

If you plan to attend college after you graduate from Bishop Kelly, this sheet highlights the steps you will need throughout the college search and application process. If you plan to attend a technical school, take a GAP year, go into the military or go right into the workforce, your College Counselor can help you with that as well. We are here to help you with all of your post-secondary plans and we look forward to working with you and your families.

Ms. Cogan (A-L)

Ms. Lawler (M-Z)

Search interests, careers, colleges/universities:

- Visit www.actprofile.org to perform a career search, find majors and explore schools.
- Visit www.bls.gov/ooh/ to investigate careers, income projections, job outlooks, in The Occupational Outlook Handbook.
- Visit www.collegeboard.org to do a college search.

Senior Curriculum:

- Continue to take a rigorous curriculum your senior year. Your senior schedule will be posted on your transcript that you will submit to your college/universities. If you make a change to your schedule after applying to a college/university we will have to resubmit your transcript.
- Take classes of interest to explore possible majors you might want to pursue (or rule out) in college.

Extracurricular Activities:

- Stay involved in activities that are of interest to you. Do what you love and love what you do. Colleges/Universities want students that will be active on their campuses.

Testing (test scores are used for admissions, scholarship awards and class placement purposes):

- Register to take an ACT at www.actstudent.org (you can also send your official scores to colleges/universities from your account)
- *All juniors will take a school-wide ACT on Tuesday, April 24th, 2018.*
- Register to take an SAT or SAT Subject tests at www.collegeboard.org (you can also send your official scores to colleges/universities from your account)

Exploring Colleges/Universities and finding the right fit:

- Attend the GPACAC College Fair on Thursday, April 12, 2018, from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at the TU Reynolds Center (over 75 colleges participating)
- Attend the College Connection College Fair in September 2018 (date TBA)
- Visit college/universities websites.
- Visit college campuses and make sure it is an official tour so they know you're on campus.
- Attend the information sessions at BK when college representatives visit our campus (check your BK email and the website for current list of schools visiting)
- Talk with your College Counselor (we visit a lot of college campuses and often offer first-hand information.)

Sending transcripts:

- Each student has a Parchment account and can send transcripts to colleges/universities, coaches, individuals and themselves. You will register with Parchment when you meet with your College Counselor.
- If you are applying to schools that participate in The Common Application your College Counselor will send your transcript with her required paperwork.

How to apply to Colleges/Universities:

- Many schools have their own application and you can find it on the school's website (generally under Admissions)
- If you are applying to a school that participates in The Common Application you will open a Common Application account and fill out the application. You will need to invite your College Counselor by inserting their contact information under "Manage Recommenders." This is also where you will invite and assign teachers who will be writing your recommendations. Never put in a teachers contact information until you have asked them if they will write a recommendation for you!
- If a school accepts The Common Application and has their own application on their website, DO NOT use a school's application **and** The Common Application; use one or the other! If you have more than one school that uses the Common Application then it is in your best interest to use the Common Application. It is really easy to add a school to your Common Application as long as a school accepts it.

Independent Scholarships:

- Apply for as many independent scholarships as possible! To search for scholarships you can use the following sites:
- www.fastweb.org
- www.ScholarshipAmerica.org
- www.unigo.com
- <http://www.chegg.com/scholarships>
- <https://colleges.niche.com/scholarships/>
- www.collegexpress.com

Institution Scholarships:

- Make sure that when you apply to colleges/universities that you also complete their application for merit scholarships (scholarships based on grades and test scores). Often the admissions application is the same as the scholarship application, however, for some schools these are separate applications. Check each school's admissions page to follow their requirements. Almost all schools have a "scholarship" page that spells out the scholarships available for incoming freshman and the requirements for those scholarships.

File the FAFSA:

- During your senior year, you and your parents will be asked to fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). For more information go to <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>. Student Aid may come in the form of grants, student loans, parent loans, work study, and/or other forms of institutional assistance.

Check your Bishop Kelley email Daily:

- When we post an announcement it will come directly to your BK email. Not reading your BK email is not an excuse for not knowing about a college visit, scholarship, etc.

Letters of Acceptance and Scholarship Offers:

- Turn in all letters of acceptance and scholarship offers to your College Counselor as you receive them. This information will be used for the Honors Assembly in the spring and for the graduation program. If we do not have those letters (or emails) this information will not be included.