

SENIOR CALANDAR CHECK LIST

SEPTEMBER

- Register for SAT.
- Check Senior courses. Do they meet requirements?
- Check announcements and sign up for college representatives' visits.
- Obtain college applications.
- Begin first drafts of any essays required.
- Reduce your preliminary list of colleges to a manageable number.
- Talk to your counselor.
- Check if your college requires the "Profile" which is a financial aid form that needs to be filed now. Go to www.collegeboard.com, click "Students", click "CSS/Fiancial Aid Profile", click "Participating Colleges, Universities and Scholarship Programs".
- Ask teachers for recommendations.

OCTOBER

- Further develop essays for your application.
- Review your transcript with your counselor.
- Review for the SAT Test.
- Attend College representative meetings.
- Find out names of former students attending colleges which interest you.
- Begin filling out college applications

NOVEMBER

- Take SAT I and SAT II Tests. Do you want your scores sent to additional colleges?
- Find out exactly what forms, tests results, etc. are necessary to apply to all colleges in which you are interested.
- If required, ask teachers to complete recommendation forms.
- If you are applying to a college "early decision," you must submit the application now.

DECEMBER

- Take SAT I or SAT II Tests.
- Complete all applications for admissions.
- Check application deadlines.
- Talk with graduates home from college.
- Attend Financial Aid Workshop.
- Begin filling out Financial Aid Form.

JANUARY

- Finish any other college applications.
- Check scholarship list on Naviance Program on a weekly basis.
- Complete scholarship applications.
- Send in completed Financial Aid Form (FAFSA).
- Check with references – have they sent recommendations?

FEBRUARY

- Have mid-year reports been sent?
- Listen for announcements of scholarship information.
- Have you sent in all applications?
- Have you sent in your financial aid form?
- Check scholarship list on Naviance Program on a weekly basis.

MARCH

- Explore the colleges you have applied to as thoroughly as possible.
- Register for Advanced Placement Test if you are taking them.
- Have you received the Financial Aid Form Acknowledgement and the Student Aid Report from the Pell Grant Program?

APRIL

- The big date you have been waiting for – acceptance letters!
- Review your acceptances and financial aid offers with your counselor.
- Visit the college of your choice before final decision.
- Notify the college of your choice. Send deposit to be received by May 1st.

MAY

- Notify schools you have decided not to attend.
- Keep your counselor informed of your decisions and scholarships you receive.
- Send your Pell Grant S.A.R. to your chosen college – keep a copy for your records
- If necessary, apply for a student loan at a local bank.
- Apply for a summer job to help pay for college costs.

JOHN and ABIGAIL ADAMS SCHOLARSHIP
STANLEY Z. KOPLIK CERTIFICATE OF MASTERY AWARD

The State of Massachusetts issues two scholarships based on the students MCAS scores received as a sophomore as follows:

Both scholarships are for tuition only and are subject to availability of funding.

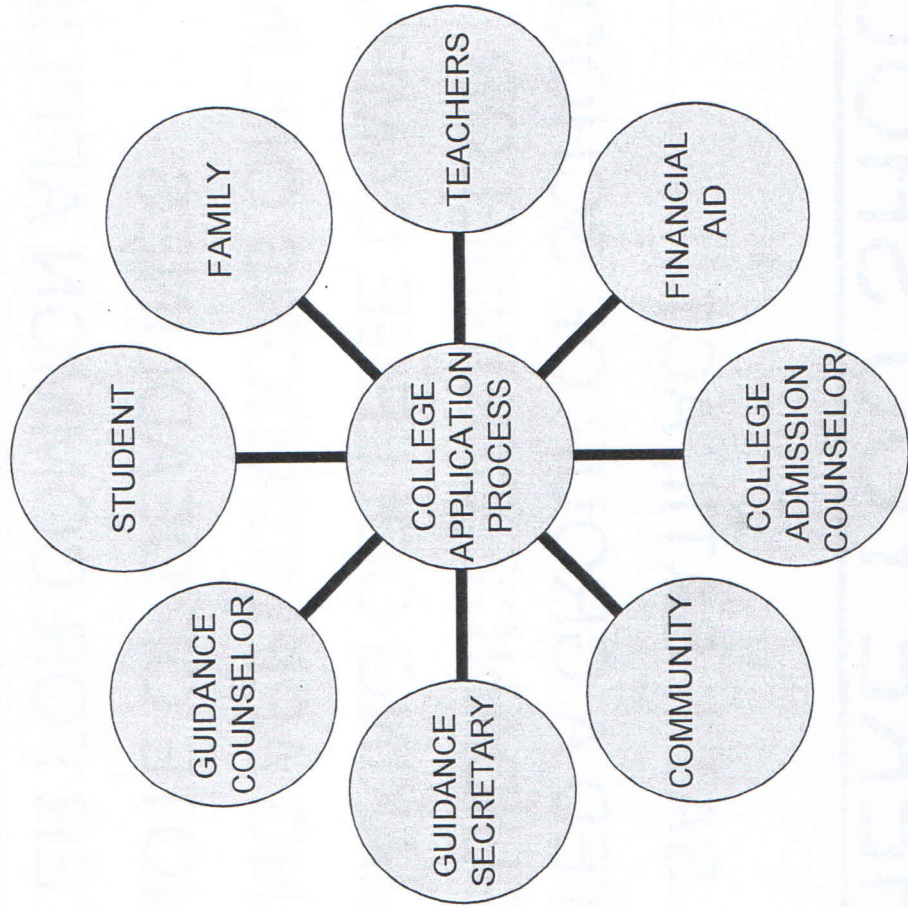
ADAMS:

1. Students must achieve at least one advanced MCAS score and advanced and/or proficient scores on ELA or Mathematics.
2. Student's total score must be in the top 25% of the scores within the student's residential school district.
3. Notification of this scholarship is in the form of a letter to the students received directly from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). These letters are received October/November of the students senior year of high school. This letter must be turned over to the financial aid office of the college/university the student will be attending.
4. **2011-2012 new:** Eligible students who first enrolled in a private college or public university in another state may activate their Adams Scholarship upon transfer to a Massachusetts public college or university, provided they have previously maintained a cumulative 3.0 GPA.
5. The scholarship must be used within six years of a student's high school graduation.

KOPLIK:

1. Students must achieve at least one advanced MCAS score and advanced and/or proficient scores on the remaining two tests. (ELA/MATH/STE) Students who meet the initial qualifications are notified in February/March of their junior year.
2. In addition, the student must achieve two additional qualifying scores in the form of SAT II or AP scores. These two scores must be in two **different subject areas**. There is also an academic achievement alternative which may be substituted for one test score. Academic achievements not listed on the application may be submitted to the DESE for approval via the Guidance Office.
3. If a sophomore student did not achieve the required scores noted in number 1 above, the ELA and MATH MCAS (only-not science) test may be retaken in May of the student's junior year and the student may qualify if the grades meet the said requirement. The test must be the original test, not a make-up test. Any student who did not take the MCAS as a sophomore and takes the test for the first time as a junior, also is eligible as long as the scores meet the above requirements.
4. With their MCAS scores, each student received a letter with details of this award and a copy of the application which outlines the details of this award.
5. The DESE posts a list of qualifying students to an online sight that only guidance offices have access to. When the list is posted by the DESE, a letter is sent to each qualifying student with a second copy of the application and details. All applications must be maintained and submitted through the guidance office.
6. It is the student's sole responsibility to complete the additional testing necessary to receive this award. All scores must be turned over to the guidance office for processing with the DESE.
7. In May, according to the DESE deadline, the list is updated and uploaded to the DESE by the guidance office. As certain SAT II scores and AP scores are not received prior to this date, an "Incomplete" may be submitted during this upload with scores being submitted at a later date. The guidance office must be notified before the May deadline if the student is anticipating receiving any qualifying test scores after this deadline.
8. Students who meet the qualifications and receive this award are issued a Certificate of Mastery which must be turned over to the financial aid office of the college/university they will be attending.

COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS



WHERE YOU SHOULD BE

- TESTS: SAT I, SATII, ACT
- SELECTED A GROUP OF SCHOOLS WITH YOUR GUIDANCE COUNSELOR
- MADE/MAKING COLLEGE CAMPUS VISITS
- STARTING APPLICATIONS ONLINE
- MADE NOTE OF DEADLINES
- REGISTER FOR COMMON APPLICATION (WWW.COMMONAPP.ORG)

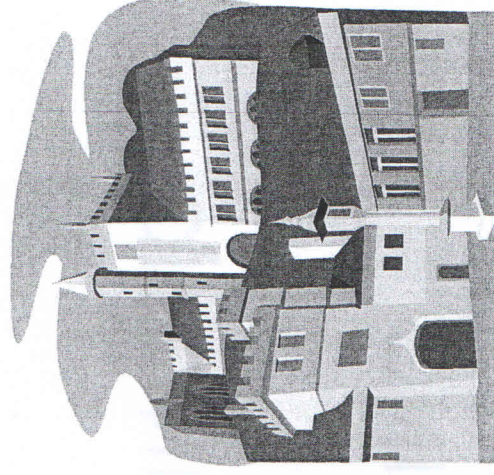
COLLEGE APPLICATION

ADMISSION TERMS

- EARLY DECISION: BINDING
- EARLY ACTION: NOT BINDING
- ROLLING ADMISSION
- REGULAR ADMISSION

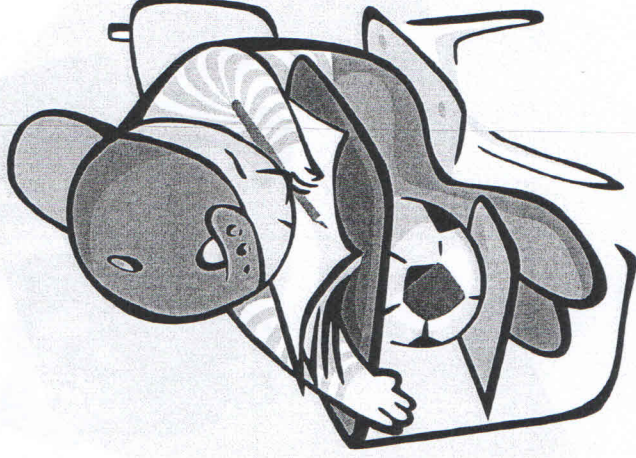
ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR

- College Representative
- Evaluates Applications
- Information Resource
- Contact Person
- Visits High Schools in Fall



STUDENT

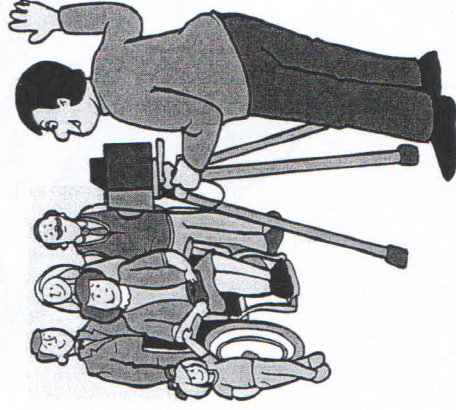
- APPLICATION
- REQUESTING TRANSCRIPTS THROUGH NAVIANCE
- RÉSUMÉ ON NAVIANCE
- TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORMS THROUGH NAVIANCE
- THANK YOU NOTES
- APPOINTMENT WITH COUNSELOR
- COMMUNICATE, COMMUNICATE!!



YIMIA7 THE FAMILY

THE FAMILY

- PARENT BRAG SHEET
- APPLICATION FEES
- FINANCIAL AID NIGHT
(Sometime in December)
- ORGANIZES COLLEGE VISITS
 - Preview days/Open House
- ORGANIZES TIME LINES
- COMMUNICATES WITH GUIDANCE

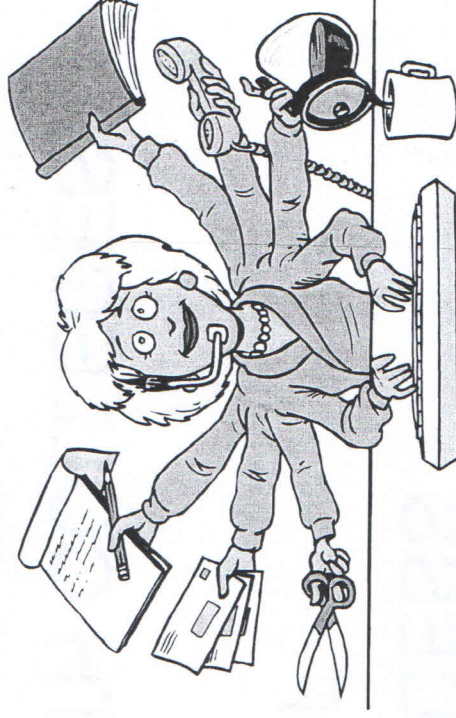


GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

- AVAILABLE TO HELP STUDENT ORGANIZE THE PROCESS
- WRITES A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION
- COMMUNICATES WITH COLLEGES
- REVIEWS TRANSCRIPT FOR ACCURACY
- FILLS OUT THE SCHOOL REPORT, MIDYEAR AND FINAL REPORT

GUIDANCE SECRETARY

- PREPARES
TRANSCRIPTS
- SENDS OUT
MIDYEAR & FINAL
TRANSCRIPTS
- MANAGES
SCHOLARSHIPS



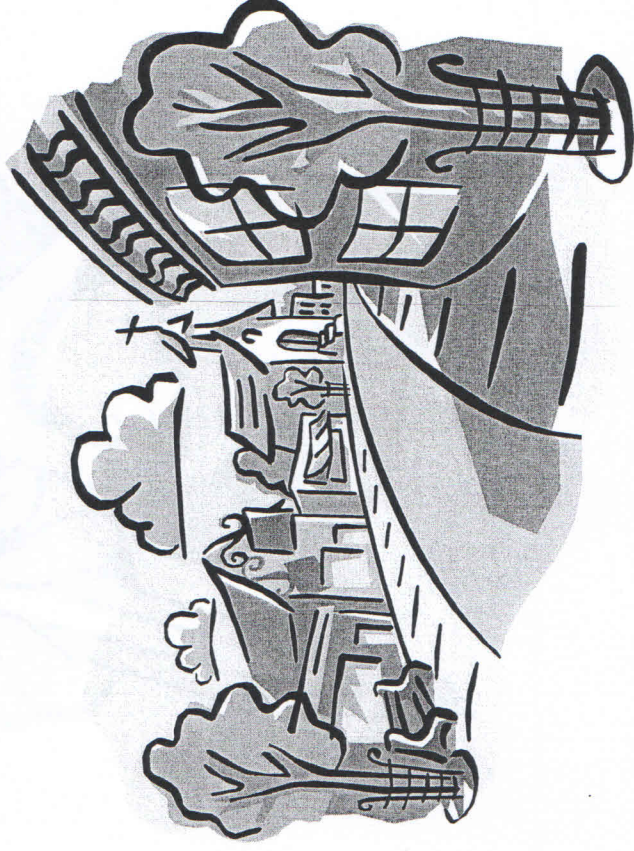
TEACHERS

- WRITE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION
- PROOF READ THE COLLEGE ESSAY



COMMUNITY

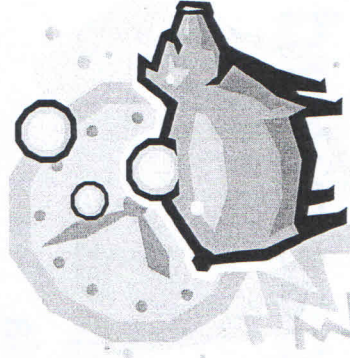
- PROVIDES MORAL SUPPORT
- PROVIDES FINANCIAL SUPPORT



TEACHERS

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

- REVIEWS THE FAFSA AND PROFILE
- ASSEMBLES A FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE
- FINANCIAL AID NIGHT
(Sometime in December)



ADVANCE WEBSITE

NAVIANCE WEBSITE

- connection.naviance.com/mmrhs
 - Please note: No “www”
- Enter username and password
- What you can do:
 - View & sign up for upcoming college visits
 - Research schools/admission criteria
 - Add colleges you are applying to
 - Request transcripts
 - Request teacher recommendations
 - View list of scholarships

(Please see Naviance hand-out for more instructions)

WEBSITES

- www.collegeboard.com
 - Testing information, CSS Profile, must register for tests online
- www.fafsa.ed.gov
 - Online FAFSA form for financial aid
- www.ncaa.org/eligibility/cbsa/
 - Eligibility requirements for athletes
- connection.naviance.com/mmrhs
 - College info, transcripts, college visits, letters of recommendation
- www.nebhe.org/tuitionbreak
 - Regional Student Program, Tuition Break
- www.mass.edu
 - State school and university requirements

College Visits

9/17/2015	UMASS Amherst	11:30 AM
9/21/2015	Worcester State University	11:15 AM
9/21/2015	Bard College	11:30 AM
9/22/2015	American International College	10:45 AM
9/22/2015	Fitchburg State University	11:30 AM
9/23/2015	Bennington College	10:45 AM
9/23/2015	SUNY Geneseo	10:45 AM
9/28/2015	Savannah College of Art & Design	11:15 AM
9/28/2015	MA College of Pharmacy	11:15 AM
9/28/2015	Dickinson College	12:00 PM
9/29/2015	Emmanuel College	10:45 AM
9/29/2015	Middlebury College	10:45 AM
9/29/2015	Sacred Heart University	11:30 AM
9/30/2015	Nichols College	10:45 AM
10/1/2015	Hampshire College	10:45 AM
10/6/2015	Unity College	10:45 AM
10/7/2015	Mildred Elley	10:45 AM
10/7/2015	Southern New Hampshire University	12:45 PM
10/8/2015	Skidmore College	9:45 AM
10/9/2015	Bryant University	11:30 AM
10/13/2015	Boston University	11:30 AM
10/13/2015	Springfield College	11:30 AM
10/14/2015	Fisher College	11:30 AM
10/15/2015	Mitchell College	10:45 AM
10/15/2015	Elms College	11:30 AM
10/15/2015	University of New England	11:35 AM
10/16/2015	St Joseph's College	11:30 AM
10/19/2015	University of Madrid	12:00 PM
10/26/2015	Merrimack College	11:15 AM
10/26/2015	Lesley University	11:15 AM
10/26/2015	Lasell College	12:00 PM
10/27/2015	Johnson State College	10:45 AM
10/27/2015	Endicott College	10:45 AM
10/27/2015	University of Vermont	11:30 AM
10/29/2015	Bay Path University	10:45 AM
10/29/2015	University of Southern Maine	11:30 AM
10/30/2015	Seton Hall University	11:30 AM
11/5/2015	New England Institute of Technology	10:45 AM
11/9/2015	Albertus Magnus College	12:00 PM
11/16/2015	Southern Vermont College	12:00 PM
11/17/2015	Keene State College	11:30 AM

Common App Essay Prompts fro 2015-16

We are pleased to share the 2015-2016 Essay Prompts with you. New language appears in italics:

1. *Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it.* If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. *The lessons we take from failure can be fundamental to later success.* Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again?
4. *Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma—anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.*
5. Discuss an accomplishment or event, formal or informal, that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood within your culture, community, or family.

How do I access my Naviance account? (all grades):

The Guidance Department has a database program called Naviance that helps students research colleges, request transcripts, apply for scholarships, and many other tasks associated with the college application process. Follow the directions below to access the website or see your guidance counselor.

Go to: connection.naviance.com/mmrhs (note: do not use www)

Enter in your established username and password or special code if you are a first time user.

If you have forgotten your password, need a code for first time use, or need to update your email address, please see the guidance secretaries or your counselor. We can easily update, change, or edit your passwords and email addresses. Having a current email address is extremely important!

Requesting Transcripts & Letters of Recommendation for College Using Naviance: (seniors):

Once you are logged into Naviance, you will need to ADD COLLEGES that you are planning on applying to. Please follow these steps:

Click on “colleges”

Click “colleges I’m applying to”

Below the box that is titled, Common App Matching, click “+add to this list” which is in smaller font.

Go on to add each college through the “look up” tab.

Please check the “request transcript” box in this section as well.

Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click “add colleges”

This is not set in stone. Changes can easily be made to your list.

In order to request a TEACHER RECOMMENDATION, please follow these steps:

Scroll down below your list of “colleges I’m applying to” and go to “Teacher Recommendations”

Click “add/cancel request”

A number of boxes that say “select teacher” will appear.

Click on the arrow in that box and a drop down with a listing of teachers will appear.

Please select one teacher per box and then scroll to the bottom of page and click “update requests”.

An email will be sent directly to that teacher and they will be able to upload your letter directly to Naviance. When you are ready to send your application, please notify your counselor and at that point, your counselor will have the ability to send all letters, forms and your transcript directly to each college electronically.

Connecting Naviance to the Common App (seniors):

In addition to the Naviance portion, any student who has a Common App School must also create an account with the Common App site. Once you have a Common App account a student must **ADD COLLEGES IN THE COMMON APP.** To do this, please follow these steps:

Go to the “College” tab and add each Common App college

The student will be prompted to fill out a small portion of the “education” section. Once complete, click the “Colleges” tab again

Go to the “Recommendations and FERPA” section and click

Please follow the prompts to sign the FERPA agreement. (This step cannot be skipped.)

Click, “manage recommenders” which is in smaller font in the top right-hand corner. Here, you will need to fill out what is being asked of you and request recommendations from the same teachers you invited to write you a letter in Naviance. The reason this must be done in the Common App as well, is so that the teachers can receive the Common App Teacher Evaluation Form. This allows the teacher to be able to fill out this necessary form on Naviance. The guidance counselors will then have access to it and will be able to send these forms along with the rest of the documentation that is needed for each college.

After the above steps have been completed, please go back into your Naviance page under “college I’m applying to”

Go to the box that is titled “Common App Account Matching”

Enter your Common App email in the box provided along with your birthdate

Click the “Match” button.

You have now linked your accounts!!

If a student would like a letter of recommendation from someone outside of the MMRHS Faculty, please ask that individual to send their letter directly to the colleges of your choice. It is helpful if this is communicated to the student’s counselor.

MONUMENT MOUNTAIN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
GUIDANCE OFFICE

PARENT'S RECOMMENDATION AND EVALUATION
Please fill out and return to the Guidance Office or email the counselor

Full Name of Student _____

1. What are the first words which come to mind to describe your son or daughter?
2. Please share an anecdote or story that illustrates the qualities you find most characteristic of your son or daughter?
3. What additional information would you want to share with a college admissions officer, especially something that you are proud of in your son's or daughter's development as an individual.