

Junior College Application Information Package

Below are steps junior students need to take in preparation for their college application in the fall.

1. [Naviance](#): SJPII uses the Naviance college and career readiness software to provide students with college planning and career assessment tools (see [Naviance overview](#)). All students in the junior class should have an account, please contact your guidance counselor for assistance. Naviance can be used for the following purposes:
 - a. Understand college possibilities – helps you to plan what course to take to achieve your college goals or helps you to determine possible directions to take if you are undecided.
 - b. Explore high school specific college admissions stats – for example, what scores will get you into Harvard.
 - c. Match to best-fit colleges – based on your current scores and courses, what college will most likely accept you.
 - d. Identify ideal college majors- plan your career path.
 - e. Counselors use the Naviance software to send (securely) student application related forms such as transcripts, letters of recommendation, school profiles etc.
 - f. You can also keep track of your community service hours using this software³

* See the SJPII Naviance pamphlet attached.

2. Students can apply directly to their college of choice OR using [Common App](#) where they can apply to several colleges (800 possible colleges in 49 states) at the same time. Once you sign in with Common App, it is important you link Common App with Naviance. Once linked, the counselors will be able to send all your application - support documents through Naviance.

*See the detailed document how to match Common App to Naviance.

3. Colleges will ask for the following:
 - a. SAT scores ([SAT registration](#)) or
 - b. ACT scores ([ACT registration](#))
 - c. Letters of Recommendation – you will need at least two from teachers. Contact three teachers now before school closes so teachers can work on it over the summer. To help teachers you need the following:
 - i. A copy of your resume and Brag Sheet * see attached.
 - d. College Essay: You will find a few prompts in Common App.
 - i. Write this now over the summer.
 - ii. Highlight your strengths.
 - iii. Read and research a few examples –do not plagiarize!
 - iv. Ask a few people to read it for input/mistakes.

4. Scholarships:
 - a. Look in our college placement resources link on the SJPII website for a list: <http://www.sjpii.net/academics/schoolcounseling.cfm>
 - b. The link also provides access to College Board applications for scholarships
 - c. Naviance contains SJPII specific scholarships.

- d. Students in Florida receive [Bright Future scholarships](#) based on a 3.5-weighted GPA (look at the specific [information](#) on what you need to qualify).
 - i. Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) – 100% tuition and applicable fees + \$300
 - ii. Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS) – 75% tuition and fees and can be used at technical and vocational schools.
 - e. Our seniors have so far received over \$10 million in scholarships, so start your search now.
5. Additional Information:
- a. Compare different colleges within the state and nationally.
* See the 2019 guide for Private colleges and Universities for Florida
 - b. Review the college information like location, size/cost, and admission criteria.
 - c. Check out their social media, do a virtual tour, read their event sections, and research surrounding areas in the city.
 - d. College application have early (usually around November 1/December 1) and late decisions (around January/February). The acceptance rates for students who apply early is 17% higher than those who apply during the regular period. So apply early!
 - e. Some colleges have rolling admissions which means they take in applications over a 6-month period.
 - f. Apply to 5 – 10 colleges that are an equal number of “reach”, “target”, and “safe” schools.
 - i. Reach school – less than 25% of students accepted, e.g. Harvard.
 - ii. Target school – 50% of students accepted.
 - iii. Safe school – 75% of students accepted.

Do your research and if you need any more support, please do not hesitate to contact our guidance counselors.

Students with last names ending in A – K contact Mr. Mark George - mgeorge@sjpii.net

Students with last names ending in L – Z contact Mrs. Susan Mattox - smattox@sjpii.net

Our counselors will be reaching out to all juniors throughout the year to discuss the contents of these documents and answer any questions. Parents and students, please review this in case you have any questions.

God’s blessings for your safety and good health,

Yours sincerely,

Marian Demarest

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