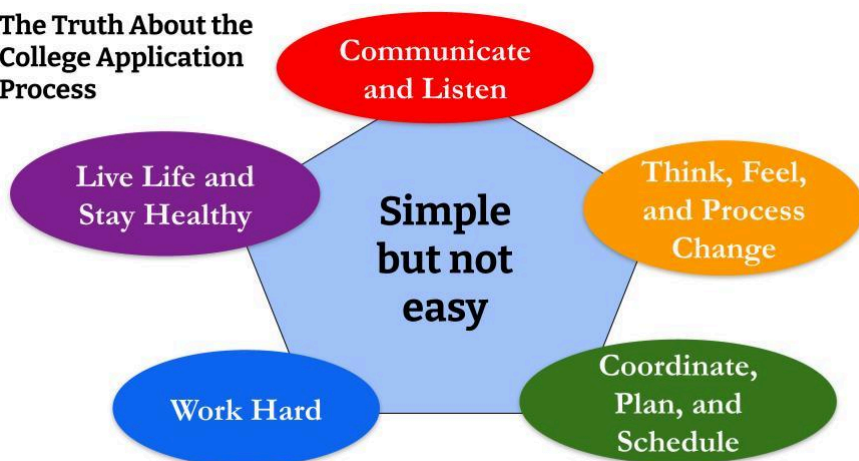
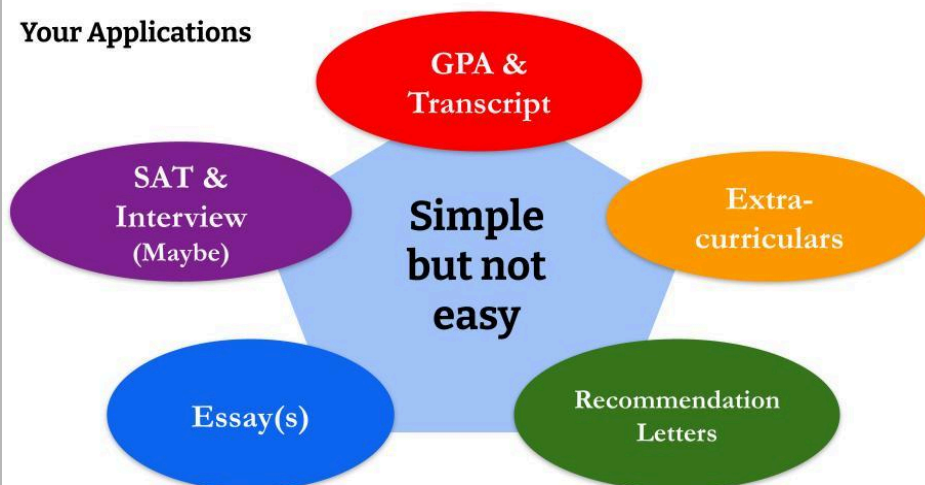


The Truth About the College Application Process



Your Applications



Your College List



April

- ☐ Attend [Junior Jumpstart Workshop](#)
- ☐ [Prepare for SAT](#) / take SAT (use scores to help create your college list)
- ☐ Establish a central location and organization system for application materials
⇒ [Feel free to use this super simple template](#)
- ☐ Request two recommendations ⇒ [Tips for how to make this important ask](#)

Warm Up

What POSITIVE thoughts and feelings do you have about this process?

What UNCOMFORTABLE thoughts and feelings do you have about this process?

Central Location / Organization System

What will your system be? _____

Who will keep the system up to date? _____

Teacher Recommendations

Who will you ask? _____

How will you ask? _____

When will you ask? _____

May

- ☐ BONUS: Begin to ponder your college essay topics / ideas ⇒ [Tips here](#)
- ☐ Brainstorm and act upon things you can do this summer that will enhance applications
- ☐ Create resume to share with recommenders ⇒ [Tips for resume writing](#)
- ☐ Attend meeting with your guidance counselor to discuss your plans, questions, concerns
- ☐ Take the SAT; reflect upon scores and plan next steps (feel free to schedule a meeting with me)
- ☐ Begin to create your college list ⇒ [Simple tips here](#)
- ☐ Plan remaining college tours for this summer ⇒ [Simple tips here](#)

Summer Plans

What will you do this summer that will add to your experience and application?

College List – Goals, Distance, Cost, People, Daily Life

YES

NO

MAYBE

College Tours

Colleges to tour: _____

Three possible dates: _____

Resume

When you will begin: _____

Support / accountability system: _____

June

- ❑ Create a notes or spreadsheet system to track and compare college visits
- ❑ Run your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) calculation for college funding options
⇒ [EFC calculator linked here](#)

July

- ❑ Continue college tours ⇒ [Simple tips](#)
- ❑ Create Common Application (CA) username and password
- ❑ Start to populate the CA

Aug

- ❑ Begin college essay
- ❑ Determine if any schools on list require additional essays or information
- ❑ Continue work on CA
- ❑ Create tracking spreadsheet if you haven't already ⇒ [Feel free to use this simple template](#)
- ❑ Finish college tours this summer

Sept

- ❑ Focus on GPA (your last chance!)
- ❑ Complete college essay draft (I would *love* to help!) ⇒ [Tips here](#)
- ❑ Finalize as much as you can on CA
- ❑ Run Net Price Calculators for your schools
- ❑ Check in with teachers about letters (but do not delay application submissions)

Oct

- ❑ Finalize list of schools (note Early Decision (ED), Early Action (EA), Regular Decision (RD) as well as all deadlines and whether they accept Common Application (CA))
- ❑ Add schools to Naviance / CA ⇒ [What is Naviance?](#)
- ❑ Finalize college essay and upload to CA
- ❑ Review admission applications for completion
- ❑ Submit ED and EA admission applications
- ❑ Request SATs via College Board for schools requiring scores / consider submitting to SAT-optional schools
- ❑ Submit financial aid applications (open after October 1)

Nov

- ❑ Prepare Transcript Release Form for guidance counselor / request Counselor recommendation ([Secondary School Report](#))
- ❑ Send handwritten thank you notes to recommenders

Dec

- ❑ Submit RD admission applications

