

COLLEGE INFORMATION NIGHT

Welcome Juniors & Parents!

Agenda

- 1. Getting started**
- 2. Where to apply**
- 3. Application/Admissions process**
- 4. Financial Aid**
- 5. Making the “Big Decision”**
- 6. Questions**



Where Do I Begin?

Do a basic college search

- **Location**
- **Majors/Programs**
- **Size**
- **Cost**

Narrowing The Field

- **Admission requirements**
- **Meet with college reps.**
- **Visit college campuses**
- **Talk to students/faculty**
- **Sit in on a class**
- **Attend an overnight visit**



SAT

vs.

ACT

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

SAT

Testing time ▶ 3 hours

- Components** ▶ Math 58 items, 80 mins.
▶ Reading 52 items, 65 mins.
▶ Writing and Language 44 items, 35 mins.
▶ Essay (optional; 1 prompt, 50 mins.)

Important Features Primarily assesses reasoning ability.

Scoring Scale ranging from 400 to 1600

ACT

▶ 2 hours & 55 mins.

- ▶ Math 60 items, 60 mins.
▶ Reading 40 items, 35 mins.
▶ Science 40 items, 35 mins.
▶ English 75 items, 45 mins.
▶ Writing (optional; 1 prompt, 40 mins.)

Focuses more on straight knowledge.

ACT Composite Score: 1–36 (average of four test scores)

When do I apply?

Types of Admission

- Open Admission
- Regular Admission
- Rolling Admission
- Early Decision
- Early Action

Be very aware of deadlines!

How do I Apply?

Types of applications

- Common Application
- SUNY Application
- College Specific Application
(online & paper)
- Supplemental materials

Paying For College

1. **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** online - www.fafsa.ed.gov
2. TAP form (NYS aid) – www.hesc.ny.gov
3. Institutional aid – Separate application?
4. Outside scholarships
5. Compare college award letters
6. If necessary, apply for loans

Cost of Attendance – EFC = Financial Need

- Students with a lower EFC qualify for more financial aid.
- Students with a zero EFC (mostly students with family income less than \$30,000) have full financial need and qualify for even more financial aid to help pay for school.

Types of Aid

- **Gift aid – grants & scholarships (best types of aid)**
- **Work-study jobs**
- **Student loans**
- **Education Tax benefits**
- **Military aid**

Cost of Area Colleges

	Tuition	Total Cost
St. Lawrence	\$49,060	\$62,150
Clarkson	\$46,132	\$60,688
SUNY Potsdam	\$6,470	\$19,590
SUNY Canton	\$6,470	\$16,000 approx.
Jefferson C.C.	\$4,176	\$14,226

Ways to Find Scholarships

- Guidance website
- Naviance
- College Financial aid pages
- Sites like fastweb.com, collegeboard.com
- Employers, civic organizations

Then What?

- 1 Breathe! And..... Relax!**
- 2 “Trust the process”.**
- 3 There’s help. Use your resources – campus visits, college reps., websites, teachers, guidance counselors, etc.!**
- 4 Start planning.**
- 5 Make HESC.ny.gov your new best friend!**

**Don't forget to "Like" our
Facebook page!**

Questions?