

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

Requesting Transcripts

Transcripts are requested through SCOIR and are generally sent electronically via the Common Application or Parchment (an electronic transcript submission service). We charge a fee of \$2.00 to send transcripts for current WHS students.

To request transcripts, students need to login in to their SCOIR account and navigate to the MY COLLEGES tab. You will need to drag and drop a school from the FOLLOWING category to the APPLYING category or you can simply type in the school's name in the APPLYING category. If you change your mind about a school and decide NOT to apply, simply click the 3 dots and choose "no longer applying". These actions need to occur by the following dates: October 1st for any deadline in the months of October and November; November 1st for any deadline in the month of December.

COLLEGE APPLICATION TIMELINE

September*

- 15 Confirm standardized testing policy for each college & that teachers have everything they need to write the letter of recommendation
- 17 Financial Aid Information Session 7:00 PM (via Zoom)
- 29 Application Boot Camp 3-5 PM (RSVP required; more info to come)
- 30 Confirm financial aid requirements for each college (CSS Profile in addition to FAFSA or just FAFSA)

October*

- 1 FAFSA available and Parent Letter of Recommendation due to College Counselors. Email directly to Mrs. Meis (Last names A-L) or Mrs. Bunton (Last names M-Z).
- 1 Transcript request via SCOIR (see above) and College Counselor "invited" via Common Application for all colleges that have an October or November deadline
- 6 ACT at WHS (will not be offered if fully remote)
- 27 Application Boot Camp 3-5 PM (RSVP required; more information to come)

November*

- 1, 15 First "major" application and scholarship deadlines
- 1 Transcript request via SCOIR (see above) for all colleges that have a December deadline

:ACT/SAT have many tests scheduled for these months, but due to test center cancellations it is important to continually check their websites for the most up to date information.

WHS GENERAL INFORMATION

- **WHS School Code: 361156**
- **Senior Class Size: 174**
- **GPA: Weighted on a 4.0 scale**
- **WHS does not rank students**

FERPA/WAIVING YOUR RIGHT TO ACCESS LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

As part of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, students have the right to review letters of recommendation submitted on their behalf as part of the college application once they enroll at an institution. Before submitting any letters of recommendation, students will be asked whether they DO or DO NOT want to waive their right to view the letters and other supporting documents. The College Counselors encourage students TO WAIVE their right to view as it means the letters may carry greater weight with admissions officers because they will know the student has not had any influence on the content of the letters. In addition, when the right is NOT waived, admission committees may automatically assume the letter is less than candid and will discount the recommendation, as a whole. Be sure to contact your student's College Counselor should you have questions or concerns about FERPA.

PARENT/GUARDIAN LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

To help the College Counselors advocate as strongly as possible for students, as part of the college application process, parents or guardians are encouraged to write a parent/guardian letter of recommendation. By highlighting their student's best qualities and characteristics, this letter helps "round out" the counselor letters of recommendation. These letters are completely confidential: they will not be shared with the student or admission officers and substance is more important than style. In other words, feel free to craft the letter in whatever format you choose, and you may be as informal or formal as you like. The letter may be emailed directly to the student's College Counselor. Mrs. Meis advises students with the last names A-L and her email is meisc@wyomingcityschools.org. Mrs. Bunton advises students with the last names M-Z and her email is buntonn@wyomingcityschools.org. These parent letters should be submitted by October 1st.

TEACHER LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Students should verbally ask the teacher for a POSITIVE letter of recommendation as soon as possible, but at least six weeks prior to the application deadline. If the teacher request was made at the end of the junior year, it is the student's responsibility to "circle back" to the teacher at the beginning of their senior year. At a minimum, the student should provide the teacher with a list of activities and an explanation as to why that particular teacher was chosen, but each teacher may have their own requirements for writing the recommendation. The student will then input the teacher's email address in the "Recommender" section of the Common Application or the institution's own application should they not utilize the Common Application. The teacher will then receive a link and will submit their letter to the school electronically. The teacher recommendation process is NOT done through SCOIR.

FEE WAIVERS

Students must meet certain financial qualifications to receive an application fee waiver. DO NOT check a box on any college application indicating that you are receiving a fee waiver without first talking to Mrs. Bunton or Mrs. Meis.

SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID

Most scholarships awarded by the institution are triggered by the application for admission. In other words, the student applies by the scholarship deadline, and they are automatically considered for all sources of merit aid. Applying by the deadline may also trigger the opportunity to apply for other types of scholarships. These are typically renewable for all four years if a minimum GPA is maintained. Third party Scholarships are not tied to a specific institution. Students are encouraged to search for scholarships on their own at fastweb.com, zinch.com, collegedate.com, and myscholly.com.

To be considered for need-based financial aid, families must complete the FAFSA (free application for federal student aid) and in some cases the CSS Profile. Be sure to check each school's financial aid information to determine if the CSS Profile is required in addition to the FAFSA. The initial filing date for the FAFSA is October 1. Additional information can be found on the following sites: finaid.org, and collegeboard.org. Plan on attending the Financial Aid Information Session in September for additional information about the aid process.

When to Apply

In general earlier is better; however, there is no admissions or scholarship advantage to applying earlier than Oct.15th. The following application "plans" are as follows:

Rolling Admissions: No firm application deadline, but there will be a scholarship deadline. The college will accept applications & admit students until the class is full.

Early Action: Apply by the deadline (usually in November) and decisions will be released at one time in December/January. Applying Early Action will also ensure full consideration for scholarships. This is non-binding, which means students have until May 1 to decide if they will attend, and students may apply to as many schools Early Action as they would like.

Single Choice Early Action: Same as Early Action, but you may not simultaneously apply for Early Action or Early Decision to any other school (with a few exceptions).

Early Decision: Students may apply to ONE school early decision and it is a binding application, which means if admitted students will attend and withdraw all other applications.

Standardized Test Scores

For the '20-21 application cycle, most colleges WHS students have historically applied to are TEST OPTIONAL. This means you do not need to submit test scores to be considered for admission; however, it is the student's responsibility to confirm this important information and/or any specific instructions regarding the college's testing policy. This information will be clearly indicated on the school's website or you may contact the Admissions Office directly.