

A scenic landscape featuring a vibrant turquoise lake in the foreground, surrounded by evergreen trees. In the background, a snow-dusted mountain slope rises, also covered with evergreens. The entire scene is framed by a white border.

# Senior Parent Evening Program

College Night

# MEET YOUR COUNSELORS

## Ms. Jennifer Jango-Cohen

*\*Lead Counselor*

9: I-Z

10: M-Z

11: P-Z

12: I-Z



## Dr. Bethany Sheridan

*Counselor*

9: A-H

10: A-L

11: A-O

12: A-H



# THE SENIOR YEAR COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS

Fit

Research

Types of  
Applications

Application  
Pieces

Finance

Testing

IHS  
Procedures &  
Deadlines

Resources:  
Helpful  
Websites

Q and A

# HOW DO YOU KNOW IF A COLLEGE “FITS?” FOUR FACTORS



**ACADEMIC**



**FINANCIAL**



**PHYSICAL**



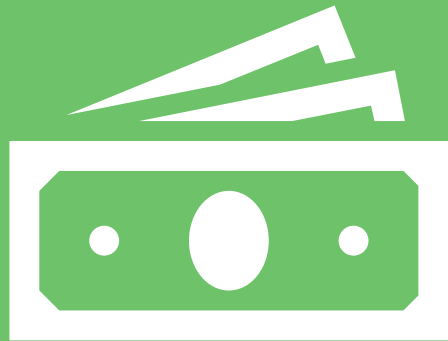
**SOCIAL**

# ACADEMIC LENS



- Is it the right type of college for your career goal?
- Have you met the requirements for admission?
- How likely are you to be admitted?
- Will this college be the right academic challenge for you?
- Does it have the resources to support you academically?

# FINANCIAL LENS



- Is it affordable FOR YOU?
- How do you know what you are likely to have to pay?
- HINT: Don't necessarily be discouraged by a high sticker price. Depending on your grades and your financial situation, an expensive private school could end up being comparable or even cheaper for you than the state school nearby.

# PHYSICAL LENS



Location

Size

Campus Style- Urban, Suburban, Rural

On or off campus living

Cultural climate

Local activities



## SOCIAL LENS

- Is this a campus where you will connect with people who share your interests and goals?
- Will you be comfortable being you?
- Will you have an opportunity to meet leaders?
- Is it important for you to be around people from different places and with different experiences?
- What will you be doing when you are not in class?
- Will you have opportunities to become a leader yourself?
- Is the campus likely to have other students who share your interests?



## BEST ADVICE ABOUT FIT

“To understand whether a school is a good fit, students will want to learn as much as they can about a school’s institutional priorities and campus culture. But don’t use that information to tailor yourself to fit into their priorities. Instead, figure out the schools that will be good fit for YOUR personality, abilities, interests, and aspirations. Read the mission statement on the school’s website. Look at the recent public statement from the school’s leaders. Visit the campus if you can. The most important thing is to present yourself AUTHENTICALLY.”

SOURCE: Mamlet and Vandavelde *College Admission*

HOW DO I  
BEGIN THE  
SEARCH?





# COLLEGE SEARCH WEBSITES

- USDOE College Navigator
  - <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>
- White House's College Scorecard
  - <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/>
- College Board's Big Future
  - <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/>
- Ed Trust's College Results
  - <https://edtrust.org/college-results-online/>
- Institute for College Access and Success's College Insight
  - <http://college-insight.org/>

# IS THE SCHOOL A MATCH...?



## COLLEGE LIST

Use your GPA and test scores to see where you land compared to other students



## 2 SAFETIES

You're above the average



## 3 TARGETS

You are at the average



## 1 REACH

You're below the average

# APPLICATION TIMELINES

## Early Action (EA)

- Early timeline typically around November 1st but can be earlier
- Students may apply to as many schools with an EA deadline as they wish

## Restrictive Early Action (REA)

- Same as EA however can only apply to **one** private school as REA
- Non-binding

## Early Decision (ED)

- Early deadline similar to EA however students can only apply ED to one school
- Requires a binding contract to apply- if accepted, students must withdraw all other applications and attend

## Regular Decision

- Winter deadline, typically around January 1st or February 1st

## Rolling

- Applications are reviewed as they are received, and students learn outcomes around 2 weeks after applying

\*\*Verify on school websites to alternate variations of these and those that meet schools' scholarship opportunities or special program deadlines

# WHY APPLY A CERTAIN WAY?



## Early Action

- \* Complete your college application process early and learn your outcome around winter break
- \* Students who are deferred will have a second review during the regular admissions cycle and can supplement their application with updated grades and awards

## Early Decision

- \* Since contract is binding, colleges may be more likely to admit a student on the cusp
- \* Apply ED to dream schools and those you can safely afford

## Regular Decision

- \* Winter timeline gives student 1st semester to raise grades and receive honors/awards

# APPLICATION TYPES

- **Common App**
  - Used by over 800 colleges
  - Streamlines your application process so you can complete less paperwork and have everything located on one site
- **Coalition App**
  - Used by approximately 140 schools
  - Required by a select few as only application option
- **College Portals**
  - Required application method for a select group of schools
  - Can be eligible for fee waivers through this application method

*\*\*Always review options on the school website prior to choosing an application type*

# APPLICATION PIECES



## Essay

- Opportunity to show colleges another side of you
- Make it unique from other parts of your application and get creative
- Topic is less important than delivery but avoid common topics- <https://www.fastweb.com/college-search/articles/college-admissions-essay-topics-to-avoid>
- Seek out secondary readers but stay true to your identity and personal voice



## Activity Resume

- Can include work, clubs, athletics, awards, community service, lessons
- List in order of commitment time, evidence of leadership, and honor
- If you have limited activities due to time spent with family or other extenuating circumstances, you can provide explanations in addition info sections of application
- Colleges want a well-rounded class- not everyone can be school president so just as important to be a reliable member of a club/team/job



## Recommendations

- At most, 2 teacher and one counselor recommendation needed
- Colleges will not necessarily read extra documents so submit carefully
- Consider your major and program- some require recs from specific people





# **FINANCIAL AID**

# FAFSA: FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID

All students must complete  
FASFA to get federal aid

## Students submit:

- Demographic information
- Enrollment plan information for the next year
- Income and assets from tax returns (both parents and student) of prior-prior year
- Opened October 1, 2019
- Generates EFC – Expected Family Contribution
- Gets passed along to the college or university, which is then responsible for calculating which aid programs the student qualifies for and notifying the student of their available funding for the year
- Website- [studentaid.ed.gov](http://studentaid.ed.gov)

- Institutional aid
- College specific deadlines
- It costs \$25 to complete the application
- Each additional report costs \$16
- Both fees can be waived if student receives SS, or FRL

# CSS PROFILE

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP SERVICE

Nearly 400  
colleges require  
this application in  
addition to FAFSA

# WHY BOTHER IF I KNOW I WON'T QUALIFY?

MERIT

YOUR KID  
EARNED IT!



# SCHOLARSHIPS

[National Search](#)

[Fastweb.com](#)

[Scholarships.com](#)

[Studentaid.ed.gov](#)

[Bigfuture.colleboard.org](#)

# NEVADA SPECIFIC SCHOLARSHIPS



## **Nevada Promise**

Covers the gap between  
community college tuition/fees and  
federal/state aid for NV residents

Application due October 31st



## **Millennium Scholarship**

Merit based- no application needed

Pays up to \$10,000 award

9 eligible institutions in NV



## **IHS Scholarship Program**

Offers local community scholarships  
to students. We will facilitate this  
application during second semester.

# STANDARDIZED TESTS



Families are responsible for sending scores directly to colleges

SAT- four free score reports up to nine days after exam date

ACT- four free score reports up to 5 days after exam date



Test Prep

Focus on individual subjects to improve scores and review previous exam outcomes

# TEST OPTIONAL SCHOOLS

Allows for a more holistic review of a student's application

May want to submit test scores if you scored higher than the average

Some schools will still require scores to be eligible for merit aid

Find a complete list on [fairtest.org](https://www.fairtest.org)



# IHS PROCEDURES



## Recommendation Packet

1. Counselor/Teacher Recommendation Form
  2. Questionnaire
  3. Activity Resume
  4. Draft of essay
- All forms are located on the Counseling Website:  
Forms – Senior Forms
  - Students must submit packet at least **30 days** prior to their earliest deadline
  - If students do not need a recommendation, they should still submit the Counselor/Teacher Recommendation Form and note this

# INDIVIDUAL SENIOR PLANNING MEETINGS



We invite families to make an appointment for an Individual Senior Planning meeting



Procedure: Complete a Senior Planning Meeting form and submit to the Counseling Center. Your counselor will reach out to schedule your appointment following this submission.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## **IHS FAFSA Workshops**

Held in the library- more info on the Counseling Website under Financial Aid/Scholarships tab

- LTCC sponsored presentation and workshop- October 30th @ 6pm
- FAFSA Clinic by Karen Hunt- November 13 @ 1:30pm

# QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION



WORKSHOP SUGGESTIONS?



CONTACT INFORMATION



REMEMBER TO TURN IN CARDS AT THE HANDOUT TABLE BEFORE LEAVING! THANK YOU AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU THIS YEAR!