

August 1, 2025

Dear Senior Parents & Guardians,

We hope you are enjoying a wonderful summer and are looking forward to your son's senior year. This final year at the Prep brings new and exciting opportunities, but it also brings added responsibilities, including college/postgraduate applications and standardized testing, that take careful thought, planning, and considerable energy.

Last November, we detailed important information about the college application process during the "Class of 2026 College Kick-Off Night." At this program parents and guardians were given a thorough glimpse of the college process, but, more importantly, this past Spring, a thorough overview and planning had commenced through classes and individual meetings. Students and parents were also granted access to their Maia Learning accounts early in the second semester, which we hope has been a valuable resource for researching colleges. Your students have made extensive use of Maia Learning throughout junior year and will be completing many important application tasks through that site this Fall.

The college counselors will continue meeting with the seniors this Fall in their College Counseling classes each cycle. There we will go over important deadlines and procedures regarding college applications and financial aid, as well as offer application assistance. Below are several important items that we would like to highlight. Please mark event dates on your calendar and, as always, reach out to your college counselor should you have any questions about the items listed.

Fordham Prep College Application Procedures

*Transcript Release Policies and Permission: **REQUIRED SUBMISSION***

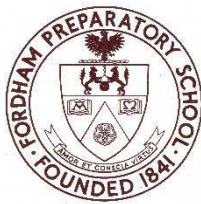
The Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) requires expressed written permission from parents/guardians for Fordham Prep to release student transcripts to colleges and universities, as well as any scholarship organizations to which your student may be applying. If you have not already done so, please sign and return the "[Transcript Release Policies and Permission](#)" form to the Counseling Office as soon as possible. This form can be scanned and emailed to isabelc@fordhamprep.org. *Please note: We cannot release your son's transcript to colleges without the completed Transcript Release form.*

Fordham Prep Application Procedures

The application procedures can be perceived to be quite complex. The [Fordham Prep Application Procedures](#) form gives detailed instructions on all processes needed to successfully complete all parts of the application process.

Parent/Guardian Reflection

Parents and guardians who did not complete the Junior Parent Questionnaire last Spring, are asked to do so before the start of the school year. The questionnaire can be found in your [Maia Learning](#)



[account](#). It was also emailed to you on May 5th – subject line “college counseling updates.” The survey is confidential, and your answers will only be shared with your student’s college counselor. Please contact your son’s college counselor once we are back in session if you need assistance with your Maia Learning account. Note: If you have not logged in, please check your spam folder if you cannot find the login information.

College Visits

Admission Counselor Visits at the Prep:

This Fall, college admission counselors will conduct both in-person and virtual information sessions about their schools and will answer any individual questions that students may have. The schedule of visits is available on the Maia Learning website. These sessions will continue to populate throughout August and September. Last year, we had over 120 visits. It is important to note that the representative in the room is typically the representative reading his application. Seniors should take advantage of this opportunity to speak with the representatives and **show demonstrated interest**. All students **must** sign up on MAIA for any visit at least twelve hours before the visit. Additionally, they **must** obtain permission from their teachers if the visit takes place during class. This will be discussed in counseling class. Some schools will also offer interviews and it will be noted in Maia.

Absence Policy for Campus Visits:

Students are allowed a total of four days of absence during their senior year to visit college campuses. The days away from class may not exceed two consecutive class days at any one time. A [college visit absence form](#) must be submitted to Mrs. Ortiz in the attendance office, with all the required signatures, **prior to the planned absence for approval.**

College Counseling Parent/Guardian Events and Meetings

Senior Parent College Admissions Night – Tuesday, September 9 at 6:30 pm

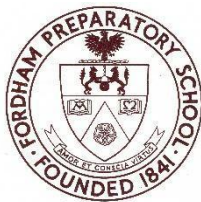
This parent session, a follow-up to last year’s “Class of 2026 College Kick-Off Night,” will highlight Fordham Prep’s application procedures, as well as detail important financial aid and admission deadlines. **All students and parents/guardians are asked to attend.**

College Financial Aid Night – Tuesday, October 14 at 6:30 pm - Zoom Webinar

Nervous about the FAFSA? Puzzled by the PROFILE? Eric E. Kopp, Director of Financial Aid at Franklin & Marshall College, will explain the aid process in detail and will offer tips and advice on filling out the forms.

FAFSA Completion Workshop – Sat., October 18 at 10:00 am

Fordham Prep college counselors and financial aid officers from local universities will guide families in completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Workshop participants are asked to bring a laptop and copies of their financial documents. Spanish speaking financial aid officers will be available. **This was highly successful last year and we encourage your attendance.**



Standardized Testing

Fall 2025 Testing Dates:

Please find exam dates and registration deadlines here for [SAT](#) and [ACT](#). Given changes to testing requirements at most colleges, be sure to consult each university's website to verify their test requirement policy. Although many colleges have maintained their test-optional or test-flexible status, we HIGHLY encourage you to sit for testing. Let us know if you need a fee waiver. You can also consult [FairTest.org](#) for a complete listing of institutions. Please note that FP does not send test scores to colleges.

PREPare Test Prep

Fordham Prep will follow up with information regarding offerings in the Fall for SAT and ACT test prep. Questions can be directed to Ms. McDermott, mcdermotta@fordhamprep.org.

Summer Assignment

College applications are not difficult to complete; however, they are time consuming. To that end, all members of the Class of 2026 created a Common Application account last Spring and were tasked with continuing to work on the application this Summer. On August 1st, please sign in and follow the prompts to *roll-over* your application. Additionally, all seniors are required to complete a college application essay as a summer assignment that must be handed in during their first College Counseling class in September. We stress that you should not wait to work on filling out the application and writing requirements. Rushing at the deadlines, lends itself to error.

The college counselors will be available to meet with seniors and their parents/guardians throughout the application process. You will be able to schedule in-person or zoom appointments once we are back in the Fall.

We hope you enjoy the rest of the Summer and we look forward to seeing you in September.

Sincerely,

Mr. Thomas O'Sullivan '98, *Director of College Counseling*

Mrs. Erica Keough, *College Counselor*

Mr. Kenneth Tejada '07, *College Counselor*

Mrs. Carol Isabel, *Counseling Administrative Assistant/SSD Coordinator*