

Distance Counseling for Juniors

Hello juniors. During the spring juniors typically focus on their classes so they have the strongest grades possible when applying to colleges, take the SAT and/or ACT, start meeting with their school counselor for college planning sessions, visit colleges, etc. The college planning process can be stressful in and of itself, but with the uncertainties brought by COVID your stress might be at an all-time high. Luckily, even though we're not in school the counselors can still provide support electronically!

Below are recommendations for things you can do over the next few weeks. It's not mandatory, but it's here if you want to take a look. The counselors will update this list, so check back periodically. If we're out of school for a longer period of time we'll add more recommendations to this list.

Today (3/16/20) ACT announced that they're cancelling the April ACT, and College Board announced that they're cancelling the May SAT. More changes will be coming...

Just remember- you will be ok. You will go to college. Things aren't going as planned, but try to stay level-headed and be flexible. Juniors across the country and around the world are also dealing with this. Colleges will need to make adjustments too. We've never been through something like this before, but we'll figure it out together. We'll make sure you get all of the information you need in regards to college planning. You can always email us with your questions and/or concerns too. We're here to support you academically and emotionally, so please reach out if you need us.

Hang in there!

Ms. Marcus, Mr. Allen, and Ms. Abney

*This document is separated into sections, with the newest information at the end of each section and at the end of the document.

*If you're a Masterman student or family, or an educator from another school, send us an email and let us know if you use these resources or share them at your school.

Ms. Marcus- hmarcus@philasd.org

Mr. Allen- jameallen@philasd.org

Ms. Abney- gabney@philasd.org

Masterman's College Planning Guide

All juniors received a paper copy of Masterman's College Planning Guide. That's what the counselors have been reviewing with you in Junior Seminar for the last few weeks. Read through the guide on your own. It contains great information on every aspect of the college planning process!

Naviance

All juniors should have completed their Naviance lessons for the 2019-2020 school year. This was done in Junior Seminar. If you haven't completed the lessons, follow these directions:

- Go to philasd.org
- Login
- Go to the Naviance portal
- When you're on your Naviance homepage, click "My Planner" in the top right hand corner
- Then click "Tasks"
- Scroll down. Complete anything on the left side of the screen under the red "Overdue" heading that's from the 2019-2020 school year. Read the directions carefully.
- You'll know you completed a task when it moves to the right side of the screen under "Tasks you've completed"
- If you'd like to complete a task from a previous school year, you can do that too.

There's also plenty to explore in Naviance that isn't specifically assigned to you. Browse the site! For example, explore careers in Roadtrip Nation.

Summer Programs

We've already told you how important it is to participate in summer programs. Look at the Opportunities Bulletin and apply! Click here - [Masterman's Opportunities Bulletin](#)

5/12/20- It looks like some programs are being moved online, and many are being cancelled. Remember that all juniors are in the same situation, and colleges understand that you won't be able to participate in most summer activities. We recommend that you use the summer to work on your Common App (the counselors are setting a date to have a Junior Seminar class on Google Meet to help you with this), revise your Common App essay, and explore things you're interested in but never had time to pursue. Read a book that's been sitting on your shelf.

Research a topic that's intrigued you but you haven't learned about it in school. Show genuine curiosity and interest in something!

Scholarship Websites

We recommend that you only use sites that offer **free scholarship searches.

**If you email your counselor to request a transcript or letter of recommendation, you must include the email address where the documents need to be sent.

[College Board Opportunity Scholarships](#)

[Fastweb: Find Scholarships for College for FREE](#)

[Unigo: College Matching and School Reviews. Your Guide to College](#)

[College Search & Scholarships: College Decision Resources | Cappex.com](#)

[College Scholarship Search | Find scholarships for students from over 2,200 programs](#)

[Scholarships.com - Free College Scholarship Search Financial Aid Grants Scholarships College Scholarship Scholarships](#)

Virtual College Tours

If you can't visit a college, take a virtual tour! It's not exactly the same as a visit, but it gives you a taste of what the campus is like. Many colleges have virtual tours on their websites. You can also find a variety of websites that offer virtual tours of many colleges.

[How to Make the Most of Virtual College Tours](#)

[Go on a Virtual College Visit](#)

[CampusTours - Interactive Virtual Tours and Campus Maps](#)

Temple University Virtual Tour- [Temple U Virtual Tour](#)

3/24/20- Wow!!! I was in a school counselor online forum where a counselor posted this list and said that other school counselors could share it with their students. She researched and made a spreadsheet that includes hundreds of colleges! [College Virtual Tours \(w/ data from College Board*\)](#)

3/27/20- Pitt's Virtual Offerings- [Office of Admissions and Financial Aid | University of Pittsburgh](#)

3/28/20- Penn State's Virtual Resources- [Experience Penn State](#)

Webinars

Since colleges are cancelling all campus tours and information sessions for the spring, some are posting webinars. Check the websites for colleges you're interested in attending. Pitt emailed this to counselors today (3/16/20). We'll post information from other colleges as we receive it.

PittBusiness webinar: <https://cba.pitt.edu/admissions-information-session-webinar/>

PittBusiness Backstory: <https://www.backstory.cba.pitt.edu>

PittBusiness Student Ambassador Bios:

<https://cba.pitt.edu/admission/pitt-business-student-ambassadors/>

PittBusiness Virtual Tour:

<https://cba.pitt.edu/student-life/virtual-tour-of-pitt-business/overview-virtual-tour/>

WashU virtual information sessions: [WashU Near You 2020](#)

4/15/20- ACCEPT (Admissions Community Cultivating Equity & Peace Today) is excited to work in partnership with StriveScan to host our first four ACCEPT CONNECT CHAT SESSIONS! If you have questions, please email- brandi@acceptgroup.org

Student Registration Links:

- LGBTQ+ Students and the College Admission Process - 4/16/20 at 3:00 PM
 - <https://app.strivescan.com/students?id=1751>
- DACA/Undocumented Students - 4/16/20 at 8:00 PM
 - <https://app.strivescan.com/students?id=1752>
- Financial Aid/Financial Aid Reconsideration - 4/19/20 at 3:00 PM
 - <https://app.strivescan.com/students?id=1753>
- HBCU's, Native American Serving and Hispanic Serving Institutions - 4/19/20 at 8:00 PM
 - <https://app.strivescan.com/students?id=1754>

College Planning

Check out these articles related to the college admissions process and taming anxiety.

[College Admissions Advice from Author Frank Bruni](#)

[Opinion | How to Survive the College Admissions Madness](#)

[How to Cope with Anxiety in the Admission Process](#)

4/1/20- NACAC (National Association for College Admission Counseling) podcasts- [NACAC podcasts](#) Scroll down to EPISODE SIX: "WHAT COLLEGES ARE LOOKING FOR: FACTS AND

MYTHS ABOUT THE APPLICATION PROCESS" There are also some other helpful podcasts on this website.

Researching Colleges

- Remember to use the SuperMatch College Search in Naviance. We went over this in Junior Seminar. Students can log in to the School District website [here](#) to get to Naviance.
- College Board's [Big Future College Search](#) is also great.
- Looking for colleges to add to your list? Check out these [Colleges That Change Lives](#).
"CTCL is dedicated to the advancement and support of a student-centered college search process."
- We usually read the book *Where You Go Is Not Who You'll Be* by Frank Bruni in Junior Seminar in the spring. If you're able you can read the book on your own. You should keep this information in mind as you work through the college process and build your college list. Book information [here](#).

College Board SAT Updates

The May and June SAT are cancelled.

Whether you plan to take the SAT in August or in the fall, you can do SAT practice over the next few weeks. You can practice through Khan Academy if you haven't already. If you login to your College Board account you can link it to Khan Academy and get free, personalized practice based on your PSAT score. We highly recommend it! [Official SAT® Practice](#)

[College Board Cancels May SAT in Response to the Coronavirus](#)

4/15/20- The June SAT was cancelled. Get more information here: [Coronavirus Updates for Students Taking the SAT](#)

4/20/20-Article from Education Week- [College Board Cancels June SAT and Amps Up Fall Testing Schedule](#)

4/23/20- College Board has added a new SAT administration for Saturday, September 26, 2020. This date will be for the SAT only, in the United States and internationally, with no SAT Subject Tests™ available. Sunday testing for religious reasons will be on September 27.

Registration for the 2020-21 SAT administrations will open the week of May 26. At that point, June registrants will be able to transfer their seat to a 2020-21 administration. All other students in the high school class of 2021 who don't have SAT scores will also have early access to register for the August, September, and October administrations. This includes students who had registered for March or May and had their registrations canceled and refunded. For each administration this year, we're also preparing to significantly expand our capacity. More info [here](#).

6/2/20-

Update on an At-Home SAT Option

The College Board will pause on offering an at-home SAT this year because taking it would require three hours of uninterrupted, video-quality internet for each student, which can't be guaranteed for all. We'll continue to develop remote proctoring capabilities to make an at-home SAT possible in the future. We will also continue to deliver the SAT online in some schools but won't introduce the stress that could result from extended at-home testing in an already disrupted admissions season.

4/3/20 - SAT Subject Tests

The counselors are starting to receive emails from multiple colleges stating that they **WILL NOT** be requiring or recommending SAT Subject tests for current juniors who will be applying to college this fall. Don't stress about subject tests if you haven't taken them yet, or if you wanted to retake them to improve your score. Check the websites of the specific colleges you're interested in to see any changes to requirements.

Harvard- "Students will not be disadvantaged in any way if they do not submit subject tests. Similarly, students will not be disadvantaged if they are unable to submit AP results."

Penn- **"For the 2020-21 admissions cycle, SAT Subject Tests will be *optional* (i.e., neither required nor recommended) for applicants. We will continue to require students submit SAT or ACT scores."**

Yale- "Yale requires all applicants for first-year and transfer admission to report results from the ACT or SAT. At this time, we expect there will be sufficient opportunities for all applicants to

complete the ACT or [SAT](#) before the next admissions deadlines. If Yale's policies change, we will provide a public notice as soon as possible.

All other standardized tests (i.e. [SAT](#) subject tests, AP exams, IB exams, A-Level exams) are optional. We do not expect students currently enrolled in academic-year courses associated with any of these tests to complete these exams in spring or summer 2020. Students may choose to complete these exams this year if circumstances allow, or not.”

MIT- “MIT has made the decision to no longer consider the SAT Subject Tests as part of the admissions process starting with the 2020–21 admissions cycle. This decision was made after considerable study and we believe this decision will improve access for students applying to MIT.”

College Board AP Updates

[AP Updates for Schools Impacted by Coronavirus](#)

3/2020- latest AP update- [Information for AP Students Affected by Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

4/6/20- latest AP update- [Updates for AP Students Affected by Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

ACT Updates

[April 2020 National Exam COVID-19 - The ACT Test](#)

Choosing Between the SAT and ACT

[ACT vs. SAT: How to Decide Which Test to Take](#)

Test Optional Colleges

Over 1,000 colleges in the United States have ACT/SAT optional admissions policies for fall 2021. See the list [here](#).

Wow! You read this far?! There's so much information here. Good for you! Keep going. You can do it!

Common Application

We'll monitor the situation with the timeline for school closures and provide information about making a Common App account at a later time.

3/17/20- There's a great documentary on the World Channel tonight at 8:00 PM. It's called PERSONAL STATEMENT, and it's about three first-generation college students working their way through the college application process. They go to public schools in NY and there aren't enough school counselors to help all of the students, so these three amazing students help their classmates. It's a very inspirational film!

It's also streaming for free from 3/17-3/24:

<https://worldchannel.org/episode/personal-statement-khg64b/?fbclid=IwAR1aaqigMV4Ewz3Hc2METgAfFhE1yVqxRnexu3zPA2eJEHBerh1vJAF84ic>

The PERSONAL STATEMENT team just recently launched a scholarship contest called #WeBelongInCollege . They're giving away 25 scholarships at \$1,000 each! All you have to do is make a short video and share it on social media. Info here:

<https://getschooled.com/journey/webelongincollege?fbclid=IwAR0sHpuDInYQrTLlurnYBZIBwS87y8pANrEy84XAbPLAYmIZ8yYV3BZ7UWo>

3/18/20- Due to the current situation, some colleges are making changes to their admissions events, etc. The National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) is collecting information about college admissions changes. It's being updated continuously as colleges make changes. See the list here: [NACAC College Admission Status Update During the Coronavirus Outbreak](#)

Colleges Going Test Optional for the SAT and ACT

There are many more colleges making announcements. Here are a few sample colleges:

3/18/20- Case Western just announced that they're going test optional for students entering college in fall 2021 (current juniors). Get details [here](#):

3/24/20- "Tufts University is introducing a test-optional admissions policy for all undergraduate applicants for a 3-year period, beginning with applicants who apply for the Fall 2021 semester.

Starting with our next admissions cycle, first-year and transfer applicants have a choice about whether or not to submit SAT or ACT scores to be considered for undergraduate admission to Tufts.”

[Tufts Introduces SAT & ACT Test-Optional Admissions Policy](#)

4/22/20- “The SARS-COV-2 pandemic emergency has led to many SAT and ACT administration cancellations. Due to this extraordinary circumstance, students seeking to enroll at Cornell University beginning in August 2021 can submit their applications without including the results from ACT or SAT exams. This will be true for both the Early Decision and Regular Decision rounds of review.” Info [here](#).

4/23/20- “Barnard recognizes the challenges that students are facing due to the COVID-19 pandemic and, in response, Barnard will adopt a one-year SAT and ACT test-optional admission policy for students applying for Fall 2021 first-year admission.”

4/23/20- “Given the fact that many high school students were, or will be, unable to sit for standardized tests this spring and summer, Wellesley has temporarily suspended its requirement that first-year applicants submit SAT or ACT scores. This means testing will be **optional** for first-year applicants applying to the College for entry in the fall of 2021. If an applicant wishes to have their standardized test scores considered as one component of their application, we will consider those scores in a nuanced and contextual way alongside all other application credentials. If students choose not to submit standardized test scores, we will evaluate their application in a nuanced and contextual way without test scores. Our holistic, committee-based application review process gives us the flexibility to evaluate each applicant’s academic and extracurricular accomplishments within individual context.”

5/29/20- “I am pleased to announce that Drexel University has adopted a Test-Optional policy for students applying as first-year or transfer students during the 2020–2021 admissions cycle. At the end of the 2020–2021 admissions cycle, we will decide whether to reinstate a standardized testing requirement for undergraduate applicants or extend the Test-Optional policy.”

6/4/20- “Due to ongoing standardized testing disruptions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, Columbia is adopting a one year test-optional policy for first-year applicants to Columbia College or Columbia Engineering for the fall of 2021.

Testing is no longer a required component for this year's first-year application cycle. Students who are unable or choose not to submit test scores will not be disadvantaged in any way. If students have completed testing and would like to submit their results, we welcome those scores and will review them, as with all optional or required information, within the holistic and

contextual review process that considers individual circumstances shaping each applicant's journey.”

6/22/20- [Ivy League schools will not require standardized testing next year](#)

Emails From Colleges to Students

3/19/20- Below is an email that UChicago sent to students. We're sharing it because it probably addresses some of your worries about the college process. Remember that juniors across the country are in the same situation as you, and that colleges are understanding and will be flexible in regards to admissions for next year. You'll be ok and all of this will be worked out.

Dear Student,

I hope you are all weathering the current storm and staying healthy and safe!

The COVID-19 pandemic is impacting so many aspects of life and forcing changes, cancellations, and new policies at all levels of education. Many students and families have written to me and expressed their worries and frustrations, especially those just beginning the college search process. As Dean of Admissions, I want to assure all students and their families that we (and most of my peers at other highly selective institutions) will be understanding and accommodating of these changes. The current crisis will NOT negatively impact how we review your application, and there will still be time once this crisis is over for you to find your future college home. At UChicago, our goal is to assist students with as much flexibility as possible. Given the changing landscape in the admissions area, I hope this additional information about the admissions process will help ease some worry during this difficult time:

- We recognize that school transcripts will look different for many students this year, and we will work with that! Academic progress as usual is currently being disrupted for students across the globe. We encourage students to continue to engage with whatever method of learning your school is able to offer, and to do so to the best of your ability. If your school moves to an alternative grading system or method of credit notation (pass/fail, credit/no credit, etc.), we will fully understand why the change has been made and it will not, in any way, be an issue for an admissions office. If a high school closes and does not provide any online or structured replacement educational opportunities, rest assured that we will understand that as well (this is a good opportunity to read something new that piques your interest!).
- You do not need to visit campus to be admitted to a selective school. UChicago does not consider demonstrated interest as part of our admissions process. While universities are currently restricted in our ability to offer information sessions on

campus or in local communities, many universities will offer virtual information sessions. UChicago will be posting many new online opportunities in the weeks ahead. The goal for our online programming (and any sessions we offer on or off campus in the future) is simply to help students learn more about the highly selective admissions process, the financial aid process at most schools, and the impactful nature of a UChicago education. Visiting or attending an online session is NOT a requirement of admission to UChicago.

- Many final national exams or international certificate programs (such as Advanced Placement tests, the International Baccalaureate program, Cambridge Programme/A-Levels, etc.) have been (or will be) moved online, postponed, or cancelled. Most highly selective admissions offices do not require AP scores and are aware of the changes (and will also understand that students will have few opportunities to take any required tests more than once – which is a good thing!). At UChicago, we do not require any students to complete exams in these or other national programs as a condition of enrollment. UChicago does not require AP or SAT Subject Test results for any applicant. We understand that many students' preparation for or ability to take these exams will be impacted by current events. Supplemental testing is not required in our admission process, even for test-optional candidates, and it will not impact a student's application if they are unable to share these test results with us next year.
- Many schools are closed temporarily or indefinitely, and some students may worry how they can showcase their accomplishments for the spring. Do not worry. This will be the case for most students, and an application is always read in context.
- Your school counselors will give you excellent and well-informed advice! Universities communicate updates and changes in the admissions process with your school counselors (and school counselors call us when they have questions or need clarifications). If you do not have a school counselor, UChicago provides information that will help you with this process at most universities, not just ours. We will be sharing more general college admissions resources and other information with students who may need extra assistance or resources in the weeks ahead. Continue to check our website, collegeadmissions.uchicago.edu, for more details in the coming weeks.

We hope that this information was helpful to you and alleviates some of your college admissions stress (the current crisis creates more than enough stress – you do not need more). If you have any additional questions, please reply to this email to reach the UChicago admissions counselor for your area.

Stay safe, stay healthy, wash your hands, and we will hope to see you on our campus sometime in the future (Not now, though. Stay home now!).

Best,



James Nondorf
Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid
Vice President for Enrollment and Student Advancement
University of Chicago

3/20/20- **Philadelphia Futures- College Planning**

Philadelphia Futures is a community organization that assists first-generation college students with the college application process. Every year we give their *Step Up To College* guide to all of our high school students. They also have a series of videos that highlights important information about the college application process, such as finding the “right fit”, paying for college, and writing your college essay. See their videos here: [Step Up to College Celebrates 30 Years with a New Video Series](#)

4/14/20- See the new Rising Senior Edition! It was obviously created before the pandemic, but it still contains plenty of valuable information about the steps in the college process you should be following now and during the summer. [Summer Supplement](#)

3/22/20- **Summer Programs Update**

“In light of current public health guidance, MIT will not host or sponsor any in-person K-12 student programming during the summer of 2020. The Institute is encouraging summer programs to be delivered in an online format. **In adherence to these new guidelines, the OEOP will not offer the residential MITES program in the summer of 2020, and will expand the MOSTEC program, which takes place online.**” - [K-12 summer programming update | Covid-19 Response | Massachusetts Institute of Technology](#)

- “We are writing **today** to share an update about **MIT's** testing requirements. **MIT** has made the decision to no longer consider the **SAT** Subject Tests as part of the admissions process starting with the 2020–21 admissions cycle. This decision was made after considerable study and we believe this decision will improve access for students applying to **MIT**.

For students seeking admission to enter **MIT** in 2021 and beyond, we will require the **SAT** or ACT for all applicants both domestic and international. For non-native English speakers, we strongly recommend taking the TOEFL if they have been using English for less than 5 years or do not speak English at home or in school, so that we may consider that alongside the **SAT** or the ACT.

Please visit our website to learn more details about this announcement and our revised testing requirements.”

- [A special announcement about SAT Subject Tests MIT has made the decision to no longer consider Tests & scores](#)

3/23/20- **Updates from Penn**

Today the counselors had a conference call with Tommy Bergstrom, Associate Director of Admissions at The University of Pennsylvania. He reviews all of Penn's applications from Philadelphia. Here's some information from him:

- Remember that all students across the U.S. and across the world are in the same boat.
- Anything you're missing because of the COVID crisis WILL NOT be held against you in the application process. (ex.- missing spring report card grades, missing the traditional AP Exams, etc.)
- Penn doesn't have answers to many questions right now. We need to be patient and see what develops.
- It's most important to stay healthy and in touch with your support systems.

In addition, Tommy sent these resources:

- Penn's new Virtual Tour: [Virtual Tour](#)
- [Advice on Academics from Penn Admissions](#)

3/24/20- **Updates from Bard College**

“As of Monday, March 16, the Bard College Office of Admission canceled all campus tours through Friday, May 1 and replaced them with online Let's Meet sessions. These sessions will allow prospective students and their families to join virtual information and Q&A sessions hosted by an admission counselor and a current Bard student. You can register for these sessions below. We will notify you should we need to extend the campus tour cancellations beyond May 1.”

[Bard Campus Tours](#)

3/25/20- **Masterman's College Fair is cancelled**

As you probably could have guessed, Masterman's College Fair, which was going to take place on April 15, is now officially cancelled.

Use all of the advice and links above to research colleges. In addition, the National College Fair takes place each fall at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. Representatives from hundreds of colleges attend. See info here: [Philadelphia National College Fair](#) We'll discuss this more in the fall.

4/13/20- Article about recent changes that impact juniors- [College Advice for Juniors](#)

4/18/20- **Virtual College Fair**

This is amazing!! Over 300 colleges from 40 states and 10 countries will be represented at this virtual college fair!

Strive Virtual College Exploration

- Monday, April 20- Friday, May 8
- 3 weeks of virtual presentations for juniors to explore college opportunities.
- FREE for students
- There are 300+ different sessions on a variety of topics.
- Students should register for *each panel* that they want to attend. Once they register, they'll receive a confirmation email with their unique link to join the Zoom webinar.

Click [here](#) to see the colleges, register for sessions, and get additional information. Don't miss this great opportunity!

4/20/20- **Virtual Info Sessions with Temple University**

Alyssa Liles-Amponsah, Associate Director of Diversity Initiatives and Community Relations at Temple University, is holding several information sessions. This is a great way to learn more about Temple and ask your questions!

Tuesday May 19th- 10 AM

<https://meet.google.com/ghq-raqo-ify>

Thursday May 21st - 1 PM

<https://meet.google.com/ezv-wffg-htm>

Friday May 22nd - 11 AM

<https://meet.google.com/ekx-ftan-gmi>

5/4/20- **Virtual College Fair**

NAVIGATE 2020

May 4-6, 2020

Three days of live-stream presentations will help students and families understand:

- The impact of COVID-19 on the admission process
- Financial aid and financial award programs
- How to balance the application: test scores, essay, extracurriculars, etc.
- Multicultural, first generation, and accessibility/disability resources on college campuses
- How to find the best college fit/choose a major
- What to expect the first year on campus

...and so much more.

Click for more info and to register for sessions: <https://virtual.gotocollegefairs.com/>

5/6/20- **PASSHE Virtual Information Sessions**

The Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) is having a few joint recruitment sessions for all 14 state schools in PA (list of colleges [here](#).)

Sessions:

May 7th - Meet the PASSHE Team

May 12th - Admissions Survival 101

May 19th - Meet the PASSHE Team

May 26th - Admissions Survival 101

Click [here](#) for dates, times, and registration.

5/11/20- **National Portfolio Day**

High school juniors interested in art and design are invited to bring their best work (finished pieces, works in progress, or sketchbooks) to Virtual National Portfolio Day on Friday, May 22. At this free online event for all, Columbus College of Art & Design's

Admissions Counselors will give suggestions on how students can make their portfolios even more impressive (so they're ready when they apply to CCAD!).

When: Friday, May 22, from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Eastern Daylight Time)

Where: Online (You can attend the fair from anywhere!)

Get more info [here](#). Register [here](#).

5/12/20- **Virtual STEM Presentations and Information Sessions**

So far 31 colleges are participating in the Strive Virtual College Exploration STEM Days, which includes a variety of presentations.

Tuesday, May 19- Thursday, May 21, 2020

Students should register for *each panel* that they want to attend. Once they register, they'll receive a confirmation email with their unique link to join the Zoom webinar. Find additional information and register [here](#).

5/14/20- **FREE College Essay Writing Workshop**

Penn State
Schreyer Essay Writing Workshop

Wednesday, June 10, 2020

10:00 AM until 12:00 PM

Penn State Admissions - Philadelphia

Online Workshop

Spaces are limited. Register [here](#).

5/19/20- **Summer Opportunity**

Many summer programs are being cancelled, but here's one that's happening online.

The High School Bridge - Summer Program at Pace University is a program that gives high school juniors and seniors, who are in good academic standing, the opportunity to take one 100-level course at Pace University over the summer!

Tuition:

The tuition is \$150 per credit hour and courses may be taken during either the fall, spring or summer semester. SPECIAL COURSE FEES MAY APPLY.

Get more information and register [here](#).

5/23/20- Virtual College Fair

The counselors highly recommend this!

Strive Virtual College Exploration

Colleges That Change Lives

Tuesday, May 26- Thursday, May 28

3 days of presentations and information sessions with 39 Colleges That Change Lives

Get details about the sessions and register [here](#).

“CTCL is dedicated to the advancement and support of a student-centered college search process.” Visit [Colleges That Change Lives](#) for more information.

5/26/20- FREE- College Access Academy at Drexel University

“Applying to colleges is both an exciting and overwhelming time for high school students and their families — this is especially true for minority and first-generation college students.

To aid you in the process, Drexel presents the College Access Academy. This one-week, online program is designed to assist rising high school juniors and seniors within these populations through the college selection and admissions processes.

Interactive workshops will be offered on topics including selecting a right-fit college, choosing a major, SAT Preparation, essay writing, interviewing skills, financing a college

education, and more. Each student will be paired with a College Access Academy faculty member who will guide them throughout the week and provide individualized counseling. The capstone of the week is for students to leave with a list of right-fit schools to visit and apply to in their senior year.”

The program will be online from July 20-24, 2020. Deadline to register is Wednesday, June 17. Get more information and register [here](#).

5/28/20- **HBCU Virtual Tour**

The HBCU Alumni Alliances of Atlanta, Chicago and Washington DC have joined together to bring you The Virtual HBCU College Tour.

Join us May 30th for the HBCU Tour experience.

Get details and register [here](#) to get the event link.

5/30/20- **Counselor Common App session**

This week the counselors led two sessions on Google Meet to help juniors make Common App accounts. We also answered college questions.

[Here's](#) a link to the presentation.

[Here's](#) a link to information about the new COVID question that was added to the Common App.

6/2/20- **Virtual College Panel**

The deans and directors of admission at the **Sister Colleges** invite you to join us at an event in your area. Check the event types and dates below to connect with the Sister Colleges and hear a brief history of the Sister schools and our strengths across all fields, especially in the sciences. Learn how our outstanding campus opportunities — internships, research, leadership development, career preparation and social life — translate into powerful outcomes for our alumnae.

Deans and Directors of Admission
The Sister Colleges
Barnard
Bryn Mawr
Mount Holyoke
Smith
Wellesley

**East Coast &
Midwest Panel**

Wednesday, June 3
6:00-7:30 pm EDT

Register [here](#).

6/5/20- National Association for College Admissions Counseling (NACAC) Virtual College Fairs

Here's your chance to hear firsthand from those-in-the-know at hundreds of colleges and universities nearby, across the country, and around the world.

Save the date and get ready to attend these upcoming **NACAC Virtual College Fairs**:

- **Sunday, Sept. 13**
September Kickoff
12 - 8 p.m. ET
- **Monday, Oct. 12**
October
1 - 9 p.m. ET
- **Sunday, Nov. 8**
November
2 - 10 p.m. ET

Attend as often as you like! All NACAC Virtual College Fairs are FREE. Get more info and register [here](#).

6/9/20- Virtual Summer Program

Penn is hosting a new program this summer- The Rising Senior Summer Academy (PennRSSA). It's free for all juniors and focuses on college preparation.

Click [here](#) to get more details and to register.

6/11/20- **Virtual Summer Program**

Summer Honors Institute at Long Island University

“We would like to let you know about an exciting summer opportunity for your current Juniors (rising Seniors). At LIU we have redesigned our Summer Honors Institute, which will be virtual this year. Using what we’ve learned from this new instructional platform and given a national network of guest speakers, the program will be an energizing student learning experience and one we believe can help jump-start your 11th graders’ senior year college search process.”

There are 9 areas of study and the total cost is \$50!!

Get more info and apply [here](#).

6/15/20- **Scholarship Alert!**

Get Schooled #WeBelongInCollege Scholarship

“Share your stories of struggle and triumph on social media using the hashtag [#WeBelongInCollege](#). We will be giving out twenty-five \$1,000 scholarships to the most inspiring stories shared!”

Next deadline is June 30. Click [here](#) for more details.

6/15/20- **HBCU Virtual Panel Discussion with Current Students**

“Interested in attending an HBCU? Join us as we discuss what it’s like to be a thriving HBCU student in 2020.

Hear from 5 students who will discuss their academic and extracurricular experiences at HBCUs across the country.”

Get more information about this free event and register [here](#).

7/13/20- The Care Counts in Crisis: College Admissions Deans Respond to COVID-19 statement

“The deans seek in this document to underscore their commitment to self-care, care for others, equity, and meaningful learning. They express their commitment when reviewing applications to carefully taking into account the many challenges and obstacles students are currently facing, and they encourage students to share information about these challenges in their applications.

We hope this document will relieve some of the stress that students and families are experiencing. And we hope it will get us closer to a college admissions process that is saner and more equitable and that encourages young people to both care for themselves and to build a healthier, more humane, and just world.”

Click [here](#) to read the full statement and see the list of 350+ colleges that have endorsed it.

7/20/20- Virtual HBCU College Fairs

"REGISTER NOW for the FREE HBCU Facebook Live WORLD WIDE College Fair that will be held this Saturday, July 25th, from 1:00pm to 4:00pm EST." There are also additional upcoming fairs.

Click [here](#) to see the agenda, the list of participating colleges, and to register.

8/7/20- Strive Scan Virtual College Exploration

STEM Days

Tuesday, August 11- Thursday, August 13

3 days of STEM presentations and information sessions with 34 colleges

FREE for students

Click [here](#) for details about the sessions and to register.

8/7/20- **College Process Webinars**

Many colleges are holding online workshops to discuss aspects of the college admissions process. Often they give general advice about the process that's not just specific to that particular college. Here's some information about upcoming webinars from Trinity College:

"We are excited to invite you to our College Decoded: Workshop Wednesdays program! We have designed a webinar series to be helpful for you wherever you may apply to college. We realize that this is a stressful time to begin searching for your collegiate home. We will provide you with the tools and support to confidently begin your college search."

Topics include college admissions overview, the benefits of a liberal arts college, the Common App essay, and more. The first workshop is on Wednesday, August 12. Click [here](#) for details and to register.