

Postings

From the New Trier High School Post-High School Counseling Office
For Members of the 2019 Graduating Class
December, 2018

It's getting down to the wire; do you have safety schools?

Many college and universities have application deadlines in January. Please visit with your post-high school counselor to make sure you are applying to a range of schools and that this includes acceptable schools where you are confident of gaining admission. A financial safety school and a geographical safety school are recommended.

Remember, your post-high school counselor looks for "safety schools" from your Naviance list. If there are transcripts sent on that list to colleges where you are not applying, let your post-high school counselor know.

I was just notified I am an Illinois State Scholar; what does that mean?

This is an honor from the state of Illinois for public high school seniors who are U. S. citizens or permanent residents and who have earned a 30 or higher ACT composite (NOT superscored, but an earned composite of 30 or higher) between September first and June thirtieth of the junior year. *Since the requirements for this have been the same for 35 years and are public knowledge, there is no need to contact colleges to update them with this award; they all know what it is and frankly assume if you have a 30 ACT you will be a designated scholar.*

Students admitted under an early decision program

Students who are notified of their admission to a school under a binding, early decision program *must immediately* write or email the other schools to which they have sent applications and withdraw/cancel their submitted application. *Ethically, you cannot wait just to see where else you might have gotten in!! This withdrawal is central to the ED contract which you and your parent and counselor signed, and must be done whether or not you have been notified with a decision from other colleges.*

To withdraw your applications:

- Log into your Naviance account, and click on "Colleges I'm Applying To."
- Then click on one college name where you wish to withdraw.
- Then click on "Communicate."
- Next select "Get in Touch with my Representative."
- Construct an email indicating you were admitted under an ED plan to (college name) and to request they withdraw your application for admission.

- Then cut-and-paste your email to send to the rest of your schools like this, one by one.

What if I am deferred or denied under an early decision program?

Students whose admission decision is deferred have their applications placed into the pool of candidates for regular admission and are fully reconsidered in the context of that group of applicants. This is not a denial, but a “We want to review your application again in the context of the regular decision pool.” In some cases, college admission offices may accept additional information for the student’s application file including new activities, leadership, honors and awards, semester grades, or additional test scores *as deemed appropriate by your particular colleges. Many college admission offices will not accept additional information; check the correspondence sent with the deferral letter for institutional policies. Additional teacher recommendations are not encouraged;* this is the time to demonstrate the student’s efforts, not a teacher’s reflection of the student’s attributes. If you are deferred to a top-choice school, feel free to see your individual post-high school counselor to discuss your candidacy.

A deferral from an early decision school releases the student from the binding commitment to enroll, even if the student is admitted in April and as a regular decision candidate.

Students denied under an early program are no longer considered in the admission pool for the fall of 2019, but may reapply after completing a semester to a year of college-level work elsewhere. Most, but not all, colleges require one full year of college achievement elsewhere. *Candidates whose applications were denied under EA or ED consideration are not eligible to apply to that same school as an ED II or regular decision applicant.*

How does early decision differ from early action?

Early action candidates are under no obligation to enroll once admitted and can continue to entertain offers from other colleges and universities through April, 2019, and then a final enrollment decision must be made by May 1, 2019 (National Candidate Reply Date). If deferred, EA candidates will have their applications considered with the regular decision applicants and should have a final decision in April.

Please notify your post-high school counselor and your recommendation writers of your admission status; those of us who support your applications are invested in your future and would like the relationship to continue. We would also like to update your Naviance account

appropriately. Many colleges do not notify the NT Post-High School Counseling department with final admission decisions.

Sending semester grade updates to colleges

At the end of this semester, updated transcripts will *automatically* be sent to every college or university where a student has applied. Students and parents need do nothing; the post-high school counseling office completes this task for every senior who initially authorized a transcript. *Although you may receive notifications from colleges that this transcript is due in January, colleges routinely wait for our transcripts to be uploaded or mailed in February, when all make-up's are completed. Students may, however, be required to update colleges that used a self-reported academic record.*

Just so you know

Your admission to college is a contract and is contingent upon your successful completion of your senior year courses at a level commensurate with what you have already achieved. In other words, *senior grades (7th and 8th semester) count and can make or break an already-granted admission decision.*

Gap Year Program

New Trier will host a gap year fair for any student considering an enrichment experience between high school graduation and college enrollment. Over twenty programs will be represented at this year's fair, scheduled for Saturday, January 26, 2019. A panel of speakers will present at noon and the fair will begin at 1:00 PM in the Winnetka Campus student cafeteria.

Scholarship applications

Students interested in merit-based, college scholarships should register themselves at www.fastweb.com or scholarships.com and brace themselves for e-responses; sometimes students even set up a different email account to handle the fastweb scholarship notifications. Please check the www.finaid.org website as well as <http://www.consumerfinance.gov/paying-for-college/>

Scholarship options are also available through Naviance; scroll down on the colleges page. Additionally, the post-high school counseling office publishes a Green Sheet which lists all scholarship programs that send application information directly to New Trier. These are on the post-high school webpage and sent to senior advisories on a monthly basis as well as the basis for what college scholarships are listed in Naviance.

New Trier has some financial assistance for college-bound graduates as well; New Trier's scholarship programs will be advertised through senior adviser rooms. Distribution of New Trier scholarship application for all interested June graduates will be sometime in February. Remember, too, to check your individual college websites to determine if they have additional applications for their scholarship dollars.

The post-high school counseling office will be closed during winter break.

Although we hope students will rest and relax during this time, some students will work on college applications over break. Students who plan to apply to colleges over winter break should speak with their post-high school counselor as soon as possible to make sure all of their paperwork is submitted.

Remember that the college deadlines are for submission of the application; supporting documents like test scores, transcripts, ED II agreement forms, and recommendations can typically be sent after the deadlines at no penalty to the candidate, particularly those application due when school is closed over break.

Have a restful winter break!