

CENTRAL CATHOLIC

COLLEGE COUNSELING NEWSLETTER — CLASS OF 2020

April 2020

Student "To Do" List



√ Don't Let Your Grades Drop!

Even amid the COVID-19 crisis colleges will be expecting students to finish strong!

√ Check your application portals and emails!

In all this craziness college admissions decisions will still be coming out over the next couple of weeks. Make sure to keep checking emails (the email you used for your application) and application portals. There may be new directions from colleges regarding deposits, decision dates, etc.

Check out the [new resource](#) cataloging campus-specific changes in college admission events, deposit dates, and more as a result of the coronavirus outbreak. The purpose of the tool—which features information from colleges and universities—is to make it easier for students and others to navigate the admission process during this unprecedented time of upheaval. However, it is still important that you check your application portals and emails as colleges should communicate with you directly.

√ Central Catholic Instagram - College Decisions

We'd love to highlight your accomplishments! Send a picture to collegecounselors@centralcatholichigh.org and include some sort of visual in the picture that signifies your college decision - t-shirt, sign, college pennant. We'll post you on Central Catholic's Instagram. But remember you have until May 1 to make your decision -- so don't rush it!

√ Zoom College Counseling Meetings

College Counseling will be offering optional, 30 minute group meetings for students. More details to come! But if you have individual questions please reach out and we'll schedule a time to talk it through.



Stay Home! Stay Healthy! We hope to see you all soon!

*Mrs. Nanette Martin
Ms. Kirby Henningsen*

CHECK OUT THESE LINKS:

[Canvas](#)

[Naviance Student](#)

[Net/Price Calculator](#)

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Student "To Do" List



√ Financial Aid and Scholarship Offers

If you have questions about financial aid or scholarship offers please send them our way. We'd be happy to help you decipher them. We can use Google hangouts phone or video or email to communicate.

√ Update Naviance with Admission Decisions!

As admissions decisions come in, please update Naviance or send us an email and we'll do it for you. We love to hear about your accomplishments!

√ Record your Scholarships Here!

We will list all scholarships awarded in the graduation program (whether you accept them or not). Please help us honor your accomplishments by updating the form above.

√ Scholarships

Continue to research and apply for scholarships. Check out the list of scholarships on the last page of the newsletter!

Parent/Guardian "To Do" List

√ File a FAFSA

It is not too late to complete a **FAFSA** (*Free Application for Federal Student Aid*). Many scholarships require that a student file the FAFSA — so don't miss out on possible scholarships! Make sure that all schools that your student is applying to are on the FAFSA list.

√ Review all financial aid and scholarship offers.

See the attached Common App Ready, Understanding Your Financial Aid Offer — [HERE](#).

See the FinAid financial aid and scholarship comparison tool [HERE](#). This is a great tool to help you compare each school's offer and help make the right financial choice for you and your student

Cancelled College Events

1. Jesuit Excellence Tour (JET Tour), May 26
2. Meet & Eat— Dani Klupenger, April 8
3. Spring College Fair, University of Portland, April 26

Other Important Updates

1. College Counseling **CANVAS** page in RAM Central has up to date information about financial aid, scholarships, college decisions and more.
2. AP Testing Information — [HERE](#). Keep checking back. Also check emails from AP teachers and AP coordinator, Mr. McClean.



DECISION DAY, MAY 1

QUESTIONS?

Denial News

Don't take the decision personally! Admission offices receive thousands of applications. Often, your denial has more to do with the large volume of applicants than whether or not you are qualified for admission. Redirect your energy to those colleges who have welcomed you.

Appeal Efforts

Some schools will consider appeals. If you were not admitted to your top choice school then you may want to appeal. *Components of an appeal include:* a statement of purpose, additional grades or information; and an offer to interview. Email college counseling for help with this process.

No Offers of Admission

If you find yourself in this situation, you should email college counseling *immediately* to and schedule an online meeting

Waiting List

Each year, many students are placed on a *waiting list*. They're asking you "*If we have room later, would you like to be considered again?*"

Persistence may pay off! Respond to the offer with a detailed letter expressing your interest, send improved grades, another essay, recommendations, call the admission representative and discuss how to improve your chances of getting admitted. *If you do not get off the Wait List by May 1, place a deposit at another college.*

MAY 1, 2020

What do you need to do by May 1?

1. **Deposit at only one school!** In your acceptance packet from each college, there should be instructions that ask for your decision. Read and complete everything carefully.
2. If you have been offered a financial aid package, complete all forms and documents accepting the offer for financial aid. You can choose to accept or decline any part of your financial aid package.
3. The college(s) you will not attend may ask for the name of the college you have selected. They try to learn how they are viewed by accepted students who choose not to attend. Please answer the questions as it will give them helpful feedback.
4. If you're feeling stressed, remember that your choice is not completely irreversible. If you choose a college, even start classes, and feel it was a wrong decision, you can always consider transferring. A transfer involves work, but it's your college career and you should be satisfied with your choice.
5. Some colleges may try to pressure you into making a decision before May 1. Unless you chose an Early Decision program that committed you to attending if admitted, you are not *required* to decide until May 1. Some colleges may entice you with a line like *reservations for housing must be made immediately after admission,*" or coaches may insist that you commit as soon as possible. Some colleges offer you certain *benefits* if you choose their school and send an enrollment deposit soon after your acceptance. You may want to consider submitting an enrollment deposit to obtain these benefits but *only if the entire deposit is refundable* by May 1.

FINANCIAL AID

Understand True College Costs with the Net Price



- The net price is realistic measure of college costs. The net price subtracts gift aid from the total cost of attendance.
- The net price is the amount a family will have to pay from savings, income, and loans to cover college costs.
- Loans are a way of financing the net price and do not reduce the net price.
- The net price can vary significantly from college to college.

STUDENT LOANS

The US Department of Education offers low-interest loans to eligible students to help cover the cost of college or career school.

**The Federal Student Aid Website—
HERE**

provides a wealth of information about:

- Types of Loans
- Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans
- Eligibility
- How to apply?
- How much can you borrow?

HOW TO READ AWARD LETTERS

- Tip #1 Understand the Cost of Attendance (COA)**
Make sure it includes: Tuition and Fees, Books, Room and Board, Living Expenses.
- Tip #2 Add up the Financial Aid or Free Money You're Getting: Grants, Scholarships and Work Study.**
- Tip #3 Calculate your Net Price to attend**
- Tip #4 Identify how Much in Federal Student Loans you've been offered.**
- Tip #5 Compare Your Offers.**

Use one of the tools below to compare the Net Price for each school.

- ⇒ [FinAid Award Letter Comparison Tool](#)
- ⇒ [BigFuture CollegeBoard](#)

NET PRICE to ATTEND



PARENT AND STUDENT RESOURCES



CLASS OF 2020 SCHOLARSHIPS — Here

- ❑ New scholarship search and application platform- [GoingMerry](#)
- ❑ Oregon Sports Hall of Fame and Museum MacTarnahan scholarship
- ❑ Neil Kelly Memorial Scholarship
- ❑ David Heller Scholarship
- ❑ Asian American Foundation (*April 15 deadline*)
- ❑ [StudentScholarships.org](#)
- ❑ Mt Hood Community College
- ❑ Clackamas Community College
- ❑ Washington State Resident Scholarships
- ❑ University of Portland Outside Scholarships
- ❑ Oregon Gear UP
- ❑ Western Undergraduate Exchange Scholarships

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