Senior Year College Planning Calendar

**July & August**

- **July 1**: The official beginning of the athletic recruitment season for the rising senior class. If you are a student/athlete and you have not already done so, please register with the NCAA Clearinghouse at [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net)

- Request college literature and applications, do online research.

- Begin writing application essays. Art students should begin to compile a portfolio.

- Visit campuses – take tours and meet admissions officers. Interview when possible. Write a Thank You note after your visit.

- **College Counseling Packet** loaded with pertinent information. Please read through it carefully and completely.

- Please have a completed draft of the Common Application Essay completed and ready for review by your College Counselor (Word document or Google Doc)

**September**

- The first semester of your Senior year is a very busy one. You will be managing more deadlines and more projects than ever before. The best way to tackle the college process is to think about small steps:
  - visit your College Counselor regularly!
  - keep your Naviance Student site up to date
  - keep making progress – you WILL get it done and you WILL go to college!

- Start the year with energy and enthusiasm. The first semester, and in the case of early application, the first quarter, is critical. Colleges will see and take into consideration how you’re doing in your senior classes. Show them your very best!

- It is no one’s business where you apply to college, what your test scores are, or what strategy you have worked out with your college counselor. Too much talking about such subjects only adds to the stress surrounding the college process.

- Be aware of what is posted on Naviance and on the TV monitor and bulletin boards in the College Resource Center. We post information about evening programs which the colleges host, scholarship opportunities, and college representatives visiting Bryn Mawr. You will also see some photos and words of wisdom from Bryn Mawr Alumnae from their colleges!
❖ Students and/or parents meet privately with college counselors as needed.

❖ With your Counselor’s help, narrow college list down to 10-15 schools.

❖ Make sure your Naviance college list is accurate and up-to-date.

❖ Keep in touch with your college counselor as your plans develop. Continue researching your prospective colleges. Request applications and catalogs if new college possibilities arise.

❖ Keep a chart on the colleges to which you are applying. Information should include application-deadline dates. The College Application Checklist, located in our Online Guide to College Counseling, can help you get organized.

❖ Reconfirm your request to teachers that they write you a letter of recommendation. (Please ask, don’t assume or demand!) Add teachers to your Naviance Teacher Recommendation List.

❖ Begin submitting Transcript Requests through Naviance Student.

❖ Attend information sessions with the visiting college admissions officers at Bryn Mawr throughout the fall. The calendar of rep visits is posted on Naviance Student and the College Counseling video board. The schedule changes daily so check regularly.

❖ Attend evening programs sponsored by colleges at locations throughout the city.

❖ Attend evening drop-in sessions as scheduled by College Counseling.

❖ Parents attend College Counseling Coffees as desired.

**October**

❖ **October 1:** If your family is applying for financial aid:
  o Become familiar with your potential colleges’ financial aid policies and meet the required deadlines. Access and use the college’s financial aid calculator.

  o FAFSA -- access Free Application for Federal Student Aid online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). Begin filling out FAFSA using prior year tax information

  o CSS - register for the CSS Profile if the colleges to which you are applying require it. [Profileonline.collegeboard.com](http://Profileonline.collegeboard.com)

❖ **October:** Last opportunity to take the SAT before early applications.
Give the pink College Recommendation Request Form, with list of colleges to which you are applying and dates applications are due, to each teacher who is writing for you. If a college requires a paper application, include stamped and pre-addressed envelopes. Please use Bryn Mawr School as the return address.

**October 15:** If applying early, request your Transcript through Naviance Student. This includes all Priority Applications for University of Maryland.

Send standardized test scores to colleges from the College Board and ACT (you can do this online at www.collegeboard.com or by phone at 609-771-7600, or www.act.org). **The College Counseling office does not send standardized testing scores to colleges; this is the responsibility of the student. Scores do not appear on the transcript.**

**November**

**November 1 & 15:** typical deadlines for Early Decision/Early Action applications. Read your applications carefully for correct deadline information.

Begin submitting all applications for schools using rolling admission. Submit transcript request.

**December**

**December 1:** Deadline for submitting ALL Transcript requests through Naviance Student, for regular decision applications.

Before winter break, try to have all applications completed, and write a thank-you note to your teachers for the writing they did on your behalf.

Admissions decisions and financial awards are typically mailed to early applicants in mid-December.

December 19th – Bryn Mawr School and the College Counseling Office will be closed for Winter Break. No transcripts can or will be sent until school reopens on January 3rd.

**January**

Meet January 1 & 15 college application deadlines. Be sure to pay attention to individual college’s financial aid deadlines.

Complete college interviews, if required.

If applying as a regular decision applicant for financial aid, submit the FAFSA form and CSS Profile and meet colleges’ internal deadlines!
Pay close attention to emails from colleges and check your application portals to make sure all materials are received and your application is complete.

Finish the semester as strongly as you can!

**February**

Please notify the College Counseling Office of all Admissions Decisions as they occur!

**February 1**: Typical deadline for *Early Decision* students to accept offer of admission send in deposit.

Deadline for families to submit FAFSA and Part II of CSS Profile for regular decision.

**April**

All decisions should be received by the end of the 1st week of April.

Attend accepted-student events. Visit schools in order to make educated final decisions.

If you are placed on a waiting list, consult your college counselor on the appropriate course of action.

**May**

**May 1**: National Candidate’s Reply Date. In addition to notifying a college of your intention to attend, you must decline other offers of admission by letter or by completing the institution’s candidate reply form. You may accept an offer and submit a deposit to ONE college. If you double-deposit you could jeopardize your admission to both schools. **Please be sure that your College Counselor knows your final decision!**

Finish the year strongly! Remember that the colleges will get a final transcript from Bryn Mawr. All acceptances granted during senior year are tentative and are contingent “upon satisfactory completion of the senior year.” Grades are also important if a student hopes to be admitted off the wait list at a particular college.

**CONGRATULATIONS!!!!!**

Inform your teachers of your decisions.
Thank them for their help in this journey!