's University	Temple University	



Components of the Admissions Folder

- High School Transcript
- SAT and/or ACT Scores
- Activities Resume
- College Essay
- Recommendation Letters



High School Transcript

What are colleges considering:

- Overall performance - rigor/difficulty, trends, academic interests
- Senior-year course selections
- Mid-year senior grades
- Final Grade Point Average upon graduation

"In April we were pleased to offer you admission to the entering freshman class. This offer was extended to you contingent upon your continuing demonstration of the academic and personal qualities that led the committee to offer you admission to the university. A recent review of your final grades showed a decline in your academic performance. Our experience is that students who have a weak final semester in secondary school often have difficulty regaining their motivation for the challenging freshman year at Tufts."



Those opting to submit test scores

- SAT and ACT scores are sent to colleges by the student. Plainedge does not report any standardized test scores.
- Most colleges, not all, pull highest SAT section from different test dates.
- Most colleges, not all, use single ACT test date score for admission.
- Score Choice is available for both SAT and ACT. Plainedge recommends sending all scores.
- Triple check admissions requirements and whether schools will permit self-reporting.
- College Board Score Choice List:
<http://professionals.collegeboard.com/profdownload/sat-score-use-practices-list.pdf>



Those opting not to submit test scores

- Over 3,000 colleges across the US are proceeding with test optional admissions for the Class of 2026
- Test Blind Admissions
- What will a college use to make an admissions decision – Everything else carries that much more weight
- Some schools have strongly encouraged students to send scores if they are available while others are genuinely being flexible
- Will a student that has a score be compared to a student that doesn't?
- Will it affect scholarship opportunities?

www.Fairtest.org



Activities

*****List them on the Common App in order of most important to you –
Everything counts*****

- Extracurricular Activities: (In school and outside of school)
- Community Service
- Athletics/Musical Talents, etc.
- Awards and Recognitions
- Jobs/Summer Experiences
- Educational Programs
- Leadership



College Essay

- Essay provides opportunity for student voice and creativity
- Writing piece must be engaging – What is the reader's take-away??
- Essay **MUST** be proofread!!
- Be careful of asking for too much advice from too many people
- Watch for supplemental essays on the Common Application and/or if you are applying to special programs or scholarships.
- Do not be too generic on supplements, if they ask why you are applying to their college give a specific answer for each school.



Letters of Recommendation

School Counselor:

Letter written highlights overall high school career. Students and parents are encouraged to share any personal information deemed significant to their lives and its impact on high school career along with anecdotal forms from teachers.

School Teacher(s):

Letter written highlights the student during the duration of the course. Who they are both inside and outside of the classroom.

Supplemental Letters

Letter written by someone who knows the student in a different setting than school. Speaks to character, responsibility and qualities not already addressed by other recommenders.

*Students are encouraged to sign all waiver forms waiving access to recommendation letters. College admissions representatives deem these letters more credible in the admissions process.



Application Terminology

Early Decision:

Binding agreement with college stating student must attend if accepted. Decision made on or about December 15.

Early Action:

Non-binding application. Decisions usually made by mid-December.

Rolling Admissions:

First come, first serve. Applications are processed as they 'roll' in and decision is quickly 'rolled' back to student.

Regular Decision:

Decisions are made after deadline date has lapsed. Most decisions letters are mailed in early April.

Single Choice Early Action/Restrictive Early Action:

A few of the most competitive colleges offer this non-binding admission policy. Students may apply to a single choice college, however they are not permitted to apply to other schools using the EA/ED option during this period.



What is the Common Application?

Common Application - www.commonapp.org

- 1119 Colleges accept the Common App
- Supplemental applications – sometimes multi-step essays
- Essay, Letters of Recommendation, Resume

Other Applications

- SUNY/CUNY
- Coalition
- University of California
- Other - VIP, College-specific



Self-Reporting Grades

Self-Reported Academic Record - SRAR/SSAR/STAR

<https://srar.selfreportedtranscript.com>

Baylor University

Clemson University

Duquesne University

Florida A & M University

Florida Atlantic University

Florida Polytechnic University

Florida State University

Kean University

Louisiana State University

Montclair State University

New College of Florida

New York University (NYU)

Penn State University

Rutgers University – Camden

Rutgers University – Newark

Rutgers University – New Brunswick

Temple University

Temple University - Japan

Texas A&M University

United States Air Force Academy

SUNY University at Buffalo

University of Connecticut

University of Delaware

University of Florida

University of Massachusetts Amherst

University of Minnesota - Twin Cities

University of New Hampshire

University of North Florida

University of Oregon

University of Pittsburgh

University of Rhode Island

University of South Florida

University of Tampa

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

University of Texas at Arlington

University of Texas at San Antonio

University of West Florida

Virginia Tech



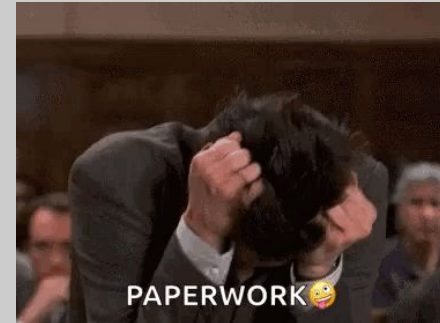
Financial Aid & Scholarships

- **Financial Aid Night: October 16, 2025 with SUNY Farmingdale**
 - **Additional virtual opportunities from SUNY**
- **FAFSA**: Free Application for Student Aid – **Available October 1st**
- **CSS Profile**: College Scholarship Service from College Board. Over 600 colleges require this online document.
- **Naviance Account**: List of available national and school-specific scholarships.
- **Fastweb.com, Scholarship.com, Collegeboard.com**: Websites that post various scholarships based on personal questionnaire.
- **Student Initiated VS. Student Nominated Scholarships**



Submitting Applications to Guidance Office

- It will take up to 10 school days for all college paperwork requests to be processed. Do not wait until the last minute
- Complete the College Tracking Form and hand into Guidance
- **IMPORTANT** - Make sure you have invited your recommenders (Counselors, teachers, supplemental/additional) through the Common App or any other college applications **before** submitting
- Make sure you complete a new College Tracking Form each time you submit new applications
- Guidance **will not** send out test scores (SAT/ACT/AP)
- Check email and portals



Important Dates

- **SAT**: 9/13, 10/4, 11/8, 12/6
 - Plainedge HS prep class begins shortly
- **ACT**: 10/18, 12/13
- **College Mini Fair #2**: September 15 - 5th period in ILC
- **College Application Support**: September 29 during Advisory
- **Financial Aid Night**: October 16, 2025
- **LI College Fair**: Sunday, Sept 14th @ 11am at Nassau Coliseum
- **Fall College Expo**: Tuesday, Sept 30th @ 5:30pm at Adelphi University
- **SUNY Free Application Weeks**: October 20 – November 3
 - *Apply to up to 5 colleges for FREE - SUNY Albany is free now*
- **Instant Decision Days**: Week of November 17th



Attention !



Things to Remember...

- Seek out your Guidance Counselor for advice...and read all emails from the Guidance Department.
- Consider how you will be “visiting” schools
- Attend virtual Open Houses and/or visit colleges of interest. Make certain to register for each school visit – some colleges track interest.
- Apply to appropriate colleges - **Prioritize the ‘right fit’ over the ‘right name’**
- Watch Deadlines
- Visit chosen college before depositing
- Share your admissions decisions/results with your counselor



It will all be ok...

I've got a theory that if you give **100%
all of the time**, somehow things will
work out in the end.

— *Larry Bird*

