

# *School Counseling Department Newsletter*



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## *30 Tips of Dignity & Respect, Tip 12:*

### **Be culturally competent.**

Differences are barriers  
only if we allow them to be.

### Upcoming Events:

- Nov 19 & 20 - Make-up Days
- Nov 21 - 23 - Fall Break
- Nov 22 - Happy Thanksgiving
- Nov 27 - Progress Reports

The Charleston Center will be on campus on Thursdays for Drug and Alcohol Prevention and Intervention Services. See your counselor for information.

## **It is time to schedule IGP appointments!!!!**

### Contact your school counselor

## **BRING IN COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE LETTERS AND SCHOLARSHIP OFFERS**

### **We want to celebrate with you!**

*What all SENIORS need to know. . .*

Senior Year is a busy and extremely important time in the college admissions process. This is your last chance to get the ACT and SAT scores you need, and senior year is when you have to narrow down your college options to the handful of schools to which you'll apply. You'll need to get your college essay up to snuff, line up your letters of recommendation, and apply for financial aid. During the application process, you'll need to keep active in extracurricular activities and maintain high grades.

1. Know how to brag about yourself to colleges, employers, and scholarship committees. Fill out the Profile Sheet and bring it to your counselor or anyone else you ask to write a letter of recommendation for you.
2. Know about Naviance Family Connection. Visit <https://connection.naviance.com> for information on all colleges and universities, and scholarship information and applications.
3. Know about scholarships and financial aid. Get a monthly scholarship newsletter. Make sure you also visit individual college websites for information on scholarship programs specific to those schools. Fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in OCTOBER. [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).
4. Know about the SAT and ACT. Seniors planning to attend college should have already taken at least one of these tests, but may wish to take them again during their senior year.
5. Know your graduation requirements! The Class of 2018 needs the following to graduate:  
A total of 24 prescribed units of credit: English- 4, Mathematics- 4, Science- 3, U.S. History- 1, Economics- 0.5 U.S. Government- 0.5, Other Social Studies- 1, Physical Education or Junior ROTC- 1, Computer Science (including keyboarding)- 1, World Language or Career and Technology Education- 1, Electives (including Personal Health)- 7, TOTAL 24

**November:** Register for the December SAT or ACT if appropriate. Take the November SAT if appropriate. Don't let your grades slide. It's easy to be distracted from school work when working on applications. Senior slump can be disastrous for your admissions chances. Make sure you've submitted all components of your applications if you are applying to colleges with November deadlines for early decision or preferred application. Put the final touches on your application essays, and get feedback on your essays from counselors and/or teachers. Continue to research and fill out scholarship applications.



BE A CHAMPION OF DIGNITY AND RESPECT.

Bullying is repeated negative behavior toward a less powerful person.

### Teasing vs. Bullying

#### TEASING:

Usually involves 2 or more friends who act together in a way that seems fun to everyone involved;

NEVER involves social or emotional abuse;

#### BULLYING:

Saying mean or hurtful things, making fun or calling mean names;

Ignoring or excluding on purpose;

Hitting, kicking, pushing;

Telling lies or spreading rumors;

Trying to make others dislike someone



#### What to do if you're bullied?

Report any acts of bullying behaviors immediately;

Tell a trusted adult – a parent, a counselor, an SRO, a teacher or administrator.

**If you see something, SAY SOMETHING!!!!**

## COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTS: ACT and SAT

Please be reminded that it is the responsibility of the student/parent to register for the ACT and SAT tests. The Counseling staff can answer questions at any time. Log on to [sat.org/register](http://sat.org/register) or [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) to register.

- The ACT / SAT are college admissions tests & aid institutions in determining a student's potential for success in college. (Students planning on attending a 2-year or technical college generally do NOT need to take either test.) Colleges/universities in S.C. accept both ACT and/or SAT scores. Students should refer to the admission requirements for each institution they plan to attend.
- It is **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED** you take the writing component at least once. It is not so necessary on subsequent retakes.
- If qualify for and would like to request testing accommodations for the ACT or SAT, it is **your** responsibility to initiate the process by discussing the procedure with your counselor. The approval process is very time-consuming (minimum 6 – 8 weeks). Each testing agency (College Board / ACT) has its own application for accommodations.



# 5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT COLLEGE ADMISSION

## **You can get in. Really.**

College admission isn't as competitive as you might think. Fewer than 100 colleges in the U.S. are highly selective, which means they accept less than 25 percent of applicants. Close to 500 four-year colleges accept more than 75 percent of applicants. And open-admission colleges accept all or most high school graduates.

## **You are more than test scores.**

Colleges care most about the work you've done in high school. They look for students who have earned strong grades in challenging courses. They also try to learn about your character by looking at what you do outside the classroom. Take advantage of opportunities like the application essay and college interview to show a more complete picture of who you are.

## **You are in charge.**

This is your big future—you're in the driver's seat. Stay focused on what's important to you and what you want to get out of the college experience. College planning can feel overwhelming at times, but if you take charge and stay focused on your goals, you can make it work for you.

## **You are unique.**

You should base your choice on how well a college fits your needs. Don't worry about how it's ranked on a list or how famous it is. The effort you put in and the opportunities you take advantage of once you get there matter more than the college you go to. Once you graduate from college, your achievements and skills will matter most.

## **You are not in this alone.**

Family, teachers and friends are a great resource. Discuss your plans to go to college with them and ask for help and advice. Make an appointment with a school counselor or your principal to talk about the application process, colleges that will suit you and options for financial aid.

## What SC Colleges Want (GPA, ACT/SAT)

College/University	Location	Average GPA	Average SAT	Average ACT	Public/Private
Allen	Columbia	Minimum 2.0	Recommended	Recommended	Private
Anderson	Anderson	3.30	1045	22	Private
Benedict	Columbia	Minimum 2.0	750	15	Private
Bob Jones	Greenville	3.03	Not Required	23	Private
Charleston Southern	Charleston	3.73	1100	23	Private
Claflin	Orangeburg	3.18	879	18	Private
Clemson	Clemson	4.28	1225	28	Public
Coastal	Conway	3.0-3.7	1000	21	Public
Coker	Hartsville	3.2	1050	22	Private
College of Charleston	Charleston	A/B+	1150	26	Public
Columbia	Columbia	3.4	1000	20	Private
Columbia International	Columbia	3.7	1081	23	Private
Converse	Spartanburg	3.89	1050	22	Private
Erskine	Due West	3.4	1050	23	Private
Francis Marion	Florence	3.19	950	20	Public
Furman	Greenville	3.83	1285	28	Private
Lander	Greenwood	3.6	1000	21	Private
Limestone	Gaffney	3.0	1000	20	Private
Morris	Sumter	Minimum 2.0	700	18	Private
Newberry	Newberry	All Considered	870	21	Private
North Greenville	Tigerville	3.7	1100	24	Private
South Carolina State	Orangeburg	3.04	840	18	Public
Spartanburg Methodist	Spartanburg	3.26	900	18	Private
The Citadel	Charleston	3.5	1100	23	Public
USC - Aiken	Aiken	3.30	1000	21	Public
USC - Beaufort	Beaufort	3.31	929	20	Public
USC - Columbia	Columbia	3.5	1200	26	Public
USC - Salkehatchie	Allendale	HS Diploma	Recommended	Recommended	Public
USC - Upstate	Spartanburg	3.2	900	19	Public
Voorhees	Denmark	Minimum 2.0	Recommended	Recommended	Private
Winthrop University	Rock Hill	3.8	1040	23	Public
Wofford College	Spartanburg	3.56	1250	26	Private

\*\*Based on 2014 Information available through <http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator>, individual colleges and Naviance