

Parent/Guardian Resources for the College Process

Watertown High School Guidance Resources

- School Guidance Counselors
 - Students with last names A-De: Fabian Rivera
 - Students with last names Di-G: Adrienne Eaton
 - Students with last names H-Ma:
 - Students with last names P-Z: Jaimie Leonard
 - Students in our ESL program: Kimberly Osborne
- Simply Seniors
 - This weekly newsletter is sent to students each week. It includes information about upcoming college visits, open houses, community service opportunities, and scholarship information.
- NEACAC Virtual Fairs
 - Register here: <https://www.virtualcollegefairs.org/>
 - October 12, October 18, November 18
- Financial Aid Night
 - MEFA (the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority) will offer daily webinars this fall.
 - Register here: www.mefa.org/events
- WHS Scholarship Booklet
 - A number of local scholarships specific to Watertown students will be distributed in this booklet in March to all seniors. Students are encouraged to apply!
- WHS Guidance News Website
 - Most information from evening events as well as links to various resources are posted on our Guidance News website:
<https://sites.google.com/a/watertown.k12.ma.us/whs-guidance/>. Follow us on Instagram (@whsguidance50), too!

College Search and Application

- Common Application – www.commonapp.org
- Naviance -
<https://connection.naviance.com/family-connection/auth/login/?hsid=watertownma>
 - Every senior has a user name and password for Naviance that they can share with family members. Alternatively, you may sign in as a Guest and use the password Raiders.
- College Score Card - <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/>
 - A site operated by the US Department of Education that allows visitors to sort and filter their search results to easily compare schools and decide which college makes the

most sense when considering the typical costs, average student loan amount, students' ability to repay their loans, and their future earnings.

Testing

- College Board (SATs) – www.collegeboard.org
- ACT – www.actstudent.org
- TOEFL – www.ets.org/toefl
- Fair Test (a listing of schools that do not require testing) – www.fairtest.org

Financial Aid

- MEFA (Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority) – www.mefa.org
- FAFSA – www.fafsa.ed.gov
- FastWeb (Scholarship search) – www.fastweb.com

We have found that these op-ed pieces have some useful advice for families with seniors going through the college process (though as with all op-eds, we may not agree with everything!).

- 8 Mistakes Parents Make When They Help Kids Apply to College (an opinion piece) - http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/09/15/applying-to-college_n_5709605.html?utm_hp_ref=email_share
- Parents, Read This if Your Child is Applying to College (an opinion piece) - <http://www.usnews.com/education/blogs/professors-guide/2009/12/09/parents-read-this-if-your-child-is-applying-to-college>
- Where You Go Is Not Who You'll Be (a great book by Frank Bruni)