

the ADVISOR

The Advisor is the quarterly newsletter produced by the Presentation High School College Counseling Department. It contains current information about what's happening in the world of college admission.

2021 *class of*

The college counselors will begin preparing seniors for the college application process when the semester begins. Seniors will attend a series of virtual mentoring sessions to discuss updates in college admissions and to complete important steps in the college application process. Seniors will also meet individually with their college counselor and attend virtual college visits and workshops to assist them in completing their college applications and essays. Application and essay workshops will be led by the college counselors and a handful of college admissions representatives. Parents will receive weekly updates from the college counselors and will be encouraged to attend virtual parent events.

For now, we recommend that seniors update their “Colleges I’m Thinking About” list in Naviance before the start of the semester and utilize this [college research and application tracker](#) to begin getting organized. Students can also create their [Common Application](#) account for a glimpse into the application, but the college counselors will walk students through this process at the beginning of the semester. Drafting essays in the summer is optional, but will allow students to use valuable time in the fall to edit and revise essays with their counselor. *Students should not request teacher recommendations or submit applications until they meet with their college counselor.*

COLLEGE COUNSELING FALL LAUNCH

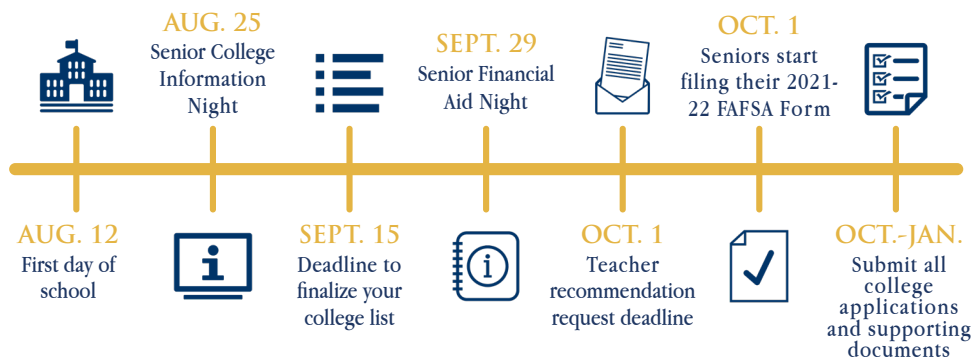
Our department is energized by the need to adapt and enhance our college advising services to support students and families through a new college admissions landscape. Beginning mid-August, we will provide:

- Virtual student meetings
- Frequent parent communication
- Virtual College Application Guide
- Virtual college visits
- Virtual college advising sessions and workshops
- Virtual parent events and parent Q&A sessions
- New website resources

* The College Counseling Office will reopen on August 10, 2020.



FALL SENIOR TIMELINE





MEET OUR NEW COUNSELOR, MS. CHELSEA ALTHOUSE!

We are thrilled to announce that Ms. Chelsea Althouse will be joining our Pres family this fall as our new Co-Director of College Counseling. Ms. Althouse is an extremely knowledgeable and passionate counselor that brings valuable experience to our college counseling team.

Ms. Althouse has previously worked in college admissions and as a high school counselor on the East Coast. Ms. Althouse holds a masters degree and credential in School Guidance and Counseling from New York University and is a member of the National Association of College Admission Counseling. She is looking forward to meeting students in August!

HELPFUL LINKS

- [*SAT and ACT Test Dates*](#)
- [*ACT Adds New Fall Test Dates in the Fall*](#)
- [*ACT Postpones Section Retesting for 2020*](#)
- [*SAT and ACT Score Ranges for the Most Popular Colleges*](#)

CURRENT ADVICE ABOUT TESTING

Class of 2021

Rising seniors should move forward with registering for the August to October SAT/ACT test dates if they have not taken a test at least once. It is possible for a student not to test at all as many colleges have adopted a **test-optional policy** for the next 1-3 application cycles. NCAA DI & DII recruits must move forward with registering for the SAT/ACT. When registering, do not order scores to be sent to colleges. Students will determine with their college counselor in the fall if their test score(s) should be sent to colleges.

If you are unable to register for the August, September, or October test dates, move forward with registering for a November- December test date. Many colleges have indicated they will be flexible if a student was unable to test before early application deadlines. Students should prioritize registering for the SAT/ACT before registering for SAT Subject Tests.

Class of 2022

An update about PSAT/NMSQT administration will be shared with the Class of 2022 at the beginning of the school year.

Rising juniors should spend the fall semester engaging in test preparation for the SAT/ACT. Students can access free online test prep for the SAT through [Khan Academy](#) and for the ACT through [ACT Academy](#). We strongly discourage rising juniors to register for the August-October SAT/ACT test dates in order to provide seats for rising seniors. The Class of 2022 will have ample time to test from November 2020 to the Spring/Summer 2021. *The college counselors will be guiding students through the registration process in early fall in mentoring sessions.* SAT Subject Tests are no longer required by any U.S. colleges and are no longer highly recommended when applying to UC campuses.

Class of 2023

We recommend students take their first SAT/ACT in their junior year. Rising sophomores should not register for August-October 2020 SAT/ACT/SAT Subject Test test dates to provide seats for rising seniors. Each year in mid-October, sophomores take a practice ACT (PreACT) and the practice SAT (PSAT/NMSQT) in their junior year. *An update about PreACT administration will be shared with the Class of 2023 at the beginning of the school year.* SAT Subject Tests are no longer required by any U.S. colleges and no longer highly recommended when applying to UC campuses.

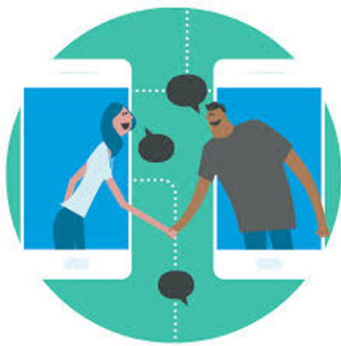
2019-20 AP Students

Students are now able to view their 2019-20 AP Scores in their College Board account. Rising seniors should not send official AP score reports to colleges. They will have the opportunity to self-report their scores in their applications. Students can search AP credit policies by colleges [here](#).

VIRTUAL UPCOMING WEBINARS!

- August 6, 5pm PST: **Discovering U: Joint Virtual Information Session** (Columbia University, the University of Chicago, the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Michigan, and Yale University)
- August 12, 3-4pm PST: **Application 101: How to Shine through Your Application**

ENGAGING WITH COLLEGE REPS ONLINE



All college visits at Pres will be held virtually via Zoom beginning the week of August 24 from 1:40-2:20 pm. Pres students should keep in mind that college representatives are monitoring student engagement in these virtual spaces. Some colleges will offer **virtual interviews** to

seniors this fall. Attending virtual visits is a great way to practice engaging with college reps online. Students will be able to view the college visit schedule in Schoology and the daily bulletin at the beginning of the school year.

Tips on how to effectively engage with college reps online:

- **Familiarize yourself with the college** before entering the virtual space.
- **Be prompt and fully present.** Keep in mind that college visits are for students only.
- **Come prepared with questions.**
- **Use the chat function to responsibly** engage with the college rep.
- **Treat the visit like a “meet and greet”.** It’s nice to keep your video on so you can personalize your interaction. Mute yourself when you aren’t speaking.
- **If you need to leave early, depart quietly.**
- **Don’t dominate the conversation.** Be respectful and allow other students to ask questions.

NO CAMPUS TOUR? MAKE DEEPER CONNECTIONS WITH YOUR COLLEGE OPTIONS

The global pandemic has forced the majority of colleges to shut their doors to rising seniors who hoped they’d be able to visit prospective college campuses this summer and fall. However, setting foot on a college campus is not the only way to get “the feeling” one gets when they’ve made the right college match. Seniors should consider the following to make more meaningful college choices this fall:

- Follow colleges on social media to hear the voice of the student body.
- How has the college responded to the pandemic? How have they supported students through this difficult time?
- How has the pandemic changed you? If so, this could mean your college priorities have changed as well.
- Have your academic interests changed this summer?
- What are your personal values? Does the school’s mission and values align with yours?

THE POWER OF THE NET PRICE CALCULATOR IN YOUR COLLEGE RESEARCH



Finding financial matches is extremely important in building a college list. We recommend students and families utilize a tool on each college’s financial aid website called, the **net price calculator**. Families can input their information into the net price calculator and it will generate an estimated dollar value of what the student is likely to pay to attend the institution. Every college in the U.S. is required to provide the tool on their website. The estimated cost that is generated is as accurate as the data that is inputted into the tool.

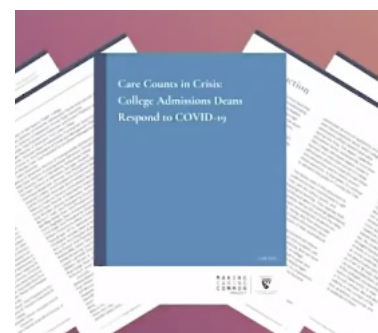
What is net price? The amount a student pays per academic year after grants and scholarships are subtracted from the cost of attendance.

READ, LISTEN, TOUR

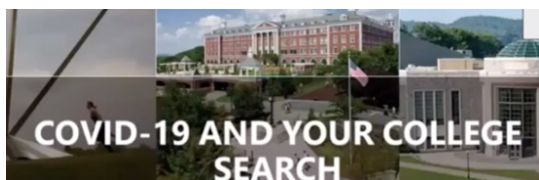
Interested in finding out what's really important in college admissions? Read "[Care Counts in Crisis: College Admissions Deans Respond to COVID-19](#)," a statement endorsed by 300+ institutions that breaks down what colleges value and hope to see from the applicants during this pandemic.

"This collective statement seeks to break through many misconceptions and to answer these questions clearly by harnessing the power of leaders' collective voices."

We urge you to take this report into consideration as you assess your priorities and plan for the fall.



READ, LISTEN, TOUR



Like many institutions, Marist College hosted a number of summer webinar series to share the most up to date and relevant information for students. The [COVID-19 and Your College Search](#) presentation provides you with all the tools and resources necessary to approach this process in times of quarantine and social distancing. Watch/Listen to this recording to find out how you can be intentional

about making informed decisions about your postsecondary plans.

READ, LISTEN, TOUR

Mary Immaculate College (MIC), in the beautiful, historic, riverside city of [Limerick](#), in the Mid-West of Ireland! The campus is just 20 minutes from [Shannon International Airport](#) and near to all the most beautiful scenery and tourist destinations in the Shannon Region. The College is just 10 minutes' walk from Limerick City centre. Limerick is Ireland's third largest city, with a population of 96,000, just over 30,000 of whom are students.

[Mary Immaculate College \(MIC\)](#) is Ireland's leading university-level College of Education & Humanities. Here is a link also to their [undergraduate programmes](#) for international students. The College also offers a range of research-based and taught [postgraduate programmes](#) at Diploma, Masters and Doctorate levels. Here is the new [International Students' Guide](#), information on [courses available to International Students](#).



The College welcomes international students from all over the world. International students are fully integrated with Irish students in all aspects of College life. Tailored orientation programmes and academic support help international students make a smooth transition to college life in Ireland. They have an active International Students' Society and many other Students' Union [clubs and societies](#). International students receive excellent support, both from the faculty who teach on the programmes and all of the staff at MIC. Small class sizes also allow excellent interaction between students and lecturers.

View [Study in Ireland webinar](#) hosted by Mary Immaculate College, Dundalk Institute of Technology, University College Cork.

WWW.PRESENTATIONHS.ORG/COLLEGE-COUNSELING